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NEWS RELEASE/MEDIA ADVISORY

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OAKLAND HOUSING AUTHORITY ANNOUNCES APPOINTMENTS TO ITS BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Moses L. Mayne, Jr., Reappointed as Chairman for Four-Year Term; Janny Castillo and Adhi Nagraj Join the Board

OAKLAND, CA — Oakland Housing Authority (OHA) announced the naming of three commissioners to its seven member board following their appointment by Oakland Mayor Dellums and the unanimous approval of the Oakland City Council.

The three newly-appointed commissioners are Moses L. Mayne Jr., Chairman; Adhi Nagraj and Janny Castillo, board members. They join Gregory D. Hartwig, Vice Chair; and Commissioners William Curry, Marlene Hurd and Tanya Pitts.

Moses L. Mayne, Jr., has been selected by his fellow commissioners to continue his leadership as Chairman of the Board of Commissioners, a position which he has held since 2004. Mayne has been a member of the governing board of the Oakland Housing Authority for 12 years, first beginning as a commissioner in 1998. His renomination received wide support, including Oakland's labor organizations. In addition to his work with OHA, Mayne has also served the City of Oakland as a member of the Oakland City Council from 2001 – 2003, representing District 6. His previous positions include work as a Field Representative for the Northern California Carpenters Regional Council, union organizer for the Bay Counties District Council of Carpenters and the conception and development of Oakland's Cypress Mandela Training Center, where he served as the Founding Director under the Oakland Private Industry Council.

Chairman Mayne said, "I am happy to continue to move the Oakland Housing Authority forward, working a talented team led by new OHA Executive Director Eric Johnson. OHA is an agency that is nationally recognized for best practices in providing housing and services to those most in need of assistance in our community. The US Department of Housing and Urban Development has designated OHA as a "Moving To Work," (MTW) agency, and we will continue our efforts in the preservation and redevelopment of housing to serve Oakland's most vulnerable," Mayne concluded.

Resident commissioner Janny Castillo is a 17-year client of the Oakland Housing Authority and has served on OHA's Resident Advisory Board. In addition, she has graduated from OHA's Family Self-Sufficiency Program and is now participating in the Section 8 Homeownership Program. Castillo currently works for BOSS, (Building Opportunities for Self-Sufficiency) as a Community Builder. BOSS is a 39-year-old homeless service provider that provides shelter, food and other services to 1,500 men, women and children a year. Castillo also works part time at ACCRC (Alameda County Computer Resource Center) an electronics recycler that gives free refurbished computers to low income households.

Newly-appointed commissioner Adhi Nagraj is currently a project manager at Mid-Peninsula Housing Coalition where he is developing affordable housing projects across the Bay Area. Nagraj worked previously at the Tenderloin Neighborhood Development Corporation as a project manager, building housing for the formerly homeless and seniors. An attorney by training, he was an associate attorney at Farella, Braun & Martel in San Francisco and Meyers Nave in Oakland. He currently serves on the Board of Directors of Oakland's Youth Uprising, dedicated to building robust communities through youth leadership, and the Restoration Association for Improving the Landmark 16th Street Station in West Oakland.

Long recognized as one of the leading housing authorities in the nation, the Oakland Housing Authority continues to be an innovator in the field of public housing. Currently, OHA provides housing for approximately 10 percent of Oakland's families, operating 1,606 public housing units and it manages, on behalf of its nonprofit affiliate, 1,554 project based Section 8 scattered site units. Presently, 13,282 Oakland families, elderly and disabled may rent with Section 8 vouchers. The average annual income of OHA families is about \$15,000.

For further information visit the OHA website at www.oha.org or call 510-874-1512.

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