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Port Corpus Christi Commission Elects 2015 Executive Leaders

CORPUS CHRISTI, TX, USA – On January 13, 2015, at the first scheduled Port Commission meeting of 2015, the Commissioners of the Port of Corpus Christi Authority elected officers of the 2015 Port Corpus Christi Commission.

Commissioner Judy Hawley remains as Chair; former Secretary, Charles Zahn takes over the Vice-Chair seat; and Al Jones is elected as Secretary.

Chairwoman, Judy Hawley has represented San Patricio County since 2004. Judy Hawley served 8 years in the Texas House of Representatives. She was the Executive Director of the San Patricio Economic Development Corporation prior to joining a small technology company as the Texas business development lead. Hawley's recent community affiliations include serving as chair of the Corpus Christi Regional Economic Development Corporation, chair of the Texas State Aquarium Board and co-chair of the Chamber Infrastructure Committee. Hawley chairs the State I-69 Corridor Advisory Board and serves on numerous other statewide transportation boards including the Texas Transportation Institute Advisory Committee, the Alliance for I-69 and the Border Trade Advisory Committee.

Vice-Chair, Charles Zahn was appointed by Nueces County to the Port Commission in 2012. Zahn holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Texas A&M University and a Doctor of Jurisprudence from Baylor University. He is Partner in the Law Offices of Charles W. Zahn, Jr. He is a long-time resident of Port Aransas, Texas, where his community involvement and organizational affiliations include Port Aransas Parks and Recreation Board, Port Aransas Charter Commission, Port Aransas Rotary Club, Friends of the Ellis Library, Keep Port Aransas Beautiful, Port Aransas

Preservation and Historical Association, Aransas County ISD Education Foundation, Coastal Conservation Association, to name a few. He also serves on the Nueces County Board of Park Commissioners. Because of his commitment to his community, he has received numerous awards with the Boy Scouts of America, has also been named 2005 Citizen of the Year by the City of Port Aransas and is a recipient of the Jerry McDonald Award for Service to Youth.

Appointed in 2012 by the City of Corpus Christi, Secretary, Al Jones, currently Chairman of the Board and CEO of American Bank, has been employed by the Bank since 1970. He was recently appointed to the board of the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas. His community involvement includes serving on the board of many organizations such as Christus Spohn Health System, Spohn Investment Corp., State of Texas Economic Development Corp, Texas One, Governor's Business Council, Corpus Christi Economic Development Corp, Futurebridge, Corpus Christi Chamber of Commerce, Corpus Christi Convention and Visitors Bureau, Corpus Christi Business Alliance, Art Museum of South Texas, and South Texas Public Broadcasting. Other community involvement includes Independent Bankers Association of Texas; Subchapter S Bank Association, and Federal Reserve Bank, San Antonio. He has received numerous awards and honors for his outstanding community involvement.

The Authority is governed by a Port Commission composed of seven commissioners who serve without pay. Commissioners serve three year staggered terms. Three commissioners are appointed by the Corpus Christi City Council, the governing body of the City of Corpus Christi, three commissioners are appointed by the Nueces County Commissioners Court, the governing body of Nueces County, and one is appointed by the San Patricio County Commissioners Court. The executive staff, under the leadership of the executive director, manages the operations of the Authority and assists the Commission in planning for the future. Port Commission efforts are directed toward encouraging industrial expansion, attracting new cargo, building and maintaining public terminals, setting operational policy and cooperating with the Federal Government as a local sponsor in maintaining and further improving vital navigation channels.

About Port Corpus Christi

As the primary economic engine of the Coastal Bend, Port Corpus Christi is the 5th largest port in the United States in total tonnage. The Port's mission statement is to "serve as a regional economic development catalyst while protecting and enhancing its existing industrial base and simultaneously working to diversify its international maritime cargo business." Strategically located on the western Gulf of Mexico, with a straight, 45' deep channel, the Port provides quick access to the Gulf and the entire United States inland waterway system. The Port delivers outstanding

access to overland transportation with on-site and direct connections to three Class-1 railroads and uncongested interstate and state highways. The Port is protected by a state-of-the-art security department and an award-winning Environmental Management System. With outstanding management and operations staff, Port Corpus Christi is clearly "The Port of the Lone Star State."

<http://www.portofcorpuschristi.com/>

Port Corpus Christi is a member of **START (South Texas Alliance for Regional Trade)**, a collaborative effort that highlights business opportunities in South Texas in the manufacturing, energy, aerospace, international trade, military and other sectors and the related strategic support provided by Port San Antonio, Port Corpus Christi and Port Laredo. <http://www.southtexastrade.com/>

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