



สมาคมไทย ณ อเมริกา | **The Thai Alliance in America**

1024 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20007

June 19, 2009

Result of TAA Annual Conference of Members

The Thai Alliance in America (TAA) held its Annual Conference of Members on June 14, 2009 at the Royal Thai Embassy, Washington D.C. This marked the beginning of a new TAA, following years of TAA being dormant and half a year campaign to revive this over 80 years old organization.

Following welcoming remarks by Chargé d’Affaires, Damrong Kraikruan, the Meeting began with an inspiring opening remarks by The Honorable L. Tammy Duckworth, Assistant Secretary for Public and Intergovernmental Affairs of the US Department of Veteran Affairs, the highest-ranking US official of Thai descent. The meeting also featured a lecture on Asian American community and their political participation by Mr. ED Chow, Director of Programs, Asian Pacific American Institute for Congressional Studies (APAICS) and closing remarks G. Henry Charoen, Council Member of the City of La Palma, California, the first Thai American ever elected mayor in the US.

The Meeting adopted the newly-revised By-Laws of the Thai Alliance in America, which seeks to restructure TAA, turning it into a members-based organization dedicated to promote greater representation of Thai American in US politics, social justice and higher standing of Thai Community in the US, The By-Laws entered into force on June 14, 2009.

The Meeting also held an election of the TAA’s new Executive. Two teams of candidates contested in this Election. 130 members/proxies out of 298 cast their votes, representing 43 per cent turnout, the result of which: the first team received 98 votes and the second team received 27 votes, making Mr. Thanit Thangpijaigul the President and Mr. Apisit Viriya the Secretary General.

The Meeting also endorsed the nomination of the following as members of the Advisory Council.

- Dr. Pakdee Suthamchai
- Dr. Boonyong M.D. Preutithada
- Mr. Thachpong Chantarapanik
- Mr. Shane Praneprachachon
- Dr. Vichien Vongchaipuek
- Mr. Chalernpol Rodbhajon