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Orange County Supervisor Janet Nguyen and Paramount Councilmember Brenda Olmos Join South Coast AQMD Governing Board

DIAMOND BAR – Orange County First District Supervisor Janet Nguyen and Paramount Councilmember Brenda Olmos were sworn in today as the newest members of the South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD) Governing Board.

Supervisor Nguyen was selected by the Board of Supervisors to represent the County of Orange on the South Coast AQMD Governing Board. She fills the unexpired term of Supervisor Donald P. Wagner, which runs through January 15, 2027. In addition, she will serve on the South Coast AQMD's Technology and Climate Change Committees.

"I want to be a voice on the regulations imposed in our communities to make sure residents can afford the basics of everyday life in Southern California, while having clean air and water," said Supervisor Nguyen. "I'm grateful for this appointment and eager to get started."

Supervisor Nguyen was elected to the Orange County Board of Supervisors in 2024, returning to the role after previously serving from 2007 to 2014. A small business owner with an extensive history in public service, she holds several historic distinctions. She was the first woman to represent the 72nd Assembly District, the first Vietnamese American in the country to serve in both houses of the state legislature, and the highest-ranking Vietnamese American elected official in the United States. She also holds the distinction of being the youngest Supervisor in Orange County history. As Senator, Supervisor Nguyen was named Legislator of the Year by the American Legion, the Association of the United States Army, and the Vietnam Veterans of America.

Councilmember Olmos was elected by the Western Region Cities of Los Angeles County to the South Coast AQMD Governing Board, filling the seat vacated by José Luis Solache, former Lynwood Councilmember and newly elected representative of the 62nd Assembly District. Councilmember Olmos will also serve on South Coast AQMD's Legislative and Investment Oversight Committees.

"I am honored to be part of the important work we do at South Coast AQMD to improve the lives of our residents. Improving air quality is vital for protecting public health and enhancing our quality of life. I look forward to contributing to the agency's mission," said Councilmember Olmos.

Councilmember Olmos was appointed to Paramount City Council in 2019 and elected in 2020, where she served one term as mayor. Currently, she serves as Vice President and President-Elect of the California Contract Cities Association. Additionally, she represents Paramount on the League of California Cities and the Southeast Los Angeles County Workforce Development Board. She also serves as a Commissioner for the Los Angeles County Commission on local Government Services. As a dedicated community leader, Councilmember Olmos founded the "Healthy Paramount" initiative and has been actively involved in numerous civic organizations, including serving as President of the Paramount Chamber of Commerce, a member of the Paramount Public Safety Commission, and an active participant in the Rotary Club of Paramount.

South Coast AQMD's Governing Board consists of 13 members, 10 of whom are elected officials. Among them, four are county supervisors representing Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, and San Bernardino counties, appointed by their respective Boards of Supervisors. Six are city councilmembers representing cities within each county, with three members from Los Angeles County due to its larger population. The remaining three Board members are appointed by state officials: one by the Governor of California, one by the Speaker of the State Assembly, and one by the State Senate Rules Committee. For more information on each member, please visit our Governing Board members webpage at: http://www.aqmd.gov/nav/about/governing-board.

South Coast AQMD is the regulatory agency responsible for improving air quality for large areas of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino counties, including the Coachella Valley. For news, air quality alerts, event updates and more, please visit us at <u>www.aqmd.gov</u>, download our award-winning <u>app</u>, or follow us on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>X</u> (formerly known as Twitter) and <u>Instagram</u>.

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