



# START RÍO...GO ANYWHERE

## MEDIA RELEASE

**3600 Workman Mill Road / Whittier, CA 90601**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
RELEASE DATE: **Dec. 16, 2022**

CONTACT: Ruthie Retana  
(562) 463-3145

## **Río Hondo College Board of Trustees Celebrated with Oath of Office Ceremony**

**WHITTIER** – Río Hondo College honored its re-elected Board of Trustees members Oscar Valladares, Anais Medina Diaz and Rosaelva Lomeli with an Oath of Office ceremony at the Río Café on Dec. 14.

Valladares and Medina Diaz took the Oath of Office during the event, affirming that they will continue to fulfill the duties of Board of Trustees members and uphold the vision, mission and values of Río Hondo College. Lomeli, who was unable to attend the event, will have her oath administered at a later date.

The ceremony included an introduction of the elected officials by Director of Government and Community Relations Dr. Russell Castañeda-Calleros and a few words by Superintendent/President Dr. Marilyn Flores.

“I know first-hand the hardships that our college students face – I’m excited for the opportunity to continue serving and building on the work that I’ve championed in the last two years,” Medina Diaz said. “In the past year, I’ve advocated for the basic needs of our students and sought partnership opportunities between the College and the City of El Monte and have been successful in finding housing opportunities for our housing insecure students.”

The oaths and congratulatory speeches were delivered by the Honorable Janice Hahn, Chair of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, Fourth District and the Honorable Hilda Solis, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, First District.

“Our great country gave this undocumented immigrant an opportunity and now I am living the American dream,” Valladares said. “I’d like to thank everyone for their support so that I might continue to lead Río Hondo College in good governance.”

During the reorganization meeting, the Board of Trustees selected Kristal Orozco to serve as president. Anais Medina Diaz will serve as vice president and Oscar Valladares will serve as clerk.

**MORE**

*Río Hondo College is an educational and community partner committed to advancing social justice and equity as an antiracist institution that collectively invests in all students’ academic and career pathways that lead to attainment of degree, certificate, transfer, and lifelong-learning goals. For information on the College or its programs, please call 562-692-0921 or visit [www.riohondo.edu](http://www.riohondo.edu).*

“I am grateful to our re-elected trustees as they have once again answered the call to public service,” Flores said. “I look forward to continuing to work together with them to further our College’s mission of being an educational and community partner committed to advancing social justice and equity as an anti-racist institution.”

**PHOTO CAPTIONS:**

**OATH1:** Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis presents Río Hondo College Board of Trustees Vice President Anais Medina Diaz with a plaque, congratulating her on being re-elected to serve the College community. Medina Diaz was sworn in by Solis during a Dec. 14 ceremony at the Río Café.

**OATH2:** Los Angeles County Supervisor Janice Hahn congratulates Río Hondo College Board of Trustees Clerk Oscar Valladares on being re-elected in the November 2022 elections. Hahn administered the Oath of Office to Valladares on Dec. 14, where he swore to continue improving the lives of Río Hondo College students.

**OATH3:** Los Angeles County Supervisors (left) Janice Hahn and (right) Hilda Solis congratulate Río Hondo College Board of Trustees Clerk Oscar Valladares and Vice President Anais Medina Diaz on their re-election and new positions during a Dec. 14 ceremony.

###