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**Bakersfield Convention & Visitors Bureau Elects New Chairman, Vice Chair
Two Additional Board Members Elected**

BAKERSFIELD, Calif. - The Bakersfield Convention and Visitors Bureau (BCVB) is pleased to announce the election of a new chairman and vice chairman as well as the addition of two esteemed members to its board of directors. Blake Bowser and Eric Roiko were designated board chairman and vice chairman, respectively. Bernie Herman and Mike Raja were elected to the board. The elections took place during Wednesday's board meeting.

Blake Bowser, vice president and general manager of the Auto Club Famoso Raceway will serve a one-year term as chairman.

Eric Roiko, general manager of the Bakersfield Marriott at the Convention Center will serve a one-year term as vice chairman.

Mike Raja, general manager of the Days Inn Bakersfield was reelected to serve a second two-year term.

Bernie Herman, executive director of the Bakersfield Museum of Art was elected to serve a two-year term.

Bill Blair, CEO of the Kern County Fairgrounds will move into the position of past chair.

All five positions will be effective July 1, 2009.

The Bakersfield Convention & Visitors Bureau is a non-profit, city managed, economic development organization responsible for strengthening the Bakersfield economy through the marketing, promotion, and selling of the city and region as a site for conventions, corporate meetings, trade shows, pleasure travel, group travel, cultural, sports and special events.

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