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## **National PTA Announces New Executive Director**

**ALEXANDRIA, VA. (July 5, 2011)**- Today, National PTA® announces Eric R. Hargis as the association's new Executive Director. Hargis was introduced to delegates last month at National PTA's 115th Annual Convention and Exhibition in Orlando, Florida.

"I am excited and honored to serve National PTA's millions of members, Board of Directors, volunteers and staff. I look forward to continuing the legacy of this great American institution and working toward improving the lives and futures of America's children," said Hargis. "This position offers me the opportunity to help improve our nation's future by fighting for our most valuable resource; our children."

Hargis will work in concert with the National PTA's Board of Directors to continue long-term strategies and priorities that benefit families nationwide. He will integrate PTA's core values with the association's strategic plan to build on its purpose of speaking for every child with one voice.

"Eric has an established record of success from every organization he's worked with, as well as the proven leadership our national staff needs to serve today's families and school communities," said Betsy Landers, National PTA President. "With his selection, we know that PTA will grow stronger while reaching its goals in our strategic plan."

Hargis brings more than 30 years of non-profit experience including high level positions at the Muscular Dystrophy Association, the American Diabetes Association and the Arthritis Foundation. Most recently, Hargis was President and Chief Executive Officer of the Epilepsy Foundation of America for more than 10 years.

A graduate of the University of San Diego, Hargis lives in Maryland with his wife and has two children.

### **About National PTA**

National PTA® comprises millions of families, students, teachers, administrators, and business and community leaders devoted to the educational success of children and the promotion of parent involvement in schools. PTA is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit association that prides itself on being a powerful voice for all children, a relevant resource for families and communities, and a strong advocate for public education. Membership in PTA is open to anyone who wants to be involved and make a difference for the education, health, and welfare of children and youth.