## NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER

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## PRESIDENT GEORGE H.W. BUSH TO SERVE SECOND TERM AS CHAIRMAN OF NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER

Philadelphia, PA (October 18, 2007) – The National Constitution Center announces that **George H.W. Bush** has agreed to extend his term as Chairman of the Center's Board of Trustees to serve another full year through September 2008. President Bush was first elected as Chairman at a special meeting of the board in January 2007 and was expected to only serve a one-year term. He was reelected at the Center's annual meeting on September 27, 2007 for an additional term as Chairman during the Center's 2008 fiscal year (October 1, 2007 through September 30, 2008). The Center is the only organization for which President Bush serves as Chairman.

"We are profoundly honored and grateful that President Bush has agreed to a second term as Chairman," said National Constitution Center President and CEO, Joseph M. Torsella. "President Bush's commitment to the Center and his dedication to active citizenship serve as an example to us all and embody the Constitution Center's message. It continues to be a privilege to work with him."

President Bush said, "It is a true pleasure to Chair the National Constitution Center – there is a special energy and spirit at the Center. The values upheld here are dear to my heart and I can think of no better place to serve. I look forward to another year of service with this remarkable institution."

President Bush has been associated with the National Constitution Center since its creation by the Constitutional Heritage Act in 1988, passed when he was Vice President. In 1995, Bush filmed a public service announcement for the Center's celebration of Constitution Week, and in 1999, he presented the Center's We the People Award to Walter Annenberg. He also helped narrate the first video detailing the project in 1997 and then appeared in a later version in 1999.

## ADD ONE/GEORGE H.W. BUSH EXTENDS TERM AS CHAIRMAN

Bush and his wife, Barbara, have also served on the Center's National Honorary Committee, along with all living former Presidents and their wives, since the inception of that committee in 1996.

In 2004, President Bush visited the National Constitution Center and experienced the exhibits for the first time when he was honored by the Eisenhower Fellowships in an event held at the Center. He and President Clinton were awarded the 2006 Liberty Medal for their Tsunami and Katrina Fund efforts.

A highlight during President Bush's initial term as Chairman included the donation of his World War II service revolver to the Center's main exhibition. President Bush also filmed public service announcements for Constitution Day and the *Eyewitness: American Originals from the National Archives* exhibition. In addition, he hosted the Center's spring board meeting at his presidential library in Texas. He was most recently at the Constitution Center on September 27 when he chaired the Center's annual board meeting and presented the 2007 Liberty Medal to Bono and DATA. President Bush also provided a video introduction to the global webcast of the Liberty Medal ceremony.

In addition to President's Bush's extension, four new members were elected to the Board – Yale Asbell of Cherry Hill, New Jersey; Chris Larson of Seattle, Washington; Helen Ryu of Los Angeles, California; and Stanley Tulin of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Yale Asbell is president and sole stockholder of Yale Asbell P.C. He is a nationally recognized authority on community bank stock investments. In 2004, Asbell was elected to the board of trustees of the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York City. Last year, he was honored as the first recipient from the mid-Atlantic region of the Chancellor's Minyan Award, reflecting his board leadership and service in support of the chancellor and the mission of the seminary. Asbell graduated magna cum laude from Dickinson College and received a J.D. from Rutgers University School of Law.

Chris Larson was a founding partner of Microsoft, and remained active in the company for many years. An ardent sports fan, Larson is a co-owner of the Seattle Mariner's baseball team. In addition, he oversees two separate foundations, the Opportunities for Education Foundation and The Positive Transitions Foundation, both of which are dedicated to supporting youth education and social services. Larson also serves as volunteer director for the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation Pacific Science Center and as a board member for Video Networks.

**Helen Ryu** sponsored a Chair of International Affairs at the George Bush School of Government and Public Service at Texas A&M University in College Station, Texas. She currently serves as an advisor for the Poonsgan Corporation and is on the board of trustees for the Marlborough School and the board of visitors for the M.D. Anderson Cancer center. Ryu received her Bachelor's degree from Bryn Mawr College and received an M.A from Harvard University and a J.D. from Stanford Law School.

**Stanley Tulin** was the Vice Chairman and Chief Financial Officer of AXA Financial, Inc. and its principal insurance subsidiary, AXA Equitable Life Insurance Company. He also served as Executive Vice President of AXA Group and was a member of its executive committee. He is a former Director of AXA Equitable, and a former Director of Alliance Capital Management, L.P., also a subsidiary of AXA Financial, Inc. Prior to joining AXA Equitable, Tulin was Co-Chairman of Coopers & Lybrand's Insurance Industry Practice. Before joining Coopers & Lybrand, L.L.P., he worked for Milliman & Robertson, Inc. for 17 years. From 1983 to 1988, he served as the consulting actuary to the Rehabilitators of the Baldwin-United Corporation Life Company subsidiaries in rehabilitation.

The National Constitution Center, located at 525 Arch St. on Philadelphia's Independence Mall, is an independent, nonpartisan, nonprofit organization dedicated to increasing public understanding of the U.S. Constitution and the ideas and values it represents. Opened on July 4, 2003, the Constitution Center is a museum, an education center, and a forum for debate on constitutional issues. The museum dramatically tells the story of the Constitution from Revolutionary times to the present through more than 100 interactive, multimedia exhibits, film, photographs, text, sculpture and artifacts, and features a powerful, award-winning theatrical

## ADD THREE/GEORGE H.W. BUSH EXTENDS TERM AS CHAIRMAN

performance, "Freedom Rising". The Center also houses the Annenberg Center for Education and Outreach, which serves as the hub for national constitutional education. Also, serving as a nonpartisan forum for constitutional discourse, the Center presents – without endorsement – programs that contain diverse viewpoints on a broad range of issues. The Center is also the home of the Liberty Medal award, presented annually as a lasting legacy to the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Constitution. For more information, call 215.409.6700 or visit <a href="https://www.constitutioncenter.org">www.constitutioncenter.org</a>.

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