



For Immediate Release  
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For Further Information:  
Jim Finley (203) 804-6895  
Kevin Maloney (203) 710-3486

## CCM elects new officers and board of directors for 2013-2014

The Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM), the statewide association of towns and cities, elected its Officers and Board of Directors for 2013-14 at CCM's Annual Meeting on June 13. Five officers were elected and 19 directors were re-elected for another year. They join with six past presidents of CCM who continue to serve on the board.

Here are CCM's officers for FY 2013-14:



**Bill Finch, Mayor of Bridgeport, was elected CCM President.** He had previously been CCM First Vice President. Before becoming Mayor, Finch served seven years as a State Senator from the 22nd Assembly District. As a state legislator, he served as Assistant President Pro Tempore, Senate Chairman of the Environment Committee, and Senate Vice Chairman of the Transportation Committee. Prior to becoming a state senator, Finch served as a Bridgeport City Council Member for nine and a half years.

Finch serves on the Advisory and Nominating Committees of the U.S. Conference of Mayors, and is Co-Chairman of the organization's Climate Protection Task Force.

Prior to his election as Mayor, Finch worked as Director of Regional Growth and Membership for the Bridgeport Regional Business Council (BRBC). He has also served as a member of the Grow Bridgeport Fund and the Connecticut Zoological Society.



**Matthew B. Galligan, Town Manager of South Windsor, was elected CCM First Vice President.** He had previously been CCM Second Vice President. Prior to serving in South Windsor, Galligan was Village Manager of Mamaroneck, NY, Town Manager of North Branford, and City Manager of Newburgh, NY.

He was a municipal auditor for the New York State Department of Audit

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and Control and an accounting professor for Dutchess Community College. He also is a member of the American Society of Public Administration.



**Mark D. Boughton, Mayor of Danbury, was elected Second Vice President.** He had previously been CCM Treasurer. Prior to becoming Mayor, Boughton served as a State Representative from 1998 to 2001. He served as a member of the Education Committee and ranking member of the Environment Committee. Boughton was elected Mayor in 2001 and has been re-elected five times. He was the Republican candidate for Lieutenant Governor as the running mate of Tom Foley in the 2010 gubernatorial race.

Boughton previously served in the United States Army Reserve where he achieved the rank of Sergeant. He previously worked at Danbury High School as a social studies teacher and served as a member of the Danbury Planning Commission from 1995 to 1998. He also serves on the Alumni Board of Directors of Western Connecticut State University.



**Susan S. Bransfield, First Selectwoman of Portland, was elected CCM Treasurer.** She had previously been CCM Secretary. Before becoming First Selectwoman in 2003, Bransfield worked with the Connecticut State Department of Education as an education service specialist for the Child Nutrition Programs. Bransfield serves as Chairperson of CCM’s Legislative Subcommittee on Public Safety, Crime Prevention and Code Enforcement.

She is also a past president of the Connecticut Council of Small Towns. Bransfield currently serves as Secretary of the Lower Connecticut River Valley Council of Governments and Vice Chairman of the Middlesex County Revitalization Commission. She has a Master of Public Administration degree from the University of Hartford and a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Connecticut.



**Robert M. Congdon, First Selectman of Preston, was elected CCM Secretary.** Prior to becoming First Selectman, Congdon, along with his wife, were the long-time principals of a local company, Electronic & Exhibit Transportation, from 1977 to 1995. Congdon is a certified public accountant and served the State Representative from the 42nd Assembly District in 2004-05.

He is Chairman of the Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments and a member of the board of directors of the Southeastern Connecticut Regional Resource Recovery Authority. He is also Co-Chairman of the Southeast Water Utility Coordinating Committee and is a member of the Preston Redevelopment Agency.

**Re-elected to the Board of Directors are:**



**Alan H. Bergren, City Manager of Norwich.** Before becoming City Manager in Norwich in 2007, Bergren served for over 25 years as Town Manager of East Hampton. He also served as an administrator for the Board of Selectmen in the Town of Bolton from 1979-1982 and as executive assistant to the mayor in East Hartford from 1978-1979. Mr. Bergren began his municipal career in New Britain, serving as a special projects coordinator for the mayor in 1978.

Bergren is also a past president of the Connecticut Council of Small Towns and a former member of the Board of Directors of the Connecticut Town and City Managers Association. Bergren has taught public administration at the University of Hartford as an adjunct faculty member and has served as a member of the University's governing board.



**Robert J. Chatfield, Mayor of Prospect.** Chatfield is the longest serving chief elected official in the State. He has served as Mayor of Prospect for 36 years. Chatfield is also the Day Commander of the Prospect Fire Department. He has previously served as Chairman of the Bristol Resources Recovery Facility Operating Committee, Chairman of Tunxis Recycling Operating Committee, three-time chairman of the Central Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments, and Chairman of the Connecticut Council of Small Towns.

Chatfield is also a member of the Northeast Forest Fire Compact, Waterbury Area Fire Chief's Association, and the New Haven County Emergency Plan, and is a former member of the State Fire Commission and the State of Connecticut Police Officers Standard and Training Council. In April 2012, he was inducted in the Connecticut Firefighter's Hall of Fame.



**John A. Elsesser, Town Manager of Coventry.** Elsesser has been Coventry's Town Manager for 25 years. He previously worked as Assistant Town Manager in Avon and Assistant to the Town Manager in Wethersfield.

He is serving as a member of the State's Emergency Response Commission and State E-911 Commission, and on the Board of Directors of the Eastern Highlands Health District. He is a past president of the Tolland County Chamber of Commerce. Elsesser has served on various CCM committees including as Vice-Chairman of CCM's Education Subcommittee and as a member of CCM's Smart Growth Task Force. Elsesser also serves as Chairman of the Board of Directors of CIRMA, the risk management and insurance services arm of CCM.

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He is a past president and member of the Connecticut Town & City Management Association and has served on key committees of the International City/County Management Association.



**Paul Formica, First Selectman of East Lyme.** Prior to his election as First Selectman in 2007, he was the founder, in 1983, and owner of Flanders Fish Market and Restaurant in East Lyme. Formica serves as Chairman of the Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments, Chairman of CCM’s Legislative Subcommittee on Environment and Energy, and is the founding Co-Chairman of the East Lyme Business Organization.

He has previously served the town government as Chairman of the Zoning Commission and as a member of the Board of Finance, and also is a past president of the East Lyme Chamber of Commerce and East Lyme Kiwanis Club.



**Barbara Gilbert, Town Manager of Rocky Hill.** Ms. Gilbert has been employed by the Town of Rocky Hill since 1974, as the Clerk of the Council and working in various capacities in every department other than the Highway Department during her tenure. In 1992, she was appointed Town Clerk. After serving as Acting Town Manager on several occasions, she was appointed Assistant Town Manager/Town Clerk in 1998 and remained in that position until appointed as Town Manager in 2002. She is a past president of the Connecticut Town and City Management Association and a member of the International City/County Management Association.



**Barbara M. Henry, First Selectman of Roxbury.** Currently in her 16th year as First Selectman, Henry previously served as a selectman and as a member of the Board of Education in Region 12. She currently serves on the Connecticut Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations and is a past Treasurer, Vice President and President of the Connecticut Council of Small Towns.

Henry is a volunteer EMT with the Roxbury Ambulance Association and serves on the Shepaug Friends of Music. She is a former board member of Operation Lifesaver in CT, served as Vice Chairman and Chairman of the Northwestern Connecticut Council of Governments, as well as twice on the State’s M.O.R.E. Commission regarding state mandate relief.



**Scott D. Jackson, Mayor of Hamden.** Before being elected Mayor, he served as Chief Administrative Officer for the Town and earlier managed the Town's Office of Housing and Neighborhood Development.

Jackson previously served as Project Manager and Technical Director for the Connecticut Policy and Economic Council. Before that, he worked with Senator Lieberman as Deputy State Director for Constituent Service and, at the same time, served on the Town of Hamden's Community Development Advisory Commission.

Jackson started his career with Senator Lieberman doing citizen outreach and casework duties and serving as the Computer Systems Administrator for his office.



**Cynthia Mangini, Councilwoman of Enfield.** Now in her eighth term as a member of the Enfield Town Council, Mangini is a licensed realtor and long-time volunteer for the Enfield Food Shelf, and catechism teacher for Saint Bernard's Church.

She is also an active member of many Town Committees, including the Enfield Revitalization Strategy Committee, the School Readiness Committee, and the Fourth of July Celebration Committee Inc.

Mangini serves as Chairman of CCM's Legislative Subcommittee on Education. She previously was a member of the board of directors of the National League of Cities (NLC) and is currently a member of the NLC Advisory Council. Mangini also was Vice Chairman of NLC's Committee on Finance, Administration and Intergovernmental Relations.



**Rudolph P. Marconi, First Selectman of Ridgefield** An elected official for 22 years, Rudy has held the office of First Selectman for the past 14 years. In addition, he currently serves on the Board of Directors of COST, the Housatonic Valley Coalition Against Substance Abuse, and the Housatonic Resource Recovery Authority

He is Chairman of Connecticut Region 5 Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security and in the past has served as Chair and Vice Chair of the Housatonic Valley Council of Elected Officials. In Ridgefield, he has established such organizations as the Lyme Disease Task Force and the Ridgefield Coalition Against Alcohol and Substance Abuse.



**Denise E. Menard, First Selectwoman of East Windsor.** Prior to her election as First Selectwoman, she served the town for over 25 years on the Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance, as well as as the Pollution Control Authority, Planning and Zoning Commission, and East Windsor Elderly Commission.

She is also a member of the East Windsor Rotary Club, a Paul Harris Fellow, and has volunteered extensively with the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts and East Windsor Public Schools.

Menard holds an Associate's degree in Paralegal Studies and Bachelor's degree in Business Management from Saint Joseph College in West Hartford.



**Richard A. Moccia, Mayor of Norwalk.** Now in his fourth term as Mayor, Moccia previously was an elected representative on the Common Council, and served on the Fire Commission, Fair Rent Commission, and City Redistricting Committee. He is a former constable, city sheriff, and CT State Marshal.

He is Chairman of CCM's Legislative Subcommittee on Transportation and Infrastructure and a member of the U.S. Conference of Mayors' Standing Committee on Transportation and Communications. Moccia serves on the boards of the Maritime Aquarium and Courage to Speak Foundation for drug abuse prevention. He is also a member of the Norwalk Sons' of Italy, American Legion, and Norwalk Exchange Club.



**Leo Paul, Jr., First Selectman of Litchfield.** Paul is in his fifth term as First Selectman. Before becoming the Town's chief elected official in 2003, Paul served as an officer in the Air Force for more than 20 years. He has also served as Production Manager for Visual Concepts Media in Bloomfield and as Senior Project Manager for Cine-Med, Inc in Woodbury.

He is an active member of the Litchfield Lions Club, the American Legion, Knights of Columbus, and Elks Lodge. He holds a Bachelor's degree in Television and Radio Communications from the University of Wisconsin, and Master's degree in Human Resources Management from Chapman University in California.



**Lisa Pellegrini, First Selectman of Somers.** She was elected First Selectman in 2009. Ms. Pellegrini serves as Vice-Chairperson of CCM's Legislative Subcommittee on Public Health and Human Services. Pellegrini also served on Governor Rell's 2009 Municipal Relief Panel.

Pellegrini began her career in the medical device industry, working for Johnson & Johnson, in the Ethicon Inc. division, both in manufacturing and quality assurance. Pellegrini then worked for Biofield, Inc. a startup company developing breast cancer detection devices. She most recently worked as a Sales and Marketing Director in West Hartford. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Textile Marketing and Management from Philadelphia University.



**Michael S. Rohde, Mayor of Meriden.** Before becoming Mayor, Rohde was elected to the City Council and has served on the council for over 20 years. He has served as Majority Whip and Majority Leader for the council. Rohde is also Chairman of the CCM Task Force on Children, Youth and Families.

He is currently Director of Community Relations for Community Health Center, Inc. Earlier in his career, Rohde worked for the Ronald McDonald House of Connecticut in New Haven as the director of development. Prior to that, he served as Executive Director of The Cove Center for Grieving Children in Meriden and as Director of Community, Corporate and Government Relations of The Curtis Home Inc. in Meriden. He began his career at Deep River's Mount Saint John School for Boys.

Rohde holds a Bachelor's degree in Economics and Psychology from St. John Fisher College in Rochester, NY, and a Master's degree in Human Services Administration from Antioch University in Keene, NH.



**Pedro E Segarra, Mayor of Hartford.** He first became Mayor of Hartford in June 2010 and was elected in his own right in November 2011. His priorities have been to build on the City's education reform foundation; to implement strategies that strengthen community-police relationships and reduce crime; and, through the Livable and Sustainable Neighborhoods Initiative and other programs, to improve the vitality of our neighborhoods and increase job opportunities.

After graduating from Greater Hartford Community College (now Capital Community College), Segarra attended the University of Hartford where he received a Bachelor's degree in Political Science. He was then admitted to the University Of Connecticut Graduate School Of Social Work where he received his Master's degree in Social Work. In 1985, he graduated from UCONN Law School.

In 1991, he was appointed Corporation Counsel for the City of Hartford and served for three consecutive terms. He was appointed to the City Council in 2006, elected in his own right in 2007, and became Council President in January of 2010. Before becoming Mayor, he was Managing Partner of the Hartford Law Office of Segarra and Associates.



**R. Scott Slifka, Mayor of West Hartford.** He has served as Mayor since 2004 and holds the distinction of being both the youngest and longest-serving mayor in West Hartford history. Prior to becoming Mayor, he served nearly three years as Deputy Mayor. In 2011, Slifka was appointed to serve on the Board of Directors of the Connecticut Resources Recovery Authority.

An attorney, he serves as Corporate Counsel for LEGO Systems, Inc. and previously served as Chief of Staff to Connecticut's Secretary of State. Slifka was a candidate for Lieutenant Governor as the running mate of John DeStefano in the 2006 Democratic primary.

As Mayor, he has been commended for his leadership in establishing the nationally acclaimed Blue Back Square development and for proposing a transit system to maintain the independence of senior citizens without the use of taxpayer dollars.



**Mark B. Walter, First Selectman of East Haddam.** Walter is in his third term as First Selectman of East Haddam. He earned a Master's degree in Business Administration from Northeastern University in Boston and has more than 25 years of successful business and management experience.

Walter is Chairman CCM's Legislative Subcommittee on Land Use, Housing and Community Development and a member of the CIRMA Board of Directors. He is also the former Chairman of the newly-formed Lower Connecticut River Valley Council of Governments. Walter served as a Boy Scout leader for 12 years and was an Eagle Scout himself.



**Arthur J. Ward, Mayor of Bristol.** Before being elected to a third term as Mayor, he worked as Veterans Service Officer in the Connecticut Department of Veterans Affairs. He served for 14 years as a city council member and for seven years on the Zoning Board of Appeals where he was the chairman for four years. He served as President of the Bristol Resource Recovery Committee for two years and presently serves on the Bristol Hospital Development Board.

Ward served in the U.S. Marine Corp. in Vietnam and was awarded the Purple Heart medal. After serving his country, he worked in beverage sales management, as well as owned his own restaurant before joining the state government.





**Steven R. Werbner, Town Manager of Tolland.** Prior to being appointed Town Manager of Tolland in 2005, Werbner served the town of Manchester for 28 years, in numerous positions, from Personnel Director to Assistant Deputy Manager and Deputy General Manager, before being named General Manager in 2002.

Werbner is Chairman of CCM's Legislative Subcommittee on Labor Relations, and is a member of the Connecticut Bar, the International City/County Management Association, and the International Personnel Management Association. He also serves as an adjunct professor with the University of Connecticut School of Public Policy.

**Past presidents of CCM continuing to serve on the board are:**



**Ryan J. Bingham, Mayor of Torrington.** He was first elected Mayor in November 2005. Voted in at 22 years of age, he is the youngest Mayor in the history of Connecticut.

Now in his fourth term, the Mayor has maintained his priorities of reviving Torrington's downtown, getting the education system back on track and remaining accessible to the people. Since the downturn in the economy, Mayor Bingham has devoted a great deal of time to the fiscal health of Torrington. Bingham also serves as Chairman of CCM's Legislative Subcommittee on Public Health and Human Services

Mayor Bingham has been successful in obtaining a number of grants for the City, ranging from rebuilding streetscapes in the downtown area to \$1.4 million to clean up brownfield sites in the City. In addition, Bingham has secured a \$500,000 Façade Improvement grant from the State of Connecticut to help local businesses improve the exterior appearance of their property. Mayor Bingham is a tireless advocate for Torrington and works hard to promote the city as a great place to live, work and play.

He grew up in Torrington and attended local public schools. After graduating from Torrington High School, Bingham attended Marist College and received a Bachelor's degree in Political Science.



**Mary A. Glassman, First Selectman of Simsbury.** Mary served as CCM President from January 2011 to June 2012. Glassman is in her seventh term as First Selectman, having served from 1991-1999 and from 2007 to the present. She chairs the Capitol Region Council of Governments, a 30-town regional council of government.

In addition to serving the people of Simsbury, Glassman was Legal Counsel to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and to the Senate President. She was also Chief of Staff in the Lt. Governor's Office from 2004-2006.

Prior to returning to Simsbury, Glassman served as Director of Legislative Affairs at CT Voices for Children, and Director of Voices' partner lobbying organization, Advocates for CT's Children and Youth. Glassman was in private practice with the law firm of Pepe & Hazard in Hartford. She is a graduate of the University of Connecticut and the UConn School of Law.



**Elizabeth C. Paterson, Mayor of Mansfield.** She is an incorporator and member of the executive board of the Mansfield Downtown Partnership and is Chairman of the Mansfield Emergency Management Committee. She is Co-Chairman of the Mansfield's University/Town Relations Committee. Paterson is also Chairman of the Eastern Highlands Health District and Co-Chairman of the UConn Campus Community Partnership.

Paterson has been active in both CCM and the National League of Cities (NLC). She was Chairperson of the CCM Task Force on Children, Youth and Families and CCM's Legislative Subcommittee on Education. Nationally, Paterson is a member of NLC's Advisory Council and is a past chairman of NLC's University Communities Council. She also served on NLC's Board of Directors.

She also serves on the board of directors for the Windham Hospital Foundation, The Ballard Institute and Museum of Puppetry.



**Herbert C. Rosenthal, Former First Selectman of Newtown.** He serves as a Newtown elected official, as Treasurer of the Housatonic Valley Resources Recovery Authority, a board member of the Newtown Health District, and President of the Connecticut Coalition for Justice in Education Funding (CCJEF). Herb was a two-term past president of CCM and a past chairman of the board of directors of the Housatonic Valley Council of Elected Officials. Rosenthal also served for two years as Chairman of the Board of Directors of CIRMA, CCM's risk management and insurance services arm.

Before being elected First Selectman, Rosenthal was a member of the Newtown Board of Education for 13 years, serving as Chairman for three years. During that same time, he served on

the board of directors of Education Connection, the regional education service center for 33 municipalities in northwestern CT, serving as Chairman for 10 years. Rosenthal previously held management positions in the insurance and financial services field, where he is still actively employed, and was a Lieutenant in the United States Navy.



**John DeStefano, Jr., Mayor of New Haven.** DeStefano is now in his 19th year as Mayor. DeStefano has worked with residents across the City to advance the academic success of public school children through School Change, to transform the City center into a strong job and tax generator, and to strengthen its neighborhoods through community policing, support for youth, and through access to safe and affordable housing.

Under Mayor DeStefano’s leadership, virtually every public school has been rebuilt and the schools are seeing steady substantial improvements in academic performance. The public schools now offer the largest inter-district magnet program in the state with free pre-kindergarten classes and state of the art technology and libraries.

New Haven is also experiencing one of the largest building booms in its history. Under Mayor DeStefano’s leadership, the City center has undergone a dramatic transformation and has emerged as a national center for life and biosciences. Downtown commercial, residential, and retail occupancies stand at record lows.

Mayor DeStefano is a past president of the National League of Cities as well as a past president of CCM, and a longtime member of the boards of directors of both NLC and CCM. The Mayor also chaired the State of Connecticut's Blue Ribbon Commission on Property Tax Reform and Smart Growth.



**Stephen T. Cassano, Selectman of Manchester.** Cassano is also State Senator for the 4<sup>th</sup> District and Co-Chairman of the General Assembly’s Planning and Development Committee, the most powerful committee for municipal issues.

Cassano has 30 years of elected leadership, including Mayor of Manchester for 14 years and deputy mayor for eight. He also served for eight years as Chairman of the Capitol Region Council of Governments and as President of the National Association of Regional Councils.

Cassano recently served as Executive Director of the Connecticut Coalition for Justice in

Education Funding (CCJEF). He has previously served as President of CCM and is a long-time member of CCM's Board of Directors. Cassano has served as President of the National Small Cities Council and is a former long-time member of the board of directors of the National League of Cities (NLC). He is now a member of the NLC Advisory Council. Cassano retired after 28 years of service as a sociology professor at Manchester Community College.

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The Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM) is Connecticut's statewide association of towns and cities. CCM is an inclusionary organization that celebrates the commonalities between, and champions the interests of, urban, suburban and rural communities. CCM represents municipalities at the General Assembly, before the state executive branch and regulatory agencies, and in the courts. CCM provides member towns and cities with a wide array of other services, including management assistance, individualized inquiry service, assistance in municipal labor relations, technical assistance and training, policy development, research and analysis, publications, information programs, and service programs such as workers' compensation, liability-automobile-property insurance, risk management, and energy cost-containment. Federal representation is provided by CCM in conjunction with the National League of Cities. CCM was founded in 1966.

CCM is governed by a Board of Directors, elected by the member municipalities, with due consideration given to geographical representation, municipalities of different sizes, and a balance of political parties. Numerous committees of municipal officials participate in the development of CCM policy and programs. CCM has offices in New Haven (the headquarters) and in Hartford.