



**BRIDGEPORT
REGIONAL
BUSINESS COUNCIL**
Where Commerce & Community Connect

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Contact: Karen DelVecchio
(203) 335-3800 P
(203) 366-0105 F
delvecchio@brbc.org

BRBC Names New Chairman of the Board of Directors

December 11, 2017 | Bridgeport, CT: Kate Hampford Donahue has been elected as Chairman of the Bridgeport Regional Business Council Board of Directors. She is the second woman in the organizations history to hold this position. The first to hold the title was Susan L. Davis, former President and CEO of St. Vincent's Medical Center.

Mickey Herbert, President and CEO of the Bridgeport Regional Business Council remarks, "It is a distinct honor for me to work for such a distinguished Board of Directors representing the business leadership of our region. I have particularly enjoyed working for Armando Goncalves, our Immediate Past Chair, Kate Hampford Donahue as our BRBC Vice-Chair, and Eric Hendlin who has served as our long-time Secretary/Treasurer. I, the entire board, and BRBC staff look forward to Kate's Chairmanship."

Kate is President and CEO of Hampford Research, Inc., a family owned, custom chemical manufacturing firm specializing in high purity specialty chemicals used in the electronics, dental, cosmetics, engineered materials and printing/lithography industries and located in Stratford, CT. Donahue took over leadership of the company, after 10 years on its Board of Directors, a few months prior to her founding father's death in January 2007.

Prior to joining Hampford Research, Donahue spent over 25 years in the cable television and new media industries in a variety of executive sales, marketing and strategic development roles including stints at Carlsen Resources, American Movie Classics, C-SPAN and Cablevision Magazine.

Over the course of her career, Kate has served on numerous industry and business association boards including several years as the Board Chair of the BRBC's Women's Leadership Council and currently sits on the BRBC executive committee and the executive committee and national Board of Governors of SOCMA (Society of Chemical Manufacturers and Affiliates). She is the recipient of the 2013 Women of Innovation Award from the Connecticut Technology Council and the 2015 President's Leadership Award from SOCMA. Hampford Research was recognized in 2017 as an Outstanding Family Owned Business by Westfair Communications. Kate was the 2016 Campaign Chair of the United Way of Coastal Fairfield County.

"I am honored to have been elected as Board Chairman of the premier business organization in the Greater Bridgeport Region", says Kate Hampford Donahue. "My focus as chairman during the next two years will be on embarking on a strategic planning process to position the BRBC for long term success, supporting the evolution of the BRBC affiliates and continuing to increase the diversity of our Board of Directors."

Patrick McDonnell, UIL Holdings Corporation will serve as the organization's new Vice Chair and Eric Hendlin, Dworken, Hillman, LaMorte & Sterczala continues to serve as the organization's long-time Secretary/Treasurer. Visit www.brbc.org to see the full list of Bridgeport Regional Business Council Board and Executive Committee Members.

The Bridgeport Regional Business Council is a 750-member voluntary organization of businesses within the Bridgeport region working together to create an environment for business expansion, retention and recruitment that will result in jobs and tax base growth.

BRIDGEPORT REGIONAL BUSINESS COUNCIL | WHERE COMMERCE & COMMUNITY CONNECT

CHAMBER AFFILIATES: Bridgeport Chamber of Commerce, Stratford Chamber of Commerce, Trumbull Chamber of Commerce

PROGRAM AFFILIATES: Leadership Greater Bridgeport, Thrive Young Leaders, Women's Leadership Council

CORPORATE AFFILIATE: Bridgeport Economic Development Corporation

10 MIDDLE STREET, 14^{FL} | BRIDGEPORT, CT 06604 | P: 203.335.3800 | F: 203.366.0105 | www.brbc.org