



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**PORT OF HOUSTON AUTHORITY NAMES GRACE MOOLCHAN  
COMMUNITY RELATIONS MANAGER**

HOUSTON, September 4, 2002 – The Port of Houston Authority today announced the appointment of Grace Moolchan as Manager of Community Relations. Moolchan will handle corporate and community outreach as part of the Port’s public affairs department.

“As the Public Affairs Division realigns and revamps its community relationship initiatives, we value Grace as a person with more than 28 years of experience in municipal government, community relations, and coalition building,” said Argentina James, public affairs director for the Port of Houston Authority. “Grace’s extensive background of hands-on community involvement and knowledge of PHA business priorities will strengthen the public affairs division and help us to proactively position the Port in its community involvement efforts,” James added.

Since 1995, Moolchan has served the Port of Houston Authority as executive assistant and liaison to the port commissioners, maintaining the extensive responsibilities of coordinating business activities for the executive director and the port commission while supervising administrative office staffers. She previously served the City of Houston in multiple capacities. As the assistant director of the SPARK Program in the office of Houston city council member Eleanor Tinsley, Moolchan was responsible for major fundraising and grant research. She also served in the office of city council

member Judson Robinson as chief of staff and council administrative assistant. Prior to working for the City of Houston, she served as an executive assistant at Exxon, U.S.A.

Moolchan earned a bachelor's degree in office administration from Xavier University in New Orleans, Louisiana. In addition, her extensive community involvement activities include service as a dedicated member of the boards and committees of Houston Achievement Place, Volunteers of America, the Martin Luther King Jr. Center, Women Professionals in Government, Clear Creek ISD, Clear Brook High School PTO, Clear Brook Tennis Booster Club, Xavier University Alumni Association, and Jack & Jill of America, Inc.

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The Port of Houston Authority

*The Port of Houston Authority owns and operates the public facilities located along the Port of Houston, 25-mile long complex of diversified public and private facilities designed for handling general cargo, containers, grain, and other dry bulk materials, project and heavy lift cargo, and other types of cargo. The Port of Houston Authority plays a vital role in ensuring navigation safety along the Houston Ship Channel, which has been instrumental in Houston's development as a center of international trade. The port – sixth largest in the world – is ranked first in the United States in foreign waterborne commerce and second in total tonnage. Each year, more than 6,600 vessels from around the world call at the port. The Port of Houston Authority's Barbours Cut Container Terminal and Central Maintenance Facility are the first of any port facilities in the U.S. to develop and implement an innovative Environmental Management System that meets the rigorous standards of ISO 14001 compliance. For more information, please visit <http://www.portofhouston.com>.*