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## Tampa Bay Watch Announces New Board of Directors

Tierra Verde, FL - Tampa Bay Watch is proud to announce new officers to its Board of Directors: Mark Chmielewski is Chair, Mike Wilson is Vice-Chair, and Travis Parker is Secretary/Treasurer. Mark Chmielewski is Managing Partner of MC Strategic and served as Vice-Chair of the Tampa Bay Watch Board of Directors over the last two years. He has advised individuals, companies, and charitable organizations on Investment Strategies, Insurance, Tax and Estate Planning matters for over 30 years. Mike Wilson is retired from General Dynamics and Travis Parker is Vice President at Biltmore Construction.

Additionally, there are three new members to the organization's board: Steven Lay, MD of LBP LAY, Inc., Elizabeth Watts, Director of Media & Community Relations at Bloomin' Brands, and Chip Webster retired from Vistage, Florida. Steven Lay is retired from clinical medicine and now serves as President & Owner of LBP LAY, Inc., a Land Acquisition and Development Company. Elizabeth Watts has more than 20 years of experience in the communications field including a diverse mix of corporate communications, public relations, media relations, and television news. She holds a strong reputation for developing robust relationships with both internal and external stakeholders to help elevate her company or organization's profile throughout her career. Chip Webster has been associated with Vistage Florida, a licensee of Vistage International, the world's leading CEO peer group organization since 1987 and has a proven track record of building and leading teams.

Each new officer and member brings a variety of skills, experience, and diversity to Tampa Bay Watch's board composition. "I am very proud and excited about our new board officers and members. They are a professional and diverse group of individuals that contribute personally and professionally to Tampa Bay Watch as we continue to increase awareness of our mission to restore the bay through restoration projects, environmental education programs, and the Tampa Bay Watch Discovery Center at the St. Pete Pier," states Peter A. Clark, President of Tampa Bay Watch.

The entire slate of board members includes Derek Houston of Houston Taylor Law, Lari Johnson of Lari Johnson Public Relations, Kevin Kelso of Hancock Whitney Bank, Mary Ann Renfrow of Alden Suites, Steve Stanley of Metro Diner, and Larry Weiner of Insurance Dispute Solutions, LLC.

Tampa Bay Watch, Inc., is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to the protection and restoration of the marine and wetland environments of the Tampa Bay estuary through scientific and educational programs. Incorporated in 1993, Tampa Bay Watch performs habitat restoration and protection activities throughout the year, relying heavily on the efforts of community volunteers. The Tampa Bay Watch Discovery Center on the St. Pete Pier is a significant new addition to the education and conservation efforts of Tampa Bay Watch and is integral to the advancement of the organization's mission. The Discovery Center is an interactive visitor experience showcasing the economic, ecological and recreational value of the Tampa Bay estuary to residents and visitors as well as an academic component that expands environmental and educational outreach programs to Tampa Bay area schools, residents, and visitors.

*Tampa Bay Watch is a nonprofit 501 (c)(3) stewardship program dedicated exclusively to the charitable and scientific purpose of protecting and restoring the marine and wetland environments of the Tampa Bay estuary encompassing over 400 square miles of open water and 2,300 square miles of highly- developed watershed. Tampa Bay Watch involves more than 10,000 youth and adult volunteers each year in hands on habitat restoration projects. For more information, visit [www.tampabaywatch.org](http://www.tampabaywatch.org), or call 727-867-8166.*

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