

Hudson County, New Jersey
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
ADMINISTRATION ANNEX
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August 15, 2023,

Immediate Release

**Hudson County Board of Commissioners Congratulate, Honor,
and Commend**

Hudson County- The Hudson County Board of Commissioners congratulate, honor, and commend, Alberto G. Santos for his service as Clerk to the Hudson County Board of Commissioners and as Mayor of the Town of Kearny.

Alberto G. Santos is a dedicated public servant whose integrity, professionalism and commitment greatly enhanced the quality of life of Hudson County residents. He was appointed by Governor Phil Murphy and recently confirmed by the State Senate as a Judge of the New Jersey Superior Court, thereby concluding his service as Clerk to the Board of County Commissioners and Mayor of the Town of Kearny.

Alberto G. Santos began his public service as a Council Member representing Kearny's 2nd Ward in 1998 after challenging the then-administration on the transfer of the municipality's water utility and a judicial consent order on hiring practices. He was then elected Mayor in 1999 in a three-way race against the incumbent mayor and a veteran Council Member. Mayor Santos was re-elected in 2001 and 2003. After the term of

office was lengthened to four years, he was re-elected in 2005, 2009, 2013, 2017 and 2021, becoming the longest serving mayor in Kearny's history. He resigned the office on June 26, 2023, after 23 and ½ years of service.

In his capacity as Mayor, Al Santos served on the municipal Planning Board, Enterprise Zone Development Corporation, Kearny Municipal Utilities Authority, North Hudson Council of Mayors, Meadowlands Mayors Committee, and the Meadowlands Conservation Trust. Some of his administration's more noteworthy accomplishments include the following: a new senior housing building; the refurbishing of all municipal playgrounds and recreational fields; a \$20 million renovation of the Gunnell Oval Recreational Complex; expansion of the municipality's stormwater pump system; the redevelopment of former industrial sites on Passaic and Schuyler Avenues into residential and retail hubs; the redevelopment of South Kearny with modern warehousing facilities and re-adapting the former Kearny Point shipyard site into office spaces for digital economy businesses; over 25% growth in the municipality's tax base; full staffing of police and fire departments; the acquisition of the historic First Lutheran Church site for use as an arts and community center; and the permanent closure of the Keegan Landfill site. He also performed nearly 2,000 weddings during his years of service.

Alberto G. Santos began serving as Clerk to the Hudson County Board of Freeholders in 2006. He was re-appointed in 2009, 2012, 2015, 2018 and, in 2021, as Clerk to the Hudson County Board of County Commissioners; and

Alberto G. Santos was born in Caracas, Venezuela to Portuguese parents who immigrated twice – first to Venezuela and then, when he was 5 years of age, to the USA. His family settled in Newark where he attended Ann Street School and Essex Catholic High School before moving to Kearny. With scholarship assistance from Laborers' Local 472 and the Portuguese American Scholarship Foundation, he attended Georgetown University (School of Foreign Service), graduating with honors. He then earned his J.D. and LL.M degrees at New York University School of Law, where he was an editor on Law Review and graduated with honors. He was admitted to the bars of New Jersey and New York and began his legal career doing capital markets work at Cleary Gottlieb in New York City before moving to the New Jersey firm of Saiber Schlesinger to do litigation work.

Alberto G. Santos is rightfully proud of the sizeable impact he has had on the quality of life, safety, and development of Kearny. His legacy will

continue to resonate with all residents who have come to know and love him as their mayor.

Board Chairman Anthony Romano, the Hudson County Board of County Commissioners, in conjunction with Hudson County Executive Thomas A. DeGise, extends its highest commendations to Alberto G. Santos for his public service and tireless dedication as Clerk to the Board of County Commissioners and as Mayor of Kearny.

The Board of Commissioners also extends its appreciation to Alberto G. Santos on his over 17 years of service as Clerk to the Board and 23 and ½ years as Mayor of Kearny and wishes him much happiness and success in his next chapter of public service as a Judge of the New Jersey Superior Court.

Release #87