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For Immediate Release

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ALAMEDA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS APPOINTS INTERIM COUNTY LIBRARIAN

Carmen Lorena Martínez

The Alameda County Board of Supervisors announced today the appointment of Carmen Lorena Martinez to serve as the Interim County Librarian, effective May 19, 2014. The appointment was made pending a recruitment process for a new County Librarian that is scheduled to commence in the fall. Ms. Martinez replaces Jean Hofacket who retired on April 30, 2014 after serving as the County Librarian since June 14, 2000.

Carmen served as the Director of the Oakland City Library for over 12 years from 2000 to her retirement in 2012. In this position, Carmen managed a \$23 million budget and worked under the administrative direction of the City Administrator and Mayor.

As Director, Carmen was responsible for the management of over 215 staff working in Oakland's Main Library, seventeen branches, the African American Museum and Library and the Second Start Literacy Center. Carmen cites her greatest accomplishments as building a grant funded state-of-the-art 22,000 square foot Community Public Library in East Oakland and the passage of Measure Q, which funds half of the Oakland City Public Library operations.

"We are excited to welcome Carmen Martinez to the Alameda County organization," said Susan S. Muranishi, Alameda County Administrator. "We feel very fortunate to be able to turn to someone with such proven leadership at this time of significant transition for our Alameda County Library."

Prior to her appointment as the Director of the Oakland City Library, Carmen was the Director of the 67 branches in the Los Angeles Public Library system for 8 years. She also served as the Assistant County Librarian for the Orange County Public Library system for 11 years.

"We believe Carmen is the right person to continue the exciting trend of growth and diversification in our Alameda County library system during this period of transition," said Keith Carson, President of the Alameda County Board of Supervisors. "She has been successful in leadership positions in some of the largest public library systems in California and we have no doubt that she will continue this track record of success here."

Carmen has her Masters of Library Science degree from California State University, Fullerton, School of Mexican American Library Science, a unique program that provided traditional Library Science coursework with emphasis on community activism, advocacy, literacy, and social equity issues in library systems.

Carmen has been a member of the California Library Association since 1974 and a member of the American Library Association since 1980, where she has served on various committees and panels, as well as an evaluator for various grant funded programs.