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sandy@jefno.org

■ deceased

Dear Friends:

It is with great pleasure that I announce that R. Justin (Bobby) Garon has accepted our offer to become JEF's next Executive Director, effective January 1, 2019.

The Search Committee, on behalf of the entire Board of Directors, was looking for a "visionary, experienced, successful leader with powerful interpersonal skills who will continue to grow this important community organization, serving as an ambassador and trusted partner with donors, potential donors and Jewish organizations." In Bobby, we have found someone who exceeds all we hoped for.

Bobby has told me how excited he is for this next chapter in his life. In fact, he has spent the last few months taking courses to earn the designation of Chartered Advisor in Philanthropy, enhancing what is already an impressive resume of professional and non-profit experiences.

Bobby has been a successful lawyer for the past 33 years and elected to retire from the practice of law at the end of this year. That is our good fortune! During his legal career, he found time to participate meaningfully in the life of the New Orleans Jewish community, serving as a board member or officer of Jewish Federation, Jewish Community Center, Jewish Family Service, Anti-Defamation League, Jewish Outreach Institute, Jewish Federation of North America, and Shir Chadash Congregation. He currently chairs the group developing the Louisiana Community Mikveh. Additionally, he has served the broader community in significant roles on the NORD Foundation, NORD Commission, Trust for Public Land, New Orleans Citizen Advisory Panel Commission, and the Southern Institute for Education and Research. Bobby is married to Robin Levy and they have two grown sons, Marcel and Emile.

Sandy will be staying on board for a transition period to enable a smooth, effective turnover to Bobby.

On behalf of the Board, we are excited to welcome Bobby to his new role.

Sincerely,

Andrea S. Lestelle
President