

AJC's Executive Council serves as its fiduciary board and is the legal board of directors. Its members are:

Robert Elman, President

Stanley Bergman, Chair of the Board of Governors

René-Pierre Azria

Julie Baskes

Richard Berkman

Jerry Biederman

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Michael Gould

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Joel Mogy

Allan Reich

David Rose

David Rousso

John M. Shapiro

Jane Silverman

Sherry Weinman

Dov Zakheim

Roy Zuckerberg

Each of these Executive Council members can be reached:

c/o Victoria Schonfeld

American Jewish Committee

165 East 56th Street

New York, NY 10022

AJC also has a Board of Governors composed of 235 members who are responsible for broad policy matters relating to the organization and strategic direction of AJC, election of members of the Board of Governors and officers, and approval of the annual budget.

AJC SENIOR STAFF – October 2011

Office of the Executive Director

DAVID HARRIS, Executive Director, hired 1979, left 1981, rehired 1984. 212-891-6702
harrisd@ajc.org.

David originally came to AJC after working as a resettlement officer for HIAS in Rome and Vienna, assisting immigrants from the Soviet Union. He left AJC to work for the National Conference on Soviet Jewry and then returned, first to the AJC International Affairs Department and then as AJC Director of Government and International Relations, based in Washington. It was while serving in that capacity that he was national coordinator of the historic Freedom Sunday for Soviet Jewry in 1987, which drew over 250,000 participants, the largest Jewish gathering in American history. He was named AJC Executive Director in 1990. David meets regularly with world leaders, and in 2008 was the first American Jewish leader to contribute to a plenary session of the World Economic Forum in Davos. His regular blog appears in the *Jerusalem Post* and the *Huffington Post*, and he has written hundreds of articles and op-eds. David broadcasts a weekly radio commentary, also available as a podcast, that reaches 30-35 million listeners. He received a B.A. in History from the University of Pennsylvania, did graduate work at the London School of Economics, and spent a year as a Junior Associate at St. Antony's College, Oxford University. Among the many awards he has received are memberships in the French Legion of Honor and the Latvian Order of the Three Stars, and the first Lifetime Achievement Award from the Russian Jewish community in the U.S.

VICTORIA SCHONFELD, Associate Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer, 2007. 212-891-6724 schonfeldv@ajc.org.

Vicki spent 30 years as a finance and corporate lawyer, serving as a partner in several national law firms and as General Counsel of Paine Webber's Asset Management Group. During this time she was an AJC lay leader, active on the Board of Governors, the Nominating Committee, and the New York Region Executive Committee. In her current position she supervises the AJC Finance Department (including IT and Human Resources) and the Legal Department, directs implementation of the Strategic Plan, and works closely with the lay bodies of the agency. She is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania and the Columbia University School of Law.

JAIME KELSTEIN, Associate Executive Director and Director of Resource Development, 1989. 212-891-1325 kelsteinj@ajc.org.

Under Jaime's leadership as Director of Resource Development, AJC has received the highest ratings from watchdog organizations that monitor nonprofits, as well as a listing among the "Top 400" nonprofits by the *Chronicle of Philanthropy*. He was named Associate Executive

Director in 2007. Educated at Long Island University where he received a B.S., Jaime worked as a fund-raiser for a number of other Jewish organizations before joining AJC.

JASON ISAACSON, Assistant Executive Director and Director of Office of Government and International Affairs (based in Washington, D.C.), 1991. 202-785-5461 isaacsonj@ajc.org.

Jason directs AJC's international operations, including the work of its seven overseas offices, and is responsible for maintaining AJC's relationships with the White House, Congress, federal agencies, foreign governments and their embassies, and political parties in Washington. He has represented AJC at private diplomatic meetings and at prestigious international forums around the world, and has been honored by several governments. Before joining AJC Jason was chief of staff to Senator Christopher Dodd of Connecticut. He also founded and edited Independent News Service, a Washington-based syndicate, and wrote extensively for Connecticut newspapers. He graduated from Vassar College with a B.A. in Political Science and English.

ELIZABETH PLANET, Assistant Executive Director and Director of Regional Offices, 2010. 212-891-6715 planete@ajc.org.

Elizabeth is responsible for oversight and management of the AJC's 26 offices around the country. She was previously Vice President and Director of Special Projects at the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University, and before that worked in a New York law firm. She is a graduate of Yale University and the Columbia University School of Law.

MINDY ROSS, Assistant Executive Director for Marketing and Strategic Communications, 2011. rossm@ajc.org.

Mindy is in charge of enhancing AJC's brand and marketing the agency to its multiple constituencies. She comes to AJC with two decades of experience in strategic marketing. Mindy spent 12 years with Smith Barney as Managing Director of Target Market Initiatives and Community Investment Programs, where she directed new business development and client acquisition through expanding the client base within affluent and high-net-worth growth markets. After completing a B.A. in Fine Arts and Psychology at Connecticut College and an M.A. in Secondary Education and Fine Arts at Tufts University, she earned an M.B.A. in Marketing at New York University's Stern Graduate School of Business Administration.

JULIE SCHAIR, Senior Director, Leadership Development & Individual Giving, and Chief of Staff, 2001. 212-891-1340 schairj@ajc.org.

Julie supervises the development of lay leadership, major donors, and planned giving. She received a B.A. in Political Science from SUNY Binghamton and a J.D. from George Washington University Law School. She worked as a Development Associate at Boalt Hall School of Law,

University of California at Berkeley, and as Senior Director of Development and Alumni Relations at New York University Law School before coming to AJC.

JOHN THOMASON, Assistant Chief Operating Officer (based in Washington, D.C. and Chicago), 2007. 202-785-4233 thomasonj@ajc.org.

John spent almost 15 years working in the fields of community development and finance before joining AJC. Prior to assuming his present position, John was Associate Director of the AJC Chicago Office, where he was responsible for international relations, domestic policy, and energy security. John earned a B.A. from the University of California, Santa Cruz, in Middle Eastern Studies, an M.A. from the Harris School of Public Policy at the University of Chicago, and an M.B.A. from the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University. He spent his junior year of college studying in Israel, and returned there after graduation to serve in the Israeli army.

ELLISA SAGOR, Senior Assistant to the Executive Director, 2009. 212-891-1321 sagore@ajc.org.

A native of Portland, Oregon, Ellisa came to AJC originally as Executive Assistant to the Chief Financial Officer, and assumed her present position in 2010. She earned a B.A. in Government and German Studies from Dartmouth College, and spent almost a year in Germany interning for the Bundestag's Foreign Affairs Committee and for the Political Section of the U.S. Embassy in Berlin.

Leadership Development and Individual Giving

JULIE SCHAIR, Senior Director (see Office of Executive Director above)

MICHAEL GILBERT, Director of Regional Office Advancement (based in Boston), 2010. 617-457-8708 gilbertm@ajc.org. Michael is in charge of enhancing AJC development at the regional level. He was most recently Vice President for Development at Hebrew College in Boston, and previously held high-level development positions at Boston's Temple Israel, the JCCs of Greater Boston, and the Combined Jewish Philanthropies of Boston. Michael has also taught courses in leadership development at Northeastern University. He earned a B.A. in English from McGill University, an M.S.W. from Yeshiva University, and a Master's Certificate in Nonprofit Management from Northeastern.

YAEL AMIT, Assistant Director of Leadership and Board Services, 2008. 212-891-6764 amity@ajc.org.

Yael co-organizes the AJC Global Forum (Annual Meeting) and assists in planning and executing all national Board of Governors events and national leadership development initiatives. Prior to coming to AJC, Yael was International Coordinator for the Herzliya Conference on the Balance of Israel's National Security. Yael earned an M.A. in Religious Studies from Queen's University (Ontario) after receiving a B.A. in History from the University of British Columbia. She has also served in the IDF as a combat fitness instructor in the Nachal Brigade.

LESLIE KLION, Assistant Director, Leadership and Board Services (based in Miami), 2002. 561-994-4776 klionl@ajc.org.

Leslie manages logistical operations for the Global Forum (Annual Meeting), national Board of Governors meetings, leadership initiatives and governance institutes, and coordinates the national nominating process internally and supports the lay Nominating Committee. She graduated with honors from the University of Florida.

Resource Development

JAIME KELSTEIN, Director (see Office of the Executive Director above)

SUZANNE RESNIK-HARDY, National Campaign Associate, 1998. 212-891-1381 resniks@ajc.org. Suzanne works closely with those AJC Regions that do not have development staff to maximize campaign revenue through corporate and annual events, and manages campaign expenses nationwide. Before joining AJC she was Executive Director of the Friends of Bezalel Academy of Art and Design. She majored in painting at the School of Visual Arts.

CATHY BEZOZO, Director, Foundation Relations, 1999. 212-891-1330 bezozoc@ajc.org. Cathy is responsible for AJC's foundation relations and grants. She received her Bachelor's degree from SUNY Binghamton and Master's degrees from the University of Maryland and New York University.

LISA HOFF, National Director, Direct Mail and Marketing, 2002. 212-891-6713 hoffl@ajc.org. Lisa is in charge of all AJC national mail programs—postal, e-mail, and telemarketing. Immediately before coming to AJC she was Director of Annual Giving at New York University. Earlier in her career Lisa was a magazine circulation manager and Membership Director for the Jewish Museum. She received her B.A. in English from Herbert Lehman College.

Department of Regional Offices

ELIZABETH PLANET, Director (see Office of the Executive Director above)

KIM KAMEN, Assistant Director, 2007. 972-387-2943 kamenk@ajc.org.

Kim was director of AJC Dallas for three years before being named to her present position in 2010. Under her leadership, AJC Dallas won an AJC Szabad Award and LULAC's statewide Unity Award. Before coming to AJC Kim was a Bilingual/ESL teacher in Houston and then a Department Head in Plano, Texas, in her spare time publishing a middle-school curriculum for the Houston Holocaust Museum. She then served as AmeriCorps director in downtown Dallas and Executive Director of Frisco Family Services Center before starting her own firm, Kamen Consulting, which assisted nonprofit organizations. Kim holds a B.A. in Psychology and a Master's in Education from the University of Virginia.

KARI ALTERMAN, Director, Regional Leadership (based in Detroit), 2007. 248-646-7686 altermank@ajc.org.

Before coming to AJC Kari worked for the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Detroit—most recently as Director of Leadership Development—and taught courses about the American Jewish community at the University of Michigan's School of Social Work. Kari earned a B.A. in History and an M.S.W. and Certificate in Jewish Communal Service from the University of Michigan.

ELI LIPMEN, Communications Strategist (based in Los Angeles), 2006. 310-282-8080 lipmene@ajc.org. Eli came to AJC as Assistant Director for Communications of the Los Angeles Region, where, among other responsibilities, he led the energy security task force, which won the AJC Szabad Award. In his current post, assumed in 2010, he develops internal and external communications strategies for AJC regional offices. Eli received a B.A. from the University of Pennsylvania and a Master's in Communications from the London School of Economics and the University of Southern California Annenberg School for Communication.

Public Relations and Communications

KENNETH BANDLER, Director, 1998. 212-891-6771 bandlerk@ajc.org.

Ken is responsible for all aspects of AJC communications—print, audio, video, and on-line. Before assuming his present position he was a Research Analyst in Jewish-Arab Relations at Tel Aviv University's Dayan Center; Director of Public Information for the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council (NJCRAC); Adviser to the New York City Mayor's Office's Commission for the UN and Consular Corps; and Managing Editor of the Jewish Telegraphic

Agency. He earned a B.A. at Lehigh University and an M.A. from the School of Oriental and African Studies of the University of London, concentrating on Middle Eastern Studies.

Office of Government and International Affairs (Washington, D.C.)

JASON ISAACSON, Director (see Office of the Executive Director above)

AARON JACOB, Associate Executive Director, International Affairs (based in N.Y.), 2003. 212-891-1384 jacoba@ajc.org.

Born in Mumbai, India, Aaron was brought up in Israel. He was a combat soldier in the Israel Defense Forces, fighting in three wars. Entering the Israeli Foreign Service, he held several diplomatic posts, including three tours of duty at the Israeli Mission to the UN in New York, receiving awards from the Israeli government for his work. Aaron came to AJC after four years as Israel's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the UN. He was educated at Ben-Gurion University, where he received a B.A., and at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem's Institute for Contemporary Jewry.

ANDREW BAKER, Director, International Jewish Affairs, 1979. 202-785-4245 bakera@ajc.org.

Originally Director of the Washington, D.C., Region of AJC, Andy was named Director of European Affairs in 1992, and in 2000 assumed his present post. A leading expert on anti-Semitism in Europe and on the challenges facing the Jewish communities there, he travels extensively to expand AJC's network of relationships. He serves on the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, governmental commissions in the Czech Republic and Slovakia that address the claims of Holocaust victims, and the National Historical Commission of Lithuania. In 2009 he was appointed Personal Representative of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) on anti-Semitism. Andy earned a Bachelor's degree at Wesleyan University and a Master's and Rabbinic Ordination from Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion.

RICHARD FOLTIN, Director, National and Legislative Affairs, 1985. 202-785-4213

foltin@ajc.org.

Richard has been coordinating AJC's domestic policy activities and legislative advocacy since 2009, after serving as Legislative Director and Counsel. He first worked for AJC in the national headquarters as Associate Legal Director and Director of Government Affairs. Richard has testified before Congressional committees and the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, and engages in extensive coalition work with other groups advocating religious freedom, civil rights, energy independence, and immigration reform. He worked in the litigation department of a

major New York law firm before coming to AJC. Richard received a B.A. in Political Science from New York University and a J.D. from Harvard University Law School, also spending a postgraduate year studying Jewish law, philosophy and history at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem's Rothberg School for Overseas Students.

DINA SIEGEL VANN, Director, Latino and Latin American Affairs, 2003. 202-785-4242
siegelvannd@ajc.org.

Dina is responsible for outreach and coalition-building with Latino communities in the U.S. and strengthening ties between the U.S., Israel, and Latin America. Born in Mexico City, for 14 years she served as Director of Political Affairs for the Mexican Jewish community. After moving to the U.S. in 1996, she worked for B'nai B'rith International as Director of UN and Latin American Affairs before coming to AJC. She has traveled widely in Latin America, developing a vast network of contacts. Dina organized the first Latino-Jewish Summit in Washington, D.C., and has organized several trips to Israel for Latino and Jewish leaders. Dina earned a B.A. in English Literature from Tel Aviv University and an M.A. in Public Relations from the Newhouse School of Public Communications at Syracuse University.

ELISEO NEUMAN, Director, Africa Institute (based in N.Y.), 2004. 212-891-1350
neumane@ajc.org.

Eliseo conducts AJC's Africa-related advocacy, establishing partnerships with African diasporas in the U.S. and facilitating U.S. and Israeli technical cooperation and development assistance in Africa. He was an investment banker and lawyer before joining AJC, and served as an advisor to the Chief Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court in The Hague. Eliseo earned Bachelor's degrees from Harvard and Cambridge Universities and a J.D. from Harvard Law School.

Division on Middle East and International Terrorism

YEHUDIT BARSKY, Director, 1999. 212-6743 barskyy@ajc.org.

Yehudit monitors extremist publications and websites, and prepares detailed analyses of Middle Eastern extremist organizations and their supporters in the U.S. She regularly briefs media, law enforcement agencies and Jewish communities about the threat of terrorism. Yehudit, who previously served as Senior Middle East Analyst for the ADL and a consultant to the U.S. Department of Justice on terrorism cases, earned a B.A. in International Relations and an M.A. in International Relations and Middle Eastern Studies, both from New York University. She is fluent in Hebrew and Arabic.

International Interreligious Affairs (Jerusalem)

DAVID ROSEN, Director, 2001. 011-972-2-625-5281 rosend@ajc.org.

Before coming to AJC David was Director of Interfaith Relations for the ADL in Israel and Director of the ADL Israel Office. Earlier in his career he was Senior Rabbi of the largest Jewish congregation in South Africa, Chief Rabbi of Ireland, Dean of the Sapir Center for Jewish Education and Culture in Jerusalem, and Professor of Jewish Studies at the Jerusalem Center for Near Eastern Studies. Long active in interreligious dialogue, he is President of the World Conference on Religion and Peace and Honorary President of the International Council of Christians and Jews. He is a member of the International Jewish Committee for Interreligious Consultations (IJCIC), which represents world Jewry in its relations with other world religious bodies. For his contributions to interfaith understanding, the Vatican made him a Papal Knight and Queen Elizabeth made him a Commander of the British Empire. He pursued undergraduate studies at London and Pretoria Universities, graduate studies at Trinity University, Dublin, and rabbinic studies at the Mirrer and Ponivez Yeshivas.

Interreligious and Intergroup Relations

NOAM MARANS, Director, 2001. 212-891-6770 maransn@ajc.org.

Noam came to AJC as Associate Director of Contemporary Jewish Life after 16 years as Rabbi of Temple Israel in Ridgewood, New Jersey. In 2009 he became Associate Director of Interreligious and Intergroup Relations, and in 2011 was appointed director. Noam earned a Bachelor's degree in Political Science from Columbia University and Rabbinical Ordination and an M.A. from the Jewish Theological Seminary. Noam also did graduate work at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

EMILY SOLOFF, Associate Director (based in Chicago), 1997. 312-251-8800 soloffe@ajc.org.

Emily works with AJC regional offices to enhance their interreligious relationships. She assumed this position in 2009, after twelve years with AJC Chicago as Associate Director and then Director. She spent almost 20 years as a journalist, receiving the Chicago Headline Club's prestigious Peter Lisagor Award for investigative journalism and 13 Simon Rockower Awards for Jewish journalism. Emily holds a B.A. from Brandeis University in History and a Master's in Journalism from Columbia University.

Division on Anti-Semitism and Extremism

KENNETH STERN, Director, 1989. 212-891-1444 sternk@ajc.org.

Ken is a nationally-recognized expert on hate and hate groups. Among his publications about anti-Semitism and extremism are *Anti-Semitism Today: How It Is the Same, How It Is Different, and How to Combat It; Holocaust Denial; and Force Upon the Plain: The American Militia Movement*. His report, “Militias: A Growing Danger,” predicting attacks on the government, appeared two weeks before the Oklahoma City bombing. Ken was part of Professor Deborah Lipstadt’s defense team at the Holocaust-denial trial of David Irving. Before beginning his AJC career he was Director of the National Organization Against Terror and Managing Partner of the Rose & Stern law firm. He was educated at Bard College (A.B.) and Willamette College of Law (J.D.).

Russian Jewish Community Affairs

SAMUEL KLIGER, Director, 2003. 212-891-6719 kligers@ajc.org.

Sam develops and implements programs for integrating Russian Jews into American society and the American Jewish community, and also serves as the AJC liaison to Russian Jewish communities and organizations around the world. Sam is the founder and chairman of the Research Institute for New Americans (RINA), a think tank and research organization for the Russian-speaking community in the U.S. After receiving a Ph.D. in Sociology from the USSR Academy of Sciences, Sam was a “refusnik” for years before immigrating to the U.S. in 1990.

ACCESS: AJC’s New Generation Program

REBECCA NEUWIRTH, Director, 1999. 212-891-1403 neuwirth@ajc.org.

Rebecca leads AJC’s efforts to bring a “new generation” into leadership roles in the organization and the broader Jewish community. She also directs Thanks to Scandinavia—which awards scholarships to Scandinavian students and educators in gratitude for efforts to rescue Jews during World War II—and is involved in AJC programs relating to Germany. After earning a B.A. from Yale University, she won a yearlong research fellowship in Germany and completed her Master’s degree at the Free University of Berlin.

Law

MARC STERN, Associate General Counsel, 2010. 212-891-1480 sternm@ajc.org. Marc is a leading expert in legal advocacy issues that have traditionally been of concern to the Jewish community, and in the new field of “lawfare”—pursuing war through the use of international

legal procedures. He came to AJC after 33 years at the American Jewish Congress, where he was General Counsel since 1999 and acting co-executive director since 2008. Marc has authored numerous legal briefs, published many articles, and has argued four cases before the U.S. Supreme Court. He earned a B.A. at Yeshiva University and J.D. from the Columbia University School of Law.

Belfer Center for American Pluralism

ANN SCHAFFER, Director, 1993. 212-891-6746 schaffera@ajc.org.

After seven years as Director of AJC Westchester, Ann was named to her present position, in which she is responsible for strengthening AJC's interethnic and interracial relations around the country by enhancing the intergroup work of the Regional Offices. She is currently implementing a major grant from the Ford Foundation in the area of immigrant advocacy. She is active on many intergroup organizations in the Westchester area and has served as president of her synagogue in White Plains. Born in Zimbabwe, she earned a B.A. in English Literature at the University of Cape Town in South Africa.

William Petschek Contemporary Jewish Life Department/Dorothy and Julius Koppelman Institute on American Jewish-Israeli Relations

STEVEN BAYME, Director, 1982. 212-891-6711 baymes@sjc.org.

Steve is responsible for AJC's activities that bear on the internal workings of the American Jewish community, such as intra-Jewish relations, Jewish education, and Jewish identity and continuity, and also oversees the agency's work in the area of American Jewish-Israeli relations. He received a B.A. from Yeshiva University and M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from Columbia University, all in History. Before beginning his career at AJC he taught History at Yeshiva University and directed Jewish cultural activities at Hadassah. The author of several seminal publications, he has served on the Wexner Foundation Fellowship Committee and on the faculty of the Wexner Heritage Foundation. He was recently elected a Vice President of the Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture.

Research

DAVID SINGER, Director, 1972. 212-891-1300 singerd@ajc.org.

David, who is responsible for AJC's *Annual Survey of American Jewish Opinion* and other research projects, first joined AJC as a Program Specialist in what is known today as the Department of Contemporary Jewish Life. He became editor of the *American Jewish Year Book*, and then Director of Research. He received a B.A. from Yeshiva University and a Ph.D. from Brown University, both in History. Before coming to AJC he was Assistant Professor of History at Chicago State College. He has published widely on Jewish issues.

LAWRENCE GROSSMAN, Associate Director (see Publications below)

Blaustein Center for Jewish Research

CHARLOTTE BONELLI, Director, 2000. 212-891-1433 bonellic@ajc.org.

As our Chief Archivist, Charlotte oversees AJC's invaluable collection of records, which illuminate more a century of American Jewish life. She has created ajcarchives.org, a website with more than 75,000 pages of AJC documents, films, radio and television broadcasts, the entire run of the *American Jewish Year Book*, and recordings from AJC's Oral History Library—all available online. Charlotte received a B.A. in History from Swarthmore College, an M.A. in History from Hunter College, and a Certificate in Archives and Records Management from Long Island University.

Publications

LAWRENCE GROSSMAN, Director, 1982. 212-891-1308 grossmanl@ajc.org.

Larry came to AJC originally as a member of what is now called the Department of Contemporary Jewish Life, subsequently serving as Director of Publications and Co-Editor of the *American Jewish Year Book*. He is now once again Director of Publications as well as Associate Director of Research, responsible for editing much of the written material that emanates from AJC. He taught History for ten years at Yeshiva University before coming to AJC. Larry earned B.A., M.H.L. and Rabbinical degrees from Yeshiva University, and a Ph.D. in History from the City University of New York Graduate Center,

LINDA KRIEG, Art Director, 1990. 212-891-1306 kriegl@ajc.org.

Linda, who has moved AJC artwork and design technology into the twenty-first century, did display design for Fortunoff's, graphic design for Ingersoll Publications and the *Long Island Press*, and book design for the Dorot Foundation and NCCJ before coming to AJC. Her work on the 2007 and 2008 AJC Annual Reports won the Award of Excellence from Apex Business

Communications. Linda earned a B.A. in Fine Arts from Hofstra University and pursued graduate study in graphic design at the School of Visual Arts.

Project Interchange (Washington, D.C.)

SAMUEL WITKIN, Executive Director, 2008. 202-833-0025 X18 witkin@projectinterchange.org. Sam directs the institute that has brought more than 5,000 leaders of professions, religions and ethnic groups to Israel for seminars that enable them to appreciate the country's accomplishments and challenges. Before coming to AJC he was National Affairs Director of the Investigative Project on Terrorism. He formerly served as President of the American Friends of Tel Aviv University and also spent twelve years with the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC), first as Southwest Regional Director and then as Senior Regional Director of the Southern Pacific Region. Sam was born and raised in the Panama Canal Zone and has a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration as well as an M.B.A.

Jacob Blaustein Institute for the Advancement of Human Rights

FELICE GAER, Director, 1993. 212-891- 1314 gaerf@ajc.org. Felice heads the AJC institute that engages in research and advocacy to strengthen international human rights protections and institutions. Felice has been a public member of nine U.S. delegations to UN human rights negotiations and Vice Chair of the UN Committee Against Torture. She is the current Chair of the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom. Felice serves on the boards of numerous human rights organizations and was chosen to chair the Steering Committee for the 50th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Before coming to AJC she was Executive Director for European Programs of the United Nations Association of the U.S.A., Executive Director of the International League for Human Rights, and Program Officer at the Ford Foundation. Felice received her Bachelor's degree from Wellesley College, her M.A. and M.Phil. in Political Science from Columbia University, and a Certificate from Columbia's Russian Institute.

Asia Pacific Institute (Washington, D.C.)

Israel/Middle East Office (Jerusalem)

EDWARD RETTIG, Interim Director, 1998. 011-972-2-625-5281 rettig@ajc.org.

Ed, AJC's chief representative in Israel, immigrated there in 1972 and served in the Israel Defense Forces. Ed coordinates AJC's educational activities in Israel, delivers briefings and produces written reports for American Jews about the situation there, and interacts on a daily basis with Israeli government officials, religious and military leaders, and representatives of other religions. He earned a law degree from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and served as an attorney for the Israeli Ministry of Police. Returning to the U.S., he received rabbinical ordination from Hebrew Union College as a Wexner Fellow. He was recently awarded a Doctorate in Modern Jewish History from Hebrew Union College.

Berlin Office

DEIDRE BERGER, Director, 1999. 011-49-30-226-594-0 bergerd@ajc.org.

Deidre promotes transatlantic dialogue, Israel advocacy, anti-bias education and intergroup relations for AJC in Germany. She handles issues related to Holocaust memory and works closely with German and European partners. Deidre is on the boards of several German organizations that promote intergroup understanding. Before joining AJC she was a journalist, primarily as a correspondent and producer for National Public Radio but also reporting for the Jewish Telegraphic Agency and other outlets. She received a B.A. from Bryn Mawr College and an M.A. in Journalism from the University of Missouri, and also did graduate study in Art History at Washington University.

Transatlantic Institute (Brussels)

DANIEL SCHWAMMENTHAL, Director, 2011. 11-32-2-500-7280 schwammenthald@ajc.org.

Daniel directs the AJC institute in Brussels—where the Council of the European Union is headquartered—that seeks to facilitate relationships between the EU, the U.S., and Israel. A native of Germany, he was an editorial page writer and op-ed editor of *Wall Street Journal Europe* since 2004, and before that reported for Dow Jones Newswires in Bonn, Berlin, and Brussels. After completing his undergraduate studies in Political Science at the University of Aachen, Daniel earned an M.A. in International Relations and International Communications from Boston University and a Master of Law (European Law and Policy) from the University of Manchester.

UN Watch (Geneva)

HILLEL NEUER, Executive Director, 2004. 41-22-734-14-72 hcneuer@unwatch.org. Hillel heads the AJC affiliate—an accredited NGO to the UN—that promotes balanced, fair and non-discriminatory application of the purposes and principles of the UN Charter and encourages respect for human rights. Hillel was previously a litigator at a large international law firm where he was recognized for his pro bono work. Hillel frequently appears before the UN Human Rights Council and debates human rights issues in the media. Born and raised in Canada, he earned a B.A. in History and Political Science from Concordia University; a Bachelor of Civil Law and a Bachelor of Laws from the McGill University Faculty of Law; and a Master of Laws in Comparative Constitutional Law from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. He was a graduate fellow at the Shalem Center and clerked for an Israeli Supreme Court justice.

Country Representatives

Rome and the Holy See: **LISA PALMIERI-BILLIG**, 2005. 011-39-06-55-87-999 billigl@ajc.org. Before assuming her position at AJC, Lisa taught English in New York and Rome, served as Rome correspondent for the *Jerusalem Post*, and was the Italy and Vatican representative of the ADL and the World Jewish Congress. She is fluent in three European languages: Italian, French and German. Lisa was the first President of the Christian-Jewish Friendship Association of Rome. She received a B.A. from Barnard College, an M.A. from Columbia University Teachers College, and is working on a Ph.D. at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome.

Paris: **SIMONE RODAN-BENZAQUEN**, 2010. +33-1-29-52-60-86 srodan@ajc.org. Simone comes to AJC after serving as an adviser to the Ambassador for Human Rights in the French Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs. She was previously the founding General Secretary of the Brussels-based Medbridge Strategy Center, which seeks to strengthen ties between political and civil society leaders, and Vice President and Co-Founder of SOS Darfur. She holds a law degree from Kings College, London; an M.A. in Media and Communications from the London School of Economics; and a Ph.D. in International Relations from Sciences-Pro in Paris.

Mumbai: **PRIYA TANDON**, 2004. +91-22-26325949 tandonp@ajc.org. When AJC, cognizant of the extensive ties between Israel and India and the growing importance of the Indian community in the U.S., established an office there, Priya was chosen to head it. She seeks to foster relations between India, Israel and the U.S. and encourage dialogue between AJC and key Indian policymakers. A Board member of the U.S.-India Institute and a

member of USINPAC—the U.S.-India Political Action Committee, she has received the Bharat Nirman Award for her community work in Mumbai. Priya earned a Master’s in English Literature from Loreto House, West Bengal.

Finance, IT, Office Services, & Campaign Records

RICHARD HYNE, Chief Financial Officer, 2008. 212-891-1307 hyner@ajc.org.

Rick oversees AJC Finance, Human Resources, Information Technology, and Facilities. He began his career with the public accounting firm Ernst & Young, and before coming to AJC held a series of senior finance positions at Becton Dickinson, a large medical technology company. Rick earned a Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting from Adelphi University and is a CPA.

TAILIN CHEN BRECHER, Controller, 2008. 212-891-1356 brechert@ajc.org.

A self-described “numbers person,” Tailin was born in Taipei, Taiwan, where her parents had fled from Communist China. She worked for entertainment companies—CBS, Time Warner, BBC Worldwide, and Channel Thirteen—before spending a year with a dotcom start-up, after which she entered the nonprofit world. Immediately before coming to AJC she was Senior Budget Director at the Columbia University Medical Center. She has an M.B.A. from the University of Cincinnati

RUTH HARENCHAR, Chief Information Officer, 2010. 212-891-1475 harencharr@ajc.org. Ruth directs AJC’s Information Technology (IT). After 17 years with Electronic Data Systems, she held executive positions at Ernst & Young, Bowne & Co, Hobart West Group, and Spire Solutions Group. Ruth earned a B.A. from the University of Illinois, an M.P.H. from Northwestern University Medical School, and an M.S. from the Technology Management Program at Columbia University. Before becoming an I.T. professional she worked as an epidemiologist on the Northwestern faculty.

VALERIE A. BURETT, Director of Human Resources, 2011. burettv@ajc.org. Valerie comes to AJC with over 20 years of experience, domestic and international, as a senior human-resources professional. She worked in the private sector for several large firms and in the public arena for the New York City Economic Development Corporation. She received her B.A. in Organizational Behavior and Communication from New York University.

Directors of Regional Offices

Arizona: VACANCY. 602-955-3600.

Atlanta: **DOV WILKER**, 2011. 404-233-5501 wilkerd@ajc.org.

Dov is no stranger to Atlanta AJC, having served as Assistant Director from 2007 through 2009, when he left for Israel to work for a software firm. Earlier in his career, Dov was Regional Director of Academic and Community Affairs for the Israeli Foreign Ministry in Atlanta. He earned a Bachelor of Business Administration from the University of Miami and a Sofaer International M.B.A. from Tel Aviv University's Recanati School of Business.

Baltimore: **LOIS ROSENFELD**, 1971. 410-843-7542 rosenfieldl@ajc.org.

Lois has received widespread recognition for her long record of building bridges of understanding among religious and ethnic groups in Baltimore. She has earned the AJC Hilda Katz Blaustein Community Service Award, the National Council of Jewish Women's Hannah K. Solomon Leadership Award, the NAACP's Unsung Heroine Award, the Baltimore City Council President's Distinguished Service Award, and many others. She serves as a trustee of Baltimore Hebrew University and was the first Board Chair of the College of Fine Arts and Communication at Towson University and the first Jewish Board Chair of the Salvation Army.

Boston: **ROBERT LEIKIND**, 2008. 617-457-8706 leikindr@ajc.org.

Rob came to AJC Boston with considerable experience as a leader in the community, having served as Senior Vice President of Boston's Hebrew College and, before that, New England Regional Director of ADL. Prior to entering Jewish communal service Rob was an Assistant District Attorney for Essex County, Massachusetts. He earned an A.B. in Religion from Vassar College, a Master's from Columbia University, and a J.D. from Boston College Law School.

Chicago: **DANIEL ELBAUM**, 2009. 312-251-8800 elbaumd@ajc.org.

Daniel came to AJC after six years as Civil Rights Counsel and Director of Development for the ADL's Midwest Region. Before that he was an Assistant State Attorney for Cook County (Chicago). He earned B.A. and J.D. degrees from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Cincinnati: **BARBARA GLUECK**, 1991. 513-621-4020 glueckb@ajc.org.

Before joining AJC Barbara taught English at the University of Cincinnati and was the first Director of Development for the Walnut Hills High School Foundation. As AJC Director she has focused on intergroup relations, energy security and immigration reform. For eight years she chaired the Cincinnati Citizens Police Advisory Commission, which sought to eliminate racism in police recruitment and training. Barbara earned a Master's degree from the Harvard University School of Education.

Cleveland: **LEE C. SHAPIRO**, 2007. 216-781-6035 shapiro@ajc.org.

Lee C. spent over 20 years in network television, first at the CBS News Election & Survey Unit and then as Director of Media Services for Voter News Service (VNS), a cooperative venture of the major networks that conducted exit polls, collected and tabulated returns, and projected the outcomes of elections. Immediately prior to joining AJC she was Director of Government & Public Affairs and Communications for Adelpia Communications of Northern Ohio. She is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin.

Colorado: **DON SCHLESINGER**, 2009. 303-320-1742 schlesingerd@ajc.org.

Don came to AJC after serving as Central Pacific Regional Director of Development for the ADL. Before that he was the AIPAC Area Director in San Francisco. Don also practiced law for two decades in Las Vegas, where he was general counsel for the Las Vegas Thunder professional hockey team and was elected to the Clark County Commission. He earned a B.A. in Political Science from SUNY Albany and a law degree from the Hastings School of Law of the University of California.

Dallas: **ANNA POPP**, 2010. 972-387-2943 poppa@ajc.org.

Anna served for over eight years as Admissions Director and Campaign Coordinator for Jewish day schools in Dallas before coming to AJC. She has a B.A. in International Relations from Boston University.

Detroit: **KARI ALTERMAN** (see Department of Regional Offices above)

Houston: **RANDY CZARLINSKY**, 2006. 713-439-1202 X23 czarlinsky@ajc.org.

Randy has spent nearly 30 years in Jewish communal life. Among his previous positions were Executive Director of the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte and Director of Community Relations and Government Affairs of the Jewish Federation of Greater Houston. He also served with the Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Boston and the Jewish Federations of Springfield, Massachusetts and Seattle. Randy has participated in numerous intergroup coalitions and forums, and was appointed by the mayor of Houston to the city's International Affairs committee for North Africa and the Middle East. He earned a B.S. in Journalism from the University of Kansas and an M.S.W. in Social Strategy/Policy from the University of Maryland.

Kansas City JCRB/AJC: **MARVIN SZNELER**, 1999. 913-327-8126 marvins@jewishkansascity.org.

Marvin, then a banker, was serving on the Kansas City AJC Board when the position of Director opened up, and he decided on a career change. A longtime volunteer for civic and Jewish organizations, he received the Kansas City Jewish Federation Young Leadership Award,

participated in the Overland Park Chamber of Commerce Leadership Program, and was Founding Treasurer of the Kansas City FBI Citizen's Academy Foundation. He currently serves on the Board of the Urban League and is a Commissioner on the Overland Park Civil Service Commission.

Long Island: **LILLI PLATT**, 2010. 212-891-1329 plattl@ajc.org.

Lilli came to AJC after holding executive positions at the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, American Friends of Tel Aviv University, and Hofstra University Law School. She earned a B.A. in English and an M.S. in Education from Brooklyn College. She lived and worked on Long Island for over 20 years.

Los Angeles: **SETH BRYSK**, 2007. 310-282-8080 X307 brysk@ajc.org.

A dual U.S.-Israeli citizen, Seth has fulfilled compulsory military service in the Israel Defense Forces and has organized Palestinian-Israeli dialogues. Before joining AJC, Seth served as Executive Director of San Francisco Hillel and Director of Israel Advocacy for the Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Boston. He received a B.A. in Political Science from University of California Berkeley and an M.A. in International Relations (with a concentration in Conflict Resolution) from Tel Aviv University.

Miami & Broward County: **BRIAN SIEGAL**, 2004. 305-670-1122 siegalb@ajc.org.

Before becoming director of AJC Miami and while serving as AJC Assistant Director of Intergroup Affairs, Brian coordinated the organization's Hurricane Katrina Relief Fund and served as the Secretariat of IJCIC, the International Jewish Committee for Interreligious Consultations. Brian was educated at the University of Texas at Austin, where he received a B.A. and a law degree, and at New York University, where he completed a dual Master's program in Public Administration and Jewish Studies. While working as an international lawyer, he studied law at University College of London and worked in the British legal system as a Pegasus Trust Fellow. He then studied at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem while clerking for Chief Justice Aharon Barak of the Israeli Supreme Court.

New Jersey: **ALLYSON GALL**, 1992. 973-379-7844 galla@ajc.org.

Allyson is responsible for AJC activities in the entire state of New Jersey. She worked as a Research Associate in Neurobiology at the Harvard Medical School, Hillel Advisor at Western Michigan, and Director of Community Relations for the Syracuse Jewish Federation before joining AJC New Jersey as Assistant Director, becoming Director in 1998. She has co-chaired the Office of Immigrant Affairs Task Force of the New Jersey Immigration Policy Network and has been active in the Jewish Federations of Kalamazoo and MetroWest New Jersey. Allyson

received two Bachelor's degrees, one from Western Michigan University in Religion and the other from Connecticut College in Zoology.

New York: **MICHAEL SCHMIDT**, 2011. 212-891-1445 schmidtm@ajc.org. Michael came to AJC with over 20 years of experience in nonprofit management, most recently as CEO of the Council on Accreditation, the premier international human service accrediting body. Before that he served, among other posts, as Vice President of the New York Foundation for Senior Citizens and Director of the Community Guardian Program. He is also Adjunct Associate Professor at the New York University Silver School of Social Work. After earning a B.S.W. from the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, Michael served for three years in the Israeli army, and then received an M.A. in Organizational Psychology from Columbia University's Teachers College and an M.S.W. from Fordham University.

Orange County: **MARC DWORKIN**, 2003. 949-660-8525 dworkinm@ajc.org.

Before coming to AJC Marc served as Hillel Director in Los Angeles, Regional Director for the Los Angeles Jewish Federation, and Executive Director and Rabbi at the Leo Baeck Temple. He has been active on numerous local interreligious boards and task forces. Marc earned a B.A. from Johns Hopkins University, Rabbinical Ordination from Hebrew Union College, and a Ph.D. from the University of Southern California in Communications, where his dissertation was on "The Collective Jewish Fantasy in American Film."

Palm Beach County: **RACHEL MILLER**, 2009. 561-994-7224 millerr@ajc.org.

Born and raised in the Midwest, Rachel worked for the Jewish Federations of North America in a variety of positions, doing major gifts cultivation, annual campaign organization and implementation, campaign analysis, training, and leadership development, before joining AJC. She received a B.A. from Syracuse University and an M.S. from the University of Michigan.

Philadelphia: **MARK ROBBINS**, 2011. 215-665-2300 robbinsm@ajc.org.

No stranger to AJC, Mark worked on international relations issues in our Washington, DC, office from 1990 to 1993. Possessing a B.A. in History from Harvard College and Rabbinical Ordination and an M.A. in Jewish Education from the Jewish Theological Seminary, Mark has been a hospital chaplain, campus rabbi at Georgetown University, and congregational rabbi in Wallingford, Pennsylvania.

St. Louis: **NANCY LISKER**, 2007. 314-721-8866 liskern@ajc.org.

Born and raised in Mexico City, Nancy worked for the Mexican government for three years as Consul for Press and Public Affairs in Chicago. She then spent five years at an advertising firm in Chicago developing marketing and advertising strategies for Fortune 500 companies before

joining AJC. She holds a B.A. in Journalism and Communications from the National University of Mexico and an M.S. in Integrated Marketing Communications from Northwestern University.

San Francisco: **MERVYN DANKER**, 2008. 415-777-3820 X201 dankerm@ajc.org.

Mervyn was born and raised in South Africa, where he was a high-school teacher of History, Geography, and English, and a principal of Jewish day schools. Arriving in the U.S. in 1988, he was a day-school principal on the West Coast before assuming his position at AJC. Mervyn earned his Bachelor's degree from the University of Cape Town

Seattle: **WENDY ROSEN**, 2009. 206-622-6315 rosenw@ajc.org.

A native of Seattle, Wendy was a recruiter for a private firm and for Microsoft, and worked as Director of the Women's Division for the Jewish Federation of Greater Seattle and Northwest Chapter Director of the American Technion Society before coming to AJC. She has a B.A. in Political Science from the University of Washington.

Washington, D.C.: **MELANIE MARON PELL**, 2001. 202-785-4225 pellm@ajc.org.

Melanie became Director of AJC Washington in 2006 after five years working at AJC Chicago. She is on the Board of the Interfaith Conference of Greater Washington and the Steering Committee of the Israel on Campus Coalition of Greater Washington. Melanie received her B.A. from the University of Louisville and her law degree from the Chicago-Kent College of Law.

West Coast Florida: **BRIAN LIPTON**, 2007. 941-365-4955 liptonb@ajc.org.

Brian served as Director of Development for the Regional Office before becoming Director. He previously was Director of Membership for the local JCC. Prior to entering the nonprofit world he worked for over two decades in sales and corporate training for Macy's, Lord & Taylor, Champs Sports, and Brooks Brothers. Brian studied in London and Israel before earning his B.A. from Washington University in St. Louis, and then graduated from the St. Louis University School of Law.

Westchester: **SCOTT RICHMAN**, 2009. 914-948-5585 X22 richmans@ajc.org.

Scott worked as a financial analyst and lawyer before entering the nonprofit world. Employed first by the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, he was its New York Director of Programs for Jews in the Former Soviet Union for almost a decade, afterward serving as Executive Director of Dor Chadash. He was a board member of Westchester AJC before becoming its top professional. Scott is a graduate of the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania, Brooklyn Law School, and the Institute for Non-Profit Management of the Columbia University School of Business.