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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 20, 2014

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Mayor Fulop Names Three Directors; Appointments Reflect Commitment to Diversity

JERSEY CITY – Mayor Steven M. Fulop announced today he will name three city employees as full-time department directors for the **Department of Housing, Economic Development and Commerce (HEDC)**, **Business Administration**, and the newly-established **Department of Human Resources** at next week's City Council meeting.

The appointments reflect Mayor Fulop's continued commitment to leadership positions in city government mirroring the diversity of the community, with two of the new directors being Hispanic-American.

Anthony Cruz, who has been serving as the Acting Director of the HEDC will be appointed as the full-time director, having successfully led the department for seven months.

"Not only did HEDC and the Commerce Division realize an additional \$5 million in taxi medallion revenue with Anthony as director, but he has also been implementing new procedures to add efficiency to the department and increase accountability," said **Mayor Fulop**. "Under his leadership at HEDC, we have seen development continue to grow and ground broken on the first major projects for Journal Square in decades."

Robert Kakoleski, who has been serving as Acting Business Administrator, will be appointed to the role full-time having successfully introduced a budget with a tax reduction.

Kakoleski, who joined the City in 1989, served for 16 years as the Police Department's fiscal officer and was named an assistant business administrator in 2004. In 2010, he was appointed as the City's budget director until being named Acting Business Administrator in July. From May 2012 to July 2013 Kakoleski also served as the Acting Police Director.

"Bob has a vast knowledge of the workings of city government and has been able to use that knowledge to develop a budget that reduced taxes," said **Mayor Fulop**. "He has also begun to lay a framework for the next budget year as we work to develop a long-range fiscal plan for the City."

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Nancy Ramos, an employee with the City since 1987, has worked in the Personnel Division for 26 years and has been in a supervisory role as the office manager since 1998. Ms. Ramos is being appointed as the director of the Department of Human Resources. The new department centralizes the administrative personnel functions such as payroll, pension, health benefits and workforce management, and will be proactive in developing employee-based policies and initiatives such as a new employee manual and wellness programs.

"Nancy has been a long-time employee of the Personnel Division and has a unique understanding of the civil service laws pertaining to government employees," said **Mayor Fulop**. "We are confident in her ability to lead the new Human Resources Department to effectively centralize and streamline these services."

All media inquiries should be directed to Jennifer Morrill, Press Secretary to Mayor Steven M. Fulop at 201-547-4836.//////