Obama Foundation Announces Addition of Governor Deval Patrick to the Board of Directors

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Today, the Obama Foundation announced that Deval Patrick, former Governor of Massachusetts and a Managing Director of Bain Capital, has joined the Foundation’s Board of Directors. Governor Patrick will join current members Martin Nesbitt, J. Kevin Poorman, David Plouffe, Maya Soetoro-Ng, John Doerr, Thelma Golden, Julianna Smoot, John Rogers, Michael Sacks, and Robert Wolf who serve as volunteer members of the Board. Nesbitt serves as the chairman of the Board.

“Barack Obama will be remembered as a President who led us well through turbulent times with wisdom, equanimity and grace. I am honored to be part of the Foundation that will continue that legacy,” said Deval Patrick. “And as a former South Sider, I am thrilled to participate in the development of a Foundation and Presidential Center in my old neighborhood.”

In October, the Obama Foundation announced the formation of an Inclusion Council, led by local leaders to ensure that the work of the Foundation is informed by a diverse set of viewpoints and is in line with the values of
diversity and inclusion. In July, the Obama Foundation announced Jackson Park as the site of the future Obama Presidential Center. Jackson Park meets the Foundation’s desire to include the South Side community as a full partner in the development and construction of the Foundation and Presidential Center. In June, the Obama Foundation announced that Tod Williams Billie Tsien Architects | Partners and Interactive Design Architects will lead the design phase of the Obama Presidential Center.

**Former Governor Deval Patrick**

Originally from the South Side of Chicago, Governor Patrick came to Massachusetts at 14, when he was awarded a scholarship to Milton Academy through the Boston-based organization A Better Chance. After Harvard College and Harvard Law School, he clerked for a federal appellate judge and then launched a career as an attorney and business executive, becoming partner at two Boston law firms and a senior executive at Texaco and Coca-Cola. In 1994, President Clinton appointed Patrick to the nation’s top civil rights post, Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights. In 2006, in his first bid for public office, he became the state’s first African-American governor. In his two terms as Governor, Patrick oversaw the expansion of affordable health care to more than 98 percent of state residents, launched initiatives stimulating clean energy and biotechnology, won a national Race to the Top grant, and steered the state out of recession to a 25-year high in employment. Patrick currently serves as a Managing Director of Bain Capital Double Impact, where he focuses on investments that deliver both a competitive financial return and significant positive social impact. He is a Rockefeller Fellow, a Crown Fellow of the Aspen
Institute, and the author of two books, *A Reason to Believe: Lessons from an Improbable Life* and *Faith in the Dream: A Call to the Nation to Reclaim American Values*. 