

 **THE PORT OF
LONG BEACH** NEWS RELEASE

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DR. KASHIWABARA ANNOUNCES RESIGNATION
Harbor Commission's First Japanese-American member

Nov. 27, 2002

After more than six years with the Port of Long Beach, Harbor Commissioner John E. Kashiwabara has announced his retirement effective Jan. 31, citing personal reasons.

"He's a very special gentleman, and he's going to be missed," said Commission President John W. Hancock.

Kashiwabara was just beginning his second six-year term as a member of the Board of Harbor Commissioners, the policy-setting board for the Port of Long Beach. Long Beach Mayor Beverly O'Neill reappointed him to the board in July.

The 81-year-old retired family physician is a longtime civic leader and the first Japanese-American to serve on the Harbor Commission. Kashiwabara headed numerous port trade missions to Asia, including visits to Japan where his knowledge of the culture and language was particularly valuable. He was Harbor Commission president two years ago when the port reached agreement with Hanjin Shipping Co. of South Korea on a milestone lease for Long Beach's newest and largest container terminal.

"My greatest experience at the port was the opportunity I had to sign the 25-year, \$1 billion lease with Hanjin," recalled Kashiwabara. "I don't know if I will ever top that."

During four decades of community service, Kashiwabara has been a member of the board of trustees of California State University, the governing board of the Long Beach Unified School District, the board of advisors at Cal State Long Beach and the board of directors of the Long Beach Chamber of Commerce.

Two other members of the five-person commission will be leaving the port this summer. Commissioners Carmen O. Perez and Roy E. Hearrean will complete their second terms, the maximum allowed.

The Port of Long Beach is one of the world's busiest container cargo seaports, a leading gateway between the U.S. and Asia. Nearly \$95 billion in trade moved through the port last year.

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