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**MASTICS ELECTED CHAIRMAN OF PORT OF PALM BEACH COMMISSION**



**RIVIERA BEACH, Fla.** – Longtime trial attorney and 31-year resident of Town of Palm Beach, George E. Mastics, is the new chairman of the Port of Palm Beach District Board of Commissioners, having been elected today to a one-year term in that post by fellow members of the five-member board.

“I am honored to again be chairing this commission at a time when our port is expanding trade opportunities and continuing to play an increasingly vital role in our community,” said Mastics, who previously served as chairman in 2000 and again in 2003.

Mastics has served on the commission since being elected by district voters in 1996 and was its vice chairman for the past year. For his latest term as chairman, he succeeds Blair J. Ciklin.

“I join my fellow commissioners in looking forward to guiding the Port of Palm Beach to further enhancing its position as an important contributor to the economic and tourism wellbeing of Palm Beach County,” Mastics said.

Other commissioners chosen to hold offices for one-year terms to expire in January 2007 are Dr. Jean L. Enright as vice chairwoman, and Wayne M. Richards as secretary-treasurer. Also serving on the commission are Edward R. Opper and Blair J. Ciklin.

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Mastics' extensive experience includes practicing as a trial attorney for some 50 years, having been admitted to the Florida and Ohio bars, and four terms of service in the Ohio House of Representatives. He was a partner, shareholder and director of Montgomery, Lytal, Reiter, Denney & Searcy, P.A., later called Searcy, Denney, Scarola, Barnhart & Shipley, P.A.

His service has included board terms on the Overall Economic Development Program (OEDP) for Palm Beach County, Business Development Board, Palm Beach Metropolitan Planning Organization, and U.S. Navy League.

He has been married for 48 years to Carole Mastics and has five children and 11 grandchildren.

The Port of Palm Beach District is an independent special taxing district, a subdivision of the state of Florida, which covers 971 square miles or about half of Palm Beach County. The district has statutory authority to levy ad valorem millage tax but has not done so since fiscal 1975.

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