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July 5, 2000

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KASHIWABARA VOTED HARBOR COMMISSION PRESIDENT

The Long Beach Board of Harbor Commissioners on July 3, 2000, elected Dr. John E. Kashiwabara as its president for the 2000-2001 year. The commissioners voted Carmen O. Perez as the new vice president of the five-member board, which governs the Port of Long Beach. In the annual rotation of officers, the board elected John W. Hancock as secretary and John R. Calhoun, J.D., as assistant secretary. Outgoing president Roy E. Hearrean is the other board member.

In taking over as president, Kashiwabara lauded Hearrean for his work during the past year. "I want to thank you for the great leadership you gave this port," Kashiwabara said. "It was a challenging year and you served us well."

As president, Kashiwabara will preside over the commission's weekly meetings, make committee appointments and act as the port's chief spokesperson.

Kashiwabara, a retired family physician, was appointed to the Board of Harbor Commissioners in 1996 by Mayor Beverly O'Neill and confirmed by the City Council. He is the first Japanese-American to serve on the board. Kashiwabara is a former member of the Board of Trustees for California State University. He has been a member of the governing board of the Long Beach Unified School District, a team physician at Long Beach City College, and a member of the Board of Directors for the Long Beach Chamber of Commerce.

Kashiwabara, a native of California, received his bachelor's and medical doctorate degrees from the University of Illinois.

Perez, the patient support services director for Rancho Los Amigos Medical Center in Downey, was appointed to the Board of Harbor Commissioners in August 1991 and reappointed in June 1997.

She was formerly the assistant chief deputy to the late Los Angeles County Supervisor Kenneth Hahn. She has served as the Democratic National Committee chairwoman for California, and as the vice chair for the Democratic National Party. Perez is a member of the California World Trade Commission.

Perez holds an associate of arts degree in social services and bachelor of arts degree in political science.