



For Immediate Release

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DR. MELISSA BAUM-HALEY NAMED MWD OC'S ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER

Fountain Valley, CA (April 30, 2024) — The Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWD OC) proudly announces the appointment of Dr. Melissa Baum-Haley as Assistant General Manager. Dr. Baum-Haley brings a wealth of experience and dedication to this pivotal role, having demonstrated exceptional leadership and expertise during her tenure with MWD OC.

Dr. Baum-Haley joined MWD OC in 2011, initially working in the Water Use Efficiency department running the District's Water Smart Industrial Program. Through her technical irrigation knowledge and grant writing skills, she helped MWD OC advance its portfolio of outdoor programs and water savings impact evaluations. Demonstrating a passion for water management, she progressed through roles of increasing responsibility. Since 2016, she has worked on key activities of the District relating to regional issues, specifically in water resource planning and policy development. Her adeptness in navigating complex water resource challenges led to her role as Director of Metropolitan Issues and Policy.

"We are thrilled to announce Dr. Melissa Baum-Haley's appointment as Assistant General Manager," said Harvey De La Torre, General Manager at MWD OC. "Melissa's exceptional leadership, coupled with her deep understanding of water management issues, made her the ideal candidate for this position. We are confident that Melissa will continue to drive MWD OC's mission forward and lead with integrity and innovation."

Throughout her journey at MWD OC, Dr. Baum-Haley has consistently demonstrated a tireless work ethic, unwavering integrity, and a commitment to achieving the District's mission.

"We extend our heartfelt congratulations to Melissa on her well-deserved promotion," added MWD OC Board President Bob McVicker. "Her contributions to MWD OC have been invaluable, and we are proud to have her lead as Assistant General Manager. We look forward to her continued success and impact on our organization and the communities we serve."

Dr. Baum-Haley earned her Bachelor of Science and Master of Engineering degrees in the Soil and Water Concentration of Agricultural and Biological Engineering at the University of Florida College of Engineering. She later earned her Doctor of Philosophy in Agricultural and Biological Engineering through the University of Florida College of Agricultural and Life Sciences.

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The Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWDOC) is a wholesale water provider and resource planning agency whose efforts focus on sound planning and appropriate investments in water supply, water use efficiency and conservation, public information and outreach, legislative advocacy, water education for all ages, and emergency preparedness. MWDOC's 27 water agencies, comprised of city water departments and water districts, provide water service to the public.

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