# BOARD OF DIRECTORS BIOGRAPHIES

* **Suzanne Loughlin**, Chairperson of the County of Sullivan IDA. Appointed to the IDA Board on November 19, 2009, by the Sullivan County Legislators. Ms. Loughlin is EVP and Chief Administrative Officer of Firestorm Solutions, LLC, a national consulting firm specializing in Crisis Management, Threat Assessment, Business Continuity Planning, and Critical Decision Support. Ms. Loughlin is also a licensed attorney in the State of New York, and serves as a director on several non-profit boards, including Hudson Valley Pattern for Progress and the Sullivan County Partnership for Economic Development.
* **Kathleen Lara,** Vice Chairperson of the County of Sullivan IDA. Appointed to the IDA Board on March 30, 2023.
* **Carol Roig,** Secretary of the County of Sullivan IDA. Appointed to the IDA Board March 20, 2014, by the Sullivan County Legislators. Carol Roig has worked for more than 25 years as a communications and program specialist in the fields of community development, educational reform, energy policy, health planning, social services, tourism, and the arts. She joined the staff of Sullivan Alliance for Sustainable Development in 2011 and served as Co- Executive Director from 2013 through 2016.
* **Howard Siegel**, Treasurer and CFO of the County of Sullivan IDA. Appointed to the IDA Board March 20, 2014, by the Sullivan County Legislators. Mr. Siegel is currently President and CEO of Irwin Siegel Agency, Inc. Mr. Siegel currently serves as a board member to a new formed Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) operating out of the Bronx and as a board member of Management Services Solutions operating out of New York City. Past industrial development experience includes serving as a member of the Town of Thompson Planning Board, the Partnership for Economic Development, and as past President of the Monticello Rotary Club.
* **Philip Vallone,** Assistant Secretary of the County of Sullivan IDA. Mr. Vallone was appointed to the IDA Board on April 21, 2022.
* **Scott Smith**, Assistant Treasurer of the County of Sullivan IDA. Mr. Smith was appointed to the IDA Board on October 15, 2015 by the Sullivan County Legislature. He is the Council Representative for the North Atlantic States Regional Council of Carpenters, United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America. Mr. Smith was appointed Assistant Treasurer of the IDA on January 11, 2016.
* **Paul Guenther,** IDA Member. Mr. Guenther was appointed to the IDA Board on December 18, 2014 by the Sullivan County Legislature. Former chairman of the New York Philharmonic and Fordham University boards, Mr. Guenther retired in 1995 as president of PaineWebber Group, and is currently a board member of Bethel Woods and SUNY Sullivan.
* **Sean Brooks,** IDA Member. Mr. Brooks was appointed to the IDA Board on March 18, 2021

by the Sullivan County Legislature.

* **Ira Steingart,** IDA Member. Appointed to the IDA Board on January 25, 2024. Mr. Steingart served as Sullivan County Legislator for District 8 for twelve years from 2012 through 2023. As a lifelong resident and dedicated business owner in Sullivan County, Ira is unwaveringly committed to driving economic development in his local community. In his role as Chairman of the County of Sullivan IDA from January 11, 2012, to March 21, 2021, Ira played a pivotal role in spearheading projects that significantly contributed to community progress. His leadership extended to chairing the board of the Sullivan County Funding Corporation from April 17, 2012, to March 26, 2021, and The Sullivan County Infrastructure Local Development Corporation from January 28, 2016, to March 26, 2021.

# STAFF BIOGRAPHIES

* **Ira Steingart,** Chief Executive Officer, was appointed by the Board on January 8, 2024.
* **Jennifer M. Flad,** Executive Director, has worked for the IDA since June of 2013, and was appointed Executive Director of the Agency on January 9, 2017. She oversees the IDA office and staff, monitors and analyzes budget and financial information, coordinates Board meetings, assists the Board in the developing and implementing IDA policies, maintains relations with the IDA's economic development partners, government agencies, and the public, administers IDA grant, loan, and lease programs, and helps to ensure compliance with applicable laws and regulations. Prior to coming to the IDA, Jennifer worked for the Sullivan County Division of Planning and Environmental Management, focusing on agricultural land use planning and economic development. Jennifer holds a BA in Peace, War and Defense from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and an MA in Social Science from the Environment and Community Program at Humboldt State University in Arcata, CA.
* **Julio Garaicoechea**, Project Manager. Mr. Garaicoechea provides the necessary administrative, budgeting and financial reporting support to enable the IDA to make responsible and prudent policy and programmatic decisions, and maintains strong working relationships with private stakeholders, elected officials, public agencies, community partner organizations and the business community. Julio holds a MA in Economics from Hunter College in New York City, focusing on the effects of microfinance.
* **Bethanii Padu,** Economic Development Coordinator. Ms. Padu assists with the administration of the IDA’s tax abatement programs, loan and lease programs, and maintains relationships with the agency’s Board, project representatives, and other stakeholders. Prior to joining the IDA in 2023, Ms. Padu was in commercial banking for three years. Bethanii holds a BA in Finance from Georgia State University.

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