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**Kevin O’Malley, former U.S. Ambassador to Ireland, Elected as Chairman of the St. Louis County Port Authority Board**

**ST. LOUIS COUNTY, Mo. (January 20, 2023)** - Kevin F. O’Malley, the former United States Ambassador to Ireland and a former federal prosecutor, was elected Chairman of the St. Louis County Port Authority Board of Commissioners on Thursday evening.

Ambassador O’Malley was appointed to the Port Authority Board by County Executive Dr. Sam Page and confirmed by the County Council last year. He succeeds John Maupin, who has agreed to remain on the Port Authority Board as a member. Commissioner Ruth Lee was elected vice chairwoman.

“Ambassador O’Malley brings to the Port Authority years of experience in connecting individuals and companies interested in expanding their economic reach,” said County Executive Page. “He will bring his recognized skills to this new position on behalf of the citizens of St. Louis County—the economic engine of Missouri. I am excited that he has agreed to this important leadership role.”

Ambassador O’Malley currently serves as the Ambassador in Residence and Professor of Practice at Saint Louis University School of Law and is Of Counsel at Greensfelder, Hemker and Gale, a large St. Louis law firm. He was nominated to be the U.S. Ambassador to Ireland by President Barack Obama and confirmed in that position by the full U.S. Senate. In a rare bipartisan move, both Senators Claire McCaskill and Roy Blunt testified before the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations on his behalf. While in Ireland one of O’Malley’s chief aims was to foster and expand the strong economic ties between the two countries. The Chamber of Commerce Ireland was one of his primary partners.

“The trust placed in me by the Port Authority Commissioners, the Council and Dr. Page is greatly appreciated,” O’Malley said. "I look forward to working with each of them and helping St. Louis grow its economic development and prosperity. Except when in government service with the Justice Department and as Ambassador, I have lived in St. Louis and want it to reach its full potential.”

The Port Authority has assets of more than \$28 million, which it uses for various economic development projects in St. Louis County.

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