



## **West Basin Municipal Water District**

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### **New Leadership Assembled to Guide West Basin Board** *President and Vice President Selected to Lead New Board*

**Carson, CA** – Three Directors began their four-year terms on the West Basin Municipal Water District Board of Directors with their first Board meeting on Monday. Incumbent Director Edward C. (Ed) Little began his sixth term, while Directors Gloria D. Gray and Ronald C. (Ron) Smith began their first term on the Board.

As its first action, the new Board members selected officers, appointing Director Donald L. Dear President and Director Little Vice President. Director Dear was elected to the Board in November 2000 to represent Division V, which includes Gardena, Hawthorne, Lawndale and unincorporated portions of El Camino Village. He is currently serving his second term.

The veteran member of the current Board of Directors, Director Little was appointed in 1989 to represent the Division IV Cities of Culver City, Del Aire, El Segundo, Malibu, North Ladera Heights, Topanga, View Park, West Hollywood, Windsor Hills and a portion of Lennox. His experience in the water industry began in the 1960s when he worked on the election to annex Culver City to the West Basin Municipal Water District. In his five terms at West Basin, Director Little has been instrumental in providing leadership for the development of the West Basin Water Recycling Facility, which is the largest facility of its kind in the nation, earning regional and worldwide recognition.

The first African American woman elected to the West Basin Board in its near 60-year history, Director Gray was elected to represent the Division II Cities of Inglewood, South Ladera Heights, a portion of Lennox and unincorporated areas of Athens, Howard and Ross-Sexton. Director Gray dedicated her 36-year career to the Los Angeles County Departments of Human Services and Health Services and has been committed to other public service arenas. She served two terms on the Inglewood Unified School District, from 1995-2003, and was elected an Executive Board Member for the Los Angeles County Democratic Party Central Committee 51<sup>st</sup>

Assembly District, representing constituents of the 51<sup>st</sup> Assembly District on governmental issues from 1994-1998.

Director Smith was elected to represent the Division I Cities of Palos Verdes Estates, Rancho Palos Verdes, Rolling Hills Estates, Rolling Hills and portions of Carson. Smith worked as the Senior Environmental Compliance and Hazardous Materials Manager for the City of Los Angeles for four years before becoming CEO and President of The REALTYSMITH Group in 2000. Committed to community issues, Smith has combined his interests in business and government by serving as the Public Relations Commissioner and Economic Development Commissioner for the City of Carson and serving on the Board of Directors for the Carson Chamber of Commerce and Carson Junior Chamber of Commerce.

To learn more about West Basin's Directors and programs, please visit [www.westbasin.org](http://www.westbasin.org).

*West Basin is a public agency that wholesales imported water to cities, mutual water companies, investor-owned utilities and private companies in the South Bay and unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County, serving a population of nearly a million. In addition, West Basin provides the region with recycled water for municipal, commercial and industrial uses. Formed in 1947, West Basin is committed to ensuring a safe and reliable water supply for the region.*

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