



Los Angeles Area  
*Chamber of Commerce*

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## **LA AREA CHAMBER TAKES HELM OF “LEADERSHIP LA” PROGRAM**

### ***Reception honors Maria Contreras-Sweet, David Cunningham, announces new Executive Director Peggy Winston***

In keeping with an ongoing effort to provide businesses throughout Southern California with an increasingly effective and active voice, the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce has acquired Leadership LA, a renowned leadership development program since 1987.

At a reception this evening, the Chamber announced Leadership LA's new Board of Directors and Executive Director Peggy Winston (photo attached). Leadership LA also honored distinguished program alumni Maria Contreras-Sweet and David Cunningham, and welcomed distinguished guests from LA business, education, government and community organizations.

“This is an incredible opportunity for the LA Area Chamber to become even more involved in the development and encouragement of our emerging business leaders,” said Rusty Hammer, President & CEO of the Chamber. “And the resources and support that we in turn can provide the Leadership LA program makes this the perfect partnership. We welcome Leadership LA to the Chamber family and look forward to the program's growth and success under the able leadership of Peggy Winston and the Board of Directors.”

Maria Contreras-Sweet, President and Co-Founder, FORTIUS Holdings, LLC, and former Secretary of Business, Transportation and Housing for the State of California, was one of two alumni honored by Leadership LA for their civic contributions. “Today's smart business leaders need to effectively navigate through their business *and* political issues and actively shape their outcome. Leadership LA was a critical component to my overall professional development,” said Contreras-Sweet. “I truly value the program and my experience with it. I recommend it to any business person seeking to further develop their business skills and political acumen.”

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Leadership LA also honored alumnus David Cunningham, Los Angeles City Police Commissioner. Commissioner Cunningham's credentials include a background of professional accomplishment, community advocacy and academic achievement.

Announced at the reception was the new Leadership LA Board of Directors:

Chair	<b>Anthony Buzzelli</b> , Vice Chairman, National Managing Partner, US Regions, Deloitte
First Vice-Chair	<b>Lisa Greer Quateman</b> , Managing Partner, Quateman & Zidell, LLP
Secretary/Treasurer	<b>Rusty J. Hammer</b> , President and CEO, LA Area Chamber

Also announced at the reception was the new Leadership LA Board of Trustees:

Chair: **Rick Fivekiller**, WWCOT  
**Scott E. Adamson**, Shareholder, Morgan, Lewis & Bockius, LLP  
**Sheriff Lee Baca**, County of Los Angeles  
**Hal Dash**, Cerrell Associates, Inc.  
**Rocky Delgadillo**, Los Angeles City Attorney (Honorary Member)  
**Tom Flintoft**, Rose & Kindel  
**Harvey Goldstein**, Singer, Lewak, Greebaum, &Goldstein  
**Caecilia Gotama, P.E.**, Gotama Building Engineers, Inc.  
**Stephen W. Harper**, Senior VP, LA County Economic Development Corp  
**Larry Kosmont**, President and CEO, Kosmont Companies  
**Dori Pye**, CCE, Founder, Leadership LA  
**Mike Roos**, Mike Roos & Company  
**Kenneth Simons**, North American Realty  
**Carl Terzian**, Chairman, Carl Terzian Associates  
**Rick Tuttle**, Dashew international Center, UCLA  
**Honorable Zev Yaroslavsky**, Supervisor, County of Los Angeles

Leadership LA is now accepting applications for the 2005 program year.

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*Since 1987, Leadership LA has strengthened the LA community by developing, training, and empowering dedicated emerging leaders through education and skills development; providing in-depth knowledge of the LA community; and fostering strong and lasting relationships between participating individuals and LA organizations. Leadership LA is a program of the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce. For more info, visit [www.leadershipla.org](http://www.leadershipla.org).*