



## PRESS RELEASE

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### **CITY OF EL MONTE COUNCIL MEMBERS SWORN INTO OFFICE**

***El Monte, Calif.*** – El Monte's new City Council Members were officially sworn into office on Tuesday, December 1, at 6:30 p.m., during the ceremonial portion of the City Council meeting. Members of the Council had the opportunity to be sworn in by the person of their choice.

Those taking office included André Quintero, who began his first term as the City of El Monte Mayor, Norma Macias, who is taking the city council seat of Art Barrios, and Juventino "J" Gomez, who will return to his council seat. Council members Emily Ishigaki and Patricia Wallach, neither of whom were up for election, fill in the rest of the city council seats. City Clerk Lorene Gutierrez and City Treasurer Henry Velasco will also return to their posts.

Following the induction of new members, the Mayor and Council, by majority vote, elected Patricia Wallach to serve as Mayor Pro Tem for a two-year term. She will serve in the Mayor's absence until a successor is elected.

The swearing-in ceremony took place in the City Council Chambers at City Hall, located at 11333 Valley Blvd.

**André Quintero**, before being elected Mayor of the City of El Monte, served two terms as a member of the Board of Trustees for the Rio Hondo Community College District.

Quintero currently works for the City Attorney of Los Angeles as a Deputy City Attorney in the Criminal Branch. He previously worked in a law firm that specialized in municipal and education law. He also clerked in the General Counsel's Office of the Los Angeles Community College District.

Quintero grew up and attended schools in El Monte, Monterey Park and Rosemead before attending U.C. Riverside and UCLA Law School. He is the eldest son of immigrant parents, Gustavo and Marlene Quintero. He is married to Deborah Murguia and is father to Emma Olivia Quintero.

**Juventino “J” Gomez**, who has been elected to a four-year term on the El Monte City Council, continues to serve as a Senior Deputy to Los Angeles County Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich; a post he has held since 1998. Gomez began his county career in 1972 with the County Department of Human Resources, where he worked for 26 years.

“J” serves as an Executive Board Member of the Independent Cities Association, and the Vice-Chair of the Watershed Conservation Authority. He is an active member in numerous community activities, for which he has won multiple awards, and is the founder and president of four charitable foundations; the Cypress Park Chamber of Commerce, CLEVER, the Cypress Park Cinco de Mayo Parade and the Hispanic Festivity Committee at the LAC/USC Medical Center.

He was born in Los Angeles, CA, and is a Disabled American Veteran who served in the United States Army.

**Norma Macias** currently works as a Project Manager for the City of South El Monte. For the past four years, Norma has also been a member of El Monte’s Planning Commission. Norma was born and raised in El Monte, attending El Monte’s Arroyo High School. She also has a master’s degree in Architecture from the Catholic University of America.

Norma’s sister, Amalia, is a teacher at Kranz Middle School in El Monte.

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The City of El Monte, located in Southern California, is committed to improving the quality of life for its citizens and strives to provide its community personalized service, uncompromising commitment, and individualized accountability. For information on the City of El Monte, please call 626-580-2001 or visit [www.ci.el-monte.ca.us/](http://www.ci.el-monte.ca.us/).