

FOR INFORMATION CALL

December 1, 2006

Ald. Joe Davis, Sr. (414) 286-3787

MEDIA ADVISORY

Ald. Joe Davis, Sr. has accepted an invitation from the governor of the state of Lara in Venezuela, Luis Reyes, and left yesterday (Thursday, November 30, 2006) for that country where he will participate **as an international observer of the presidential elections** on Sunday, December 3, 2006 and also visit the medical facilities where U.S., Latin American and Caribbean patients undergo eye surgery under the Mission Miracle humanitarian initiative.

Ald. Davis, chair of the Sister Cities Committee, said he was excited about the opportunity to observe the election process and also visit with government officials in the Venezuelan state of Lara to discuss the possibility of a Sister City relationship. "I've developed a thirst for knowledge about the global marketplace and such a visit could lead to important economic development opportunities," said Ald. Davis, adding: "Venezuela has vast amounts of natural resources that have created opportunities for investments around the world." "It's my hope this visit will contribute to a better understanding of Venezuela's democracy and institutions and help build the necessary bridges of communication between our countries," he said.

Venezuela has initiated a program to provide heating oil assistance to needy families in the United States and Ald. Davis also said that Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez deserves recognition for his offer to help poverty stricken Americans.

The delegation is scheduled to return on December 5th. The Office of the Governor of Lara, Venezuela, is covering all expenses.

-30-