

IN THE CITY

DFTA Launches Largest Municipal Program in the Nation to Attract Retiree Expertise to City Agencies *Program recruits skilled retirees and matches their talents to specific projects;* **City will benefit from highly specialized 'ReServists'**

NEW YORK, NY - July 25, 2007 - Deputy Mayor Linda Gibbs and Commissioner Edwin Mendez-Santiago, LCSW, today announced the largest municipal program in the nation that will give retirees the opportunity to share their expertise with city agencies. The program, in conjunction with ReServe Elder Services, will match retirees—or ReServists—with short term city agency projects that utilize their expertise and experience. This partnership will result in greater civic engagement opportunities for retirees, increased capacity for city agencies, and ultimately, greater awareness of retired older New Yorker's wealth of experience and knowledge.

"New York City attracts the best and brightest workers in the world and we want to ensure that when they retire they have the opportunity to make this city even greater with their years of knowledge and expertise," said Deputy Mayor Linda Gibbs.

"As more Boomers retire from their professional lives, we want to meet their need for post-retirement opportunities to 'give back' to their communities," said Commissioner Mendez-Santiago. "Retired professionals are an invaluable but under-used asset and ReServe is poised to connect these professionals with opportunities in City government, to the benefit of all.

Retired New Yorkers over the age of 55 can apply to participate in the Reserve program through the Department for the Aging's website, www.nyc.gov/aging or ReServe's website – www.reserveinc.org.

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