

# NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release  
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Contact: Tony Ruiz III, President  
Michael Zucchet, GM



The San Diego Municipal Employees Association announced today the hiring of Michael Zucchet as its new General Manager. Mr. Zucchet was chosen after a nationwide search process conducted with the assistance of an executive search firm.

“We are thrilled to have Mike Zucchet on board at MEA,” said MEA President Tony Ruiz. “The nationwide search helped to make it crystal clear how lucky our members are to have Mike on their side and helping to lead the organization.”

Mr. Zucchet has served as acting General Manager at MEA since the resignation of Judie Italiano in May 2009. Previously, he served MEA as a negotiations consultant since December 2008.

“I am extremely excited and honored to have been chosen,” Zucchet said. “MEA has a strong track record of effectiveness and success. I look forward to building on that success as well as helping to unleash what I believe is a significant amount of untapped potential as an organization.”

The San Diego Municipal Employees Association is the largest labor union representing City of San Diego employees with more than 4,000 City workers across 400 job classifications. MEA was founded in 1926 as an independent, member-controlled, locally operated labor organization.

Mr. Zucchet attended the University of California at Santa Barbara, where he earned bachelor degrees in business economics and environmental studies. He earned a master’s degree in environmental economics and policy from Duke University in Durham, North Carolina.

From 1993 to 1996, Mr. Zucchet worked in Washington DC as a renewable energy economist with the U.S. Department of Energy, and as a public affairs specialist for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Michael returned to San Diego in 1996 to serve as a City Council policy advisor. From 1998 to 2002, Mr. Zucchet served as the government affairs director for the San Diego City Fire Fighters Local 145, coordinating all lobbying and political operations on behalf of 1200 City fire fighters and paramedics.

Mr. Zucchet was elected to the 2nd District San Diego City Council seat in 2002. Michael was unanimously appointed by his colleagues to the post of Deputy Mayor in 2005 and served as acting Mayor for a short period until his resignation from the Council in July 2005. From 2005 to 2009, Mr. Zucchet worked as Vice President of Real Estate for the J. Peter Block Companies, a San Diego-based development company specializing in mixed-use development in downtown San Diego.

Born and raised in San Diego, Michael Zucchet is a third-generation San Diegan. He currently lives in Point Loma with his wife Teresa, daughter Molly (6), and son Carter (3).

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