



NATIONAL U.S.-ARAB CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

غرفة التجارة الأمريكية العربية الوطنية

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U.S.-ARAB CHAMBER OF COMMERCE WELCOMES EIGHT CORPORATE LEADERS TO ITS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

*“Each Director has deep ties in the region and hands-on experience.”
– Board of Directors Co-Chair Don De Marino*

*“These Directors highlight that the Arab world is moving from hydrocarbons-based economies to knowledge-based economies.”
– David Hamod, President & CEO*

Washington, DC – [David Hamod](#), President & CEO of the National U.S.-Arab Chamber of Commerce (NUSACC), announced today that eight new Directors have joined the Chamber’s Board. Hamod stated, “NUSACC is privileged to welcome these corporate leaders, whose companies are on the cutting edge of U.S. – Arab commercial relations. The Middle East and North Africa (MENA) is in a time of transition, and the addition of these new Board members highlights the fact that the Arab world is moving from hydrocarbons-based economies to knowledge-based economies.”



Board Co-Chair [Don De Marino](#) said, “It’s very clear from the range and depth of our new Directors, and the outstanding companies and organizations they represent, that NUSACC will have the best and most experienced talent to help us maintain our preeminence as a chamber and our strong relevance to our members.” He went on to say, “Each Director has deep ties in the region and hands-on experience. They are not only aware of the big changes, and opportunities, arising in the region, but in many cases, they are right in the middle of the process, driving many of those opportunities.”



The eight new Board members are:

- Ambassador (ret.) Dwight Bush, Sr.
- Teresa Carlson, Vice President, Worldwide Public Sector, Amazon Web Services

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- Eugene (Gene) Cunningham, Jr., Vice President, Global Sales, Boeing Defense, Space & Security
- Dennis Flannery, Managing Director and Country Head for Iraq, Citibank
- Leonard Karp, President & CEO, Philadelphia International Medicine
- Samir Khalil, Executive Director, Middle East & Africa, Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America
- Nancy Ziuzin Schlegel, Vice President, International Governmental Affairs, Lockheed Martin International
- Ambassador (ret.) James Smith, Executive Vice President, College of Engineering, Technology and Aviation, Southern New Hampshire University

Each new Director has impressive experience in both business and the Middle East and North Africa.

Ambassador (ret.) Dwight Bush, Sr. is a broadly experienced, highly accomplished corporate executive with demonstrated abilities to build and lead high impact organizations. Ambassador Bush recently completed a very successful three-year tenure as U.S. Ambassador to the Kingdom of Morocco. He started his career at the Chase Manhattan Bank, and prior to his appointment as Ambassador to Morocco held several corporate and not for profit leadership positions, including President & CEO of Urban Trust Bank and Vice Chairman of Entremed, Inc. Ambassador Bush has also served as a trustee of Cornell University and GAVI, the Vaccine Alliance.



Teresa Carlson leads the Amazon Web Services (AWS) Worldwide Public Sector business, which includes: state, local, central and regional governments; educational institutions and Ed Techs; and non-profits and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). She also advises Amazon Public Policy on global policy issues. Since starting AWS's public sector business in 2010, Ms. Carlson has driven the business' growth, which today accounts for 2,300 government, 7,000 education, and 22,000 nonprofit customers, and a vast partner ecosystem across all geographies.



Eugene Cunningham, Jr. is Vice President for Boeing Defense, Space & Security, responsible for leading global sales as well as acting as the liaison with the Boeing International team. His previous assignment was Vice President of Global Services. During his career with Boeing, he has served in program management roles, including: Vice President, Global Services & Support – Middle East; Vice President, Boeing Military Aircraft – Saudi Arabia; Vice President and Program Director, V-22 Osprey; Director for AH-64 Apache international programs; and Program Manager for the Finland F/A-18 Hornet program in both St. Louis and Helsinki, Finland.



Dennis Flannery has held senior financial positions in both the public and private sectors over the course of his career and maintains a broad network of contacts among senior government officials and private sector executives around the world. Mr. Flannery currently serves as Managing Director and Country Head for Iraq at Citibank, as well as that bank's Resident Representative in Baghdad. Before joining Citibank, Mr. Flannery was the Financial Attaché at the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad, engaged in providing technical assistance to the Government of Iraq on various financial matters, as well as working on combating terrorist financing.



Leonard Karp is the President & CEO of Philadelphia International Medicine (PIM) and a 25-year veteran of the U.S. healthcare industry. At PIM, Mr. Karp leads an organization whose goal is to establish the Philadelphia region as an international healthcare destination of choice. PIM is seen as an economic development initiative and works closely with city, state and federal commerce departments. It is a successful model of collaboration among academic medical centers in the Philadelphia region, and Mr. Karp has been interviewed about international medicine as an economic driver by CNN, *The New York Times*, *Philadelphia Inquirer*, and publications around the world.



Samir Khalil is Executive Director, Middle East & Africa, for Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America (PhRMA), an international trade association that represents the world's leading research-based pharmaceutical companies. In this position, his primary focus is to work with governments in the Middle East & Africa and PhRMA member companies to advance policies in areas such as access to medicines, innovation, healthcare financing, trade, intellectual property rights protection, and other industrial and healthcare policies. Prior to joining PhRMA in 2013, Mr. Khalil worked with Merck & Co., Inc., since 1974.



Nancy Ziuzin Schlegel, as the Vice President of Lockheed Martin International Government Affairs, leads the corporation's diplomatic and senior executive customer engagements for the growing international business portfolio. Ms. Schlegel has nearly 30 years of experience as an industry leader in the international trade, global defense, and aerospace sectors, with expertise in political advocacy, exports, and trade policy. She joined Lockheed in 1992, where she directed the Corporation's lobbying efforts in support of the international priority and must-win programs on Capitol Hill and with the Administration. Ms. Schlegel has worked extensively with the Executive Branch, on Capitol Hill, and in the U.S. Department of Commerce, and she regularly interfaces with Ambassadors from around the world.



[Ambassador \(ret.\) James Smith](#) has over thirty years of experience leading large complex organizations. He is an expert in U.S. diplomacy, Saudi Arabia, defense acquisition, aircraft manufacturing, international business and trade, strategic planning, education, and military operations. Earlier this year he joined Southern New Hampshire University as Executive Vice President, College of Engineering, Technology and Aviation, where he leads the transformation of Daniel Webster College into Southern New Hampshire University with the aim of creating a state-of-the-art curriculum focused on underserved populations.



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The National U.S.-Arab Chamber of Commerce (NUSACC), established nearly 50 years ago, is America's longest serving organization dedicated to U.S.-Arab business. NUSACC is the only business entity in the United States with official recognition conferred by the League of Arab States and the Union of Arab Chambers. The Chamber is widely regarded as the voice of American business in the 22 countries of the Arab world and the premier portal to the United States for Arab commercial enterprises.

On a daily basis, NUSACC works closely with government and private sector leaders throughout the Arab world, as well as high-level decision-makers in the U.S. business community, think tanks, multilateral institutions, NGOs, media, and the U.S. Government. NUSACC works with more than 30,000 member companies and stakeholders and is uniquely positioned to link business entities in the United States to their counterparts throughout the Arab world.

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To learn more about NUSACC, please click [HERE](#).

The National U.S.-Arab Chamber of Commerce, widely regarded as the voice of American business in the Arab world, is in touch with business communities across the United States and serves as the U.S. point of contact for the national chambers of commerce in the 22 Arab nations. On a daily basis, NUSACC works closely with leaders throughout the Arab world, as well as high-level decision makers in the U.S. business community, public policy research centers, multilateral institutions, nongovernmental organizations, media, and the U.S. Government.

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