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**NATIONAL CITY  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**



## PRESS RELEASE

### 102<sup>nd</sup> Annual Installation Dinner

**National City, December 16, 2011:** South Bay civic leader Jess Van Deventer will be installed Friday, January 27, 2012, as chairman of the National City Chamber of Commerce at the group's annual dinner and inauguration ceremony.

Van Deventer grew up in National City and continues to live and work there as head of his own commercial property management firm, J&S Investments. He has contributed more than 30 years of public service in both the government and non-profit realms, having served on National City's City Council, the San Diego Port Commission, the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG), the Metropolitan Transit System and, currently, on the Sweetwater Authority Board.

"A city with 125 years of pride and history is almost unheard of in Southern California," Van Deventer stated. "Though the sluggish economy has challenged all of us, I think the business community – through a vibrant Chamber of Commerce – can make a real difference in a community like National City. I'm really looking forward to the challenge."

With a balance of small and large businesses, and a growing retail and leisure hospitality sector, National City is home to more than 2,500 businesses – this in a city of just over 60,000 residents.

National City's Chamber has seen notable growth in the past three years with the arrival of president and CEO, Jacqueline Reynoso. A native of National City and graduate of Harvard's Kennedy School of Government, she has helped attract the city's growing leisure and hospitality economy, which includes a new marina, nearby hotel/restaurant complex and sleek new residential development adjacent to the Civic Center. The Chamber since her arrival in 2008 has grown by 300 members.

The Annual Dinner will also include the seating of the Chamber's new slate of officers, board members and award nominees. "New Business of the Year" nominees include Ball Fiat, Bellus Academy, Mor Furniture, Nordstrom Rack, and Vallarta Supermarket. "Existing Business of the Year" nominees include Aunt Emma's, Buster's Beach House, Clarion South Bay, Paradise Valley Hospital, and Wrigley's Market. "Volunteer of the Year" nominees include Brian Clapper (Lions Club), Manuel Cavada (Creative Images Photography), America Donatto (Social Security Administration), Irma Islas (EDCO Disposal Co.), and David Nagy (Pasha Automotive Services). "Community Leader Award" nominees include Filipino Press, Junior Achievement, Morgan Family, Napoleon's Pizza House, South Bay Community Services, and Sweetwater Union High School.

The event is public and tickets are available at the Chamber for \$75 or \$1,500 for a table of eight. Further information may be obtained by contacting the Chamber at (619) 477-9339 or [reynoso@nationalcitychamber.org](mailto:reynoso@nationalcitychamber.org). Reservations are required.

**EVENT DATE**

**January 27, 2012**

**EVENT TIME**

**5 p.m. – 9 p.m.**

**LOCATION**

**Anchors Catering Conference**

**2375 Recreation Way/Yama St Bldg. 3210**

**FOR RELEASE 12 PM. PST, DECEMBER 16, 2011**