

# FOUNDATION

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE **December 22, 2008**

Contact: Martin J. Allen, Jr. Chairman Emeritus Gerald R. Ford Foundation Grand Rapids, MI (616) 254-0396

## JOSEPH CALVARUSO NAMED EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, GERALD R. FORD FOUNDATION

The Gerald R. Ford Foundation announced the selection of Joseph Calvaruso, to the position of Executive Director of the Gerald R. Ford Foundation.

In making the announcement, Jack Ford, Chairman of the Foundation and son of former President Ford stated "we are pleased to have found someone with a combination of leadership and administrative experience that allows the Foundation to build on our organization's already sound and vibrant base."

Mr. Calvaruso has over 29 years experience in the banking industry. His most recent position with Mercantile Bank was Senior Vice President, Director of Risk Management. Mr. Calvaruso is a graduate of Albion College and has an MBA in Finance from Western Michigan University. He also has extensive experience as Trip Lead for Vice President Cheney's advance team, both within the United States and overseas. He is Chairman of the Michigan Certified Development Corporation, and is on the Visiting Committee at the Ford Institute of Albion College.

Joining Mr. Ford in making the announcement was Martin J. Allen Jr., Chairman Emeritus of the Foundation. "Our discussions with Joe during the search process convinced us that his background and familiarity with the Ford Museum and Library, and the Foundation's mission provided us with the fit we've been seeking." stated Allen. He went on to say that "Joe and his wife Donna are generous contributors to the Friends of Ford membership program of the Foundation and both have been active volunteers at our events."

"I'm both honored and excited to join the work being done through the Foundation for the Gerald R. Ford Museum and Library to advance President Ford's legacy as well as the role of the United States President as Elaine Didier, Library/Museum Director it relates to domestic and world affairs," said Joe Calvaruso.

## Contact information for Joe is as follows:

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The Gerald R. Ford Foundation fosters increased awareness of the life, career, values and legacy of America's 38<sup>th</sup> President. It does so through activities designed to promote the high ideals of integrity, honesty, and candor that defined President Ford's extraordinary career of public service. The Foundation promotes the ideals, values, commitment to public service and historical legacy of President Gerald R. Ford and further promotes greater civic engagement and recognition of integrity wherever it exists in the public arena. It supports permanent and changing exhibits designed to promote historical literacy; conferences; educational outreach and other programs, both scholarly and popular, including at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library and Museum.