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**Press Release**  
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## **North Carolinian Elected Vice President of National Association of Minority Contractors**

Charlotte, NC – The National Association of Minority Contractors (NAMC) at their recent four-day conference (June 18-21, 2008) in Charlotte, NC elected new officers and members to its national board. Association officials closed out the conference declaring it an overwhelming success with more than 500 attendees representing construction industry participants (including some of the nation's top builders), minority and women-owned firms, state and local government officials and representatives from the association's 27 chapters.

New officers elected were Richard Copeland, President; **Gloria Shealey, Executive Vice President**; Esther Francis, Treasurer; and Hoyt Hsiao, Secretary. "This is the first time in NAMC's 39 year history that women were elected to executive leadership positions," said an association official.

Gloria Shealey is President and CEO of The Daniele Company, LLC, Chapel Hill, NC and local NAMC chapter chair of the United Minority Contractors of North Carolina (UMCNC). Her company is a licensed general contracting and construction management business. A native of Rocky Mount, she brings 25 years of experience to the business and has current projects totaling over \$60 million, including commercial office, higher education, and medical facilities.

**Richard Copeland** is President and CEO of Thor Construction Inc., Minneapolis, MN, and is the largest African American construction company in the nation specializing in site development, construction management, consulting, design build and general contracting. Thor Construction has exceeded the \$200 million mark in revenues this year.

**Esther Francis** is President and CEO of CBIC Construction & Development, LP of Houston, TX. The firm handles complex multi-million dollar hospital facilities, prisons, and higher education facilities, providing general construction, design build, job order contracting as well as project and construction management services and oversight with contracts ranging from \$4,000 to \$70 million.

**Hoyt Hsiao** is a Vice President and the Secretary/Treasurer of Shaw-Lundquist Associates, Inc. of St. Paul, MN, one of the area's largest minority-owned firms with offices in Nevada and Wisconsin and revenues exceeding \$75 million. Newly elected NAMC Board members (2008-2011) include: **Richard Copeland**, Upper Midwest Chapter/Nevada Chapter; **Kevin Ramsey**, Southern California Chapter; **John Macklin**, Philadelphia Chapter; **Gwen Johnson**, Houma,

Page 2 of 2

Louisiana Chapter; **David Moody**, Atlanta, Georgia Chapter; **Howell Shaw**, Upper Midwest Chapter; **Larry Leonard**, North East Florida Chapter; **Luis Carranza and Ousley Lacey**, Houston, Texas Chapter; and **Bill Fountaine**, Alabama Chapter.

The addition of a special “Women in Construction” brunch program that brought together in a forum led by Shealey, five highly successful women who run their own multi-million dollar companies, was a first for many agencies and high profile construction firms to experience.

The Board also approved Strategic Plan 2008 which is the mandate and blueprint for the future of NAMC in serving the national minority construction community as represented by its various member chapters. The leadership is charged with implementation of the Strategic Plan in carrying forth the vision and legacy of NAMC.

The education and training emphasis of NAMC was upheld at the conference as attendees were treated to some of the nation’s outstanding speakers, topical workshops designed to educate minority owners and a scholarship awards program for minority construction career-minded college students.

The conference was hosted by the United Minority Contractors of North Carolina, the statewide chapter of NAMC. Officials announced that the 2009 conference will take place in Las Vegas, Nevada.



Richard Copeland  
President



Gloria Shealey  
Executive Vice President



Esther Francis  
Treasurer



Hoyt Hsiao  
Secretary