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SoundWaters Announces New Board Members

STAMFORD, CT/February 23, 2023 – SoundWaters, the region’s leader in climate science education, has announced the addition of six new members to its Board of Directors. Newly elected members include Stamford residents Kristi Calver, Emile de Neree, David Martin, and Maria Vazquez-Goncalves; and Riverside residents Sara Keller and Thea Kruger.

Ms. Calver is the President of Versability, a sales effectiveness consulting company that helps sales and service organizations achieve sustained success. Her consulting practice spans many industries as well as projects with private equity firms, with emphasis in healthcare, manufacturing, financial services and media. She has worked with Fortune 500 companies including Medtronic, GE Capital, NBC, Wells Fargo, Merrill Lynch, and Dow Jones.

Mr. de Neree has been involved with sailing, racing and boating for many years. Professionally, he worked in marketing at Avon Products and started Polly Concepts, which grew to be the largest US importer of novelty consumer electronics. In 2000, he became COO of the largest real estate branding agency in New York City, and subsequently sold residential real estate in Greenwich and Stamford with a focus on waterfront properties.

Mr. Martin served as Mayor of Stamford, Connecticut from 2013 to 2021. Prior to that, he served on the Board of Representatives for more than 25 years including as its President. In 2008, he and his late wife, Judy, founded The Starfish Connection, a nonprofit organization that

seeks to provide educational support for students from low-income families and helps them enroll in higher education. SoundWaters has partnered with this organization for many years.

Mrs. Vazquez-Goncalves is a long-time SoundWaters Young Mariners parent, as she has three sons who have gone through their programs. She currently works for the City of Stamford as an Administrative Account Clerk for the Road Maintenance Department, which includes the Stormwater Department. Additionally, she is the recorder for the Stamford Harbor Management Commission, SHMC-ARC, and the Stamford Transit District.

A former high school Spanish teacher, Ms. Keller has always been passionate about educating young people about our environment, climate change, and the need to embrace conservation efforts in our daily activities. Her volunteer work with several area organizations underscores her commitment to education and conservation.

A Fairfield County native, Ms. Kruger has spent many summers enjoying all that Long Island Sound has to offer. She currently is a partner at Citrin Cooperman Advisors LLC / Berdon Advisors LLC, where she advises clients in the real estate and hospitality industries on matters of tax planning, structuring, and compliance.

About SoundWaters

Founded in 1989, SoundWaters is devoted to the protection of Long Island Sound and its watershed by means of access and education for the surrounding community. In pursuit of this aim, SoundWaters hosts shipboard and land-based programs for more than 30,000 students each year, from pre-K through high school. The organization provides students with powerful science enrichment, and both children and adults with an understanding of the changes they can make to restore and preserve Long Island Sound and its environment. By fostering equity of access to this natural resource, SoundWaters promotes a healthy, resilient future for the Sound, the region, and its people. For more information, visit [soundwaters.org](https://www.soundwaters.org).

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