



THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

MAYOR DOMENIC J. SARNO

HOME OF THE NATIONAL BASKETBALL HALL OF FAME

MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

MAYOR DOMENIC J. SARNO APPOINTS GLADYS OYOLA AS CITY'S BOARD OF ELECTION COMMISSION SECRETARY

OYOLA BECOMES FIRST LATINO TO HOLD THIS POSITION IN CITY'S HISTORY

CONTACT: THOMAS WALSH
TEL: (413) 787-6109

November 9, 2010 - Mayor Domenic J. Sarno announced today that he has appointed Gladys Oyola to serve as the City's Board of Election Commission Secretary (*Election Commissioner*), marking the first time in Springfield's history that a Latino has held this position. Oyola replaces former Election Commissioner Kathleen Fleury.

Oyola possesses nearly 10 years of election administrative and coordination experience and has been serving as Acting Election Commissioner since September 28, 2009. Her prior employment experience includes serving as the City's Bilingual Education Program Coordinator (2004-Present) pursuant to the terms of a settlement reached in the case of United States vs. City of Springfield where she was responsible for directing the Spanish Language Election Program, hiring and training bilingual poll officials and serving as a liaison between the United States Department of Justice, Springfield Election Commission and City's Law Department. Previously, Oyola served as Legislative Aide and Chief of Staff to Massachusetts State Representative Cheryl Coakley-Rivera (1999-2003), Office Manager of the Bilingual Education Program at UMass Amherst (1996-1998), and as a Legislative Intern for former Massachusetts State Representative Anthony Scibelli (1995).

As Election Commissioner, Oyola will be responsible for the administrative and technical work responsible for the operation, administration and direction of the Board of Election Commission Office, with primary responsibility for the registration of voters, preparation of the Annual City Census and the conduction of elections and election related matters within the City of Springfield

and in accordance with the Federal Voting Rights Act, ADA, and other relevant federal and state election laws. Additionally, Oyola will be responsible for maintaining ward and precinct boundaries as mandated by Massachusetts General Law and will be responsible for consulting with the Secretary of State, Department of Justice, City Council, City Clerk, the Building Department and City Attorneys in interpreting and applying codes, laws and ordinances related to elections.

In addition to her professional work experience, Oyola has served as the Vice-President of the New North Citizens' Council (2000-2004), served as a Mentor at Roger L. Putnam High School and has served as the Co-chair for the City of Springfield's Spanish Language Advisory Committee (2006-2010). Oyola attended the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, and is Certified in Continuous Improvement/LEAN Principles Training and has received Springfield Management and Administrative Resources Training.

Mayor Domenic J. Sarno stated "Gladys has done an outstanding job as Acting Election Commissioner and I have full confidence in the training and experience Oyola possesses and am pleased to make history once again in Springfield by appointing her to the position of Board of Election Commission Secretary, the first Latino to hold this position in the City's history." Mayor Sarno also extended his appreciation to former Election Commission Kathy Fleury for her years of service to the City. "I would like to thank Kathy for her service to the City and wish her the best of luck with all her future endeavors."

Oyola stated that she is "very appreciative of Mayor Sarno's confidence in her abilities and looks forward to working with the residents of Springfield and elected officials to ensure that elections continue to take place in the most efficient manner."

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and in accordance with the Federal Voting Rights Act, ADA, and other relevant federal and state election laws. Additionally, Oyola will be responsible for maintaining ward and precinct boundaries as mandated by Massachusetts General Law and will be responsible for consulting with the Secretary of State, Department of Justice, City Council, City Clerk, the Building Department and City Attorneys in interpreting and applying codes, laws and ordinances related to elections.

In addition to her professional work experience, Oyola has served as the Vice-President of the New North Citizens' Council (2000-2004), served as a Mentor at Roger L. Putnam High School and has served as the Co-chair for the City of Springfield's Spanish Language Advisory Committee (2006-2010). Oyola attended the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, and is Certified in Continuous Improvement/LEAN Principles Training and has received Springfield Management and Administrative Resources Training.

Mayor Domenic J. Sarno stated "Gladys has done an outstanding job as Acting Election Commissioner and I have full confidence in the training and experience Oyola possesses and am pleased to make history once again in Springfield by appointing her to the position of Board of Election Commission Secretary, the first Latino to hold this position in the City's history." Mayor Sarno also extended his appreciation to former Election Commission Kathy Fleury for her years of service to the City. "I would like to thank Kathy for her service to the City and wish her the best of luck with all her future endeavors."

Oyola stated that she is "very appreciative of Mayor Sarno's confidence in her abilities and looks forward to working with the residents of Springfield and elected officials to ensure that elections continue to take place in the most efficient manner."

Oyola is a resident of Springfield and she will earn an annual salary of \$77,000.

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