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DONAL DENHAM

Consul General of Ireland, San Francisco

(responsible for the States of Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington and Wyoming)

Donal Denham was born in Dublin on 15th August, 1950. He was educated at Terenure College Dublin and John Fisher School, Surrey. He obtained an MA in History & Political Science from Trinity College Dublin.

Mr Denham joined the Irish Department of Foreign Affairs in 1974 and has served in posts abroad in **Paris, Lusaka, Brussels** (Irish representation to the EU), **Washington DC, Geneva** (Irish Mission to the UN) and most recently as Acting Ambassador in **Ottawa**.

He has extensive experience in the areas of economic policy formulation and trade promotion, of human rights and of humanitarian and development issues. Mr Denham was the first Irish diplomat to serve in Zambia where he oversaw the launch and expansion of the Irish Government's bilateral aid programme. During the period 1990-1997, he achieved a number of significant advances in Ireland's human rights track record and was closely associated in the selection of Mary Robinson as the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights. From 1997 to 2000, Mr Denham served on secondment from the Department of Foreign Affairs to the Irish Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment and was actively engaged in policy initiatives leading to the improvement of Irish economic performance.

Mr Denham was promoted to the rank of Counsellor and is posted as Irish Consul General to the western United States as of November, 2001.

He is married to Siobhan, an English as Foreign Language teacher and consultant on quality management systems; they have four children, Barry, Aisling, Andrea and Deirdre.

Mr Denham enjoys reading, gardening, music (of course!), most sports, walking everywhere and good wine as well as listening to other people!

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