



# ORANGE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

*75 Years of Serving  
Orange County's Groundwater Needs*

NEWS RELEASE

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### ORANGE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT ELECTS OFFICERS

**FOUNTAIN VALLEY, Calif.** (Dec.23, 2009) — The Orange County Water District (OCWD) Board of Directors announced that it has elected Kathryn ("Kay") Barr as President of the Board for the 2010 term. Director Barr, Division 1 representative, was first elected to the OCWD Board in 1979. Philip L. Anthony, Division 4 representative, was elected 1st Vice President and has served on the OCWD Board since 1981. Jan Debay, Division 7 representative, was elected 2nd Vice President and has served on the OCWD Board since 2001. (**EDITOR'S NOTE: Biographies for each are attached to this press release.**)

"I am honored to serve as President of the OCWD Board," said Director Barr. "In 30 years I have seen many changes. Looking forward, there are new challenges the District will face, namely threatened imported water supplies and less reliable supplies from the upper Santa Ana Watershed. Average water supplies for Southern California do not meet average water demands. But I am confident that this District and its employees will continue to be innovative and meet the water needs of Orange County."

When Director Barr was recognized this past October for 30 years of service, OCWD Immediate Past President Steve Sheldon stated, "Kay may be the first and certainly the longest standing female director of a water agency in California; maybe even the nation. She has played a significant role in shaping and ensuring Orange County's water reliability, and continues to be an asset to the Board and residents of northern Orange County, supporting programs that garnered the District a reputation of innovation and leadership recognized around the world."

OCWD's Board is composed of 10 Directors – seven elected from cities throughout north and central Orange County, and three appointed to represent the cities of Anaheim, Fullerton and Santa Ana. The six other returning Directors for 2010 are Denis Bilodeau, Division 2 and a resident of Orange; Roger C. Yoh, Division 3 and a resident of Buena Park; Stephen R. Sheldon, Division 5 and a resident of Newport Beach; Claudia C. Alvarez, Division 8 and a resident of Santa Ana; Irv Pickler, Division 9 and a resident of Anaheim; and Don Bankhead, Division 10 and a resident of Fullerton.

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**ORANGE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT ELECTS OFFICERS  
ADD 1-1-1**

Due to the untimely death of OCWD Director Wes Bannister on Dec. 10, applications are currently being accepted to fill the vacancy in the office of Director for Division 6, which includes portions of Fountain Valley, Huntington Beach and Westminster. For application information, go to <http://www.ocwd.com/fv-846.aspx>.

The District is committed to enhancing Orange County's groundwater quality and reliability in an environmentally friendly and economical manner. The following cities utilize the groundwater basin managed by OCWD: Anaheim, Buena Park, Costa Mesa, Cypress, Fountain Valley, Fullerton, Garden Grove, Huntington Beach, Irvine, La Palma, Los Alamitos, Newport Beach, Orange, Placentia, Santa Ana, Seal Beach, Stanton, Tustin, Villa Park, Westminster and Yorba Linda.

For more information about the Orange County Water District and its Board of Directors, call (714) 378-3200 or go to [www.ocwd.com](http://www.ocwd.com).

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**NOTE: See Attached Biographies, beginning next page**

**ORANGE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT OFFICERS' BIOGRAPHIES**  
**ADD 2-2-2**

**Kay Barr** represents Division 1 that includes portions of Garden Grove, Stanton, Orange and Westminster. She has a background in public service, including serving on the City Council of Garden Grove from 1962 to 1970, and again from 1974 to 1978. She was Mayor Pro Tem from 1962 to 1969, and appointed Mayor in 1969. She has also served as a member and Chairman of Garden Grove's Redevelopment Agency. In addition, she has served as a member of the Orange County Vector Control District's Board of Trustees, and as a Director of Garden Grove Community Bank.

Professionally, Director Barr was employed as a sales representative with S & S Construction, owned her own business from 1967 to 1973, and has been involved in real estate sales for the past 19 years. Her community service includes the Garden Grove Chamber of Commerce, Artificial Kidney Foundation, Garden Grove Girls' Club, and Long Beach Community Hospital. She was named Garden Grove Woman of the Year in 1976 and Cypress College Community Leader of the Year in 1980.

**Philip L. Anthony** represents Division 4, which includes portions of Los Alamitos, Seal Beach, Stanton, Westminster, Buena Park, Cypress, Garden Grove, Huntington Beach and Stanton. Director Anthony has served on the OCWD Board of Directors since 1981, and is currently serving another four-year term to 2012. Director Anthony served as President of the board from 1992 to 1997. In addition to serving on the OCWD Board, Director Anthony serves as a Director of the National Water Research Institute (NWRI), Commissioner of the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, Chair of the Groundwater Replenishment System Steering Committee and was formerly Chair of the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) Region 10. He also co-founded the Water Advisory Committee of Orange County (WACO), and is a founding member of OCWD's Groundwater Guardian team.

Director Anthony began his work in public service with the Westminster City Council, where he served from 1962 to 1976; and was Mayor from 1972 to 1976. Director Anthony was on the Orange County Board of Supervisors from 1976 to 1981, as well as the boards of the Orange County Sanitation District, the South Coast Air Quality Management District, Southern California Association of Governments and the Orange County Local Agency Formation Commission. He has served on the Santa Ana River Flood Protection Agency from 1988 to the present. He is a real estate developer and President of Philip L. Anthony, Inc., practicing as an independent public affairs and management consultant.

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## **ORANGE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT OFFICERS' BIOGRAPHIES**

### **ADD 3-3-3**

Director Anthony was the recipient of the 2002 E. Benjamin Nelson Government Service Award given by the Groundwater Foundation. The prestigious national award honors and recognizes an elected or appointed public official who has significantly advanced environmental and groundwater stewardship. Director Anthony's community service endeavors include serving as Board President for the Westminster Boys & Girls Club and Board Chairman for the Orange County Taxpayers Association. He is also a Kiwanis Club member.

**Jan Debay** represents Division 7, which includes Costa Mesa and portions of Fountain Valley, Huntington Beach, Irvine, Newport Beach and Westminster. Debay was appointed to the OCWD Board of Directors in February 2001 to fulfill the remaining term of a former director serving Division 7. In 2002, Debay was elected to serve on the board for a four-year term. Director Debay served as 1st Vice President of the Board for the 2006 term. She was re-elected to another four-year term in December 2006 (2006-2010), and was elected to continue serving as 1st Vice President of the Board through 2007. Debay serves on several other water organization boards, including the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA), where she was elected to a two-year term (2004 to 2006) serving the Region 10 Board of Directors. She currently is serving a third two-year term through 2010. Along with six others, she oversees Orange and San Diego counties for ACWA – a Sacramento-based water organization representing water agencies in California.

Director Debay served on the Board of NWRI from 1997 to 2000 and 2002 to 2006. During her tenure on the NWRI Board, she served one-year terms as Chair and Vice Chair. She also served as the President of the Water Advisory Committee of Orange County (WACO) in 2005-2006. Prior to serving on OCWD's Board of Directors, Debay's career in public service covered a broad spectrum of regional service.

Director Debay started her public service career with a five-year term as Planning Commissioner for the city of Newport Beach. In 1992, she was elected to Newport Beach City Council and served as Mayor for 1996–1997. Debay left the city council in December 2000 due to term limits. While serving on the Newport Beach City Council, Debay was appointed to the Executive Council of the Orange County League of Cities, where she served as 2nd Vice President, 1st Vice President and President, overseeing matters of concern to 33 cities and their governing city council members.

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**ORANGE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT OFFICERS' BIOGRAPHIES**  
**ADD 4-4-4**

In 1993, Debay was appointed to the Orange County Sanitation District (OCSD) Board of Directors. She was elected by her peers to serve as Chair of the Board from 1998 to 2000. During that time, Debay also served as a representative on the Joint Cooperative Committee for the Groundwater Replenishment System. Debay served on the Board of the Southern California Association of Governments, a six-county organization, where she represented Orange County. While on the Board, Debay served as Chairman of the Community, Housing and Economic Development Committee and as a member of the Executive Steering Committee.

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