



# NEWS RELEASE

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **MUNICIPAL FINANCE PROFESSIONAL TO LEAD MWDOC IN 2012**

**Fountain Valley, CA** (January 18, 2012) – The Board of Directors of the Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWDOC) unanimously elected Jeffery M. Thomas as Board President at its January 18 Board meeting. President Thomas has worked in the finance industry for more than twenty years and he will bring an abundance of fiscal management expertise to the position. This experience, as well as his record of public service, will prove extremely valuable as the MWDOC Board continues to face important decisions that impact Orange County's water supply and reliability.

A new Vice President was also elected during this morning's Board Meeting: Wayne A. Clark. Vice President Clark is a thirty-year member and past-president of the MWDOC Board of Directors, first elected to the board in 1979. As the former executive director of the Urban Water Institute in Newport Beach, Vice President Clark has more than thirty years of visionary leadership and water supply management experience.

President Thomas commented, "I look forward to continued collaboration with our member agencies, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, and our stakeholders as we face critical decisions that will impact the region's long-term water reliability." The change in leadership is important for Orange County residents and business, as the Board of Directors make essential decisions that affect a variety of regional water-related issues such as ocean desalination, water use efficiency, and water supply management.

President Thomas first joined the MWDOC Board in August of 2009 and was elected to serve a two-year term in 2010. President Thomas represents MWDOC Director Division Six, which consists of Rancho Santa Margarita and portions of Tustin, Irvine, Mission Viejo, Lake Forest, San Clemente, and unincorporated areas of Orange County.

*(continued on next page)*





Thomas is a former member of the Tustin City Council and three-time mayor. He also served for twelve years as Director of the Tustin Water Agency. During his tenure, they financed and constructed the 17th Street Desalter and rebuilt four reservoirs that serve more than 50,000 residents of Tustin, Santa Ana and North Tustin. He has been appointed to a number of positions including Chair of Orange County's Treasury Oversight Committee, and he currently serves as a Director of Sunwest Bank. President Thomas works as Vice President of the Western Region for HKG Asset Management. He lives in Tustin with his wife Lisa and their two children.

Vice President Clark has served on the MWDOC Board of Directors for more than thirty-two consecutive years. He represents MWDOC Director Division Five, which consists of Newport Beach, portions of Irvine, Lake Forest and Laguna Woods. Clark has a long history of service to Orange County. He served as a director of the Irvine Ranch Water District from 1977 to 1981, as a planning commissioner for the City of Irvine, and as charter chairman of the Irvine City Planning Commission. He was also instrumental in forming the Irvine Unified School District. A long-time resident of Orange County, he now resides in Irvine with his wife Margaret.



*President Jeffery M. Thomas*



*Vice President Wayne A. Clark*

Each MWDOC director is elected by the public to represent a specific portion of MWDOC's service area. The term of service is four years, at which time they can run again for re-election. Additional information on the Board of Directors is available at [www.mwdoc.com/board](http://www.mwdoc.com/board).

**The Municipal Water District of Orange County is a water resource management and planning agency dedicated to ensuring water supply and system reliability for the 2.2 million residents we serve through our 28 member agencies.**

