



Southeast Asia Resource Action Center

**PRESS ADVISORY
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Washington, DC -- The Southeast Asia Resource Action Center (SEARAC) is pleased to announce the appointment of its new Deputy Director, Doua Thor.

Ms. Thor has worked with national and grassroots Southeast Asian American organizations for many years, most recently as a New Voices Fellow with Hmong National Development, Inc. (HND). She is the Chair of the Board of Directors of the National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum (NAPAWF), and holds an MSW degree from the University of Michigan, where she focused on Social Policy and Evaluation. As an intern at SEARAC in 2000, she was largely responsible for the creation of the first national directory of Southeast Asian American mutual assistance associations (MAAs). Ms. Thor and her family moved to the United States from Laos as refugees in 1979, and settled in Detroit, Michigan.

In praise of Ms. Thor, Bouy Te, SEARAC's Board Chair, states that "Doua is a phenomenal leader. She brings to SEARAC a wealth of knowledge about the social and educational needs of our Southeast Asian American community. She combines professionalism with commitment to the community in a way that few people can. SEARAC is very fortunate to have her as its new Deputy Director"

Max Niedzwiecki, SEARAC's Executive Director, is also excited to have her on-board: "With Doua here, we're ready to take on more work with, and for, Southeast Asian Americans and other groups. There's so much to do in fields like education, immigration, health, and economic development. This is a really exciting time for SEARAC."

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