



Board Appointment Form

City Clerk's Office

Appointing Office	Mayor Renard U. Johnson
Agenda Placement	Consent
Date of Council Meeting	05/28/25
Name of Board	Committee on Border Relations
Agenda Posting Language	
Re-appointment of Cecilia Ochoa Levine to the Committe on Border Relations by Mayor Renard U. Johnson.	
Appointment Type	Regular
Member Qualifications	
A person whose duties include daily operation of the Committee on Border Relations.	
Nominee Name	Cecilia Ochoa Levine
Nominee Email Address	
Nominee Residential Address	
Nominee Primary Phone Number	
Residing District	District 7
City Employed Relatives	N/A
Board Membership	
CBR (June 01, 2021 to May 31, 2023)	
Real estate owned in El Paso County	
Previous Appointee	Elsa Borrego
Reason for Vacancy	Term Expired
Date of Appointment	06/01/25
Term Begins On	06/01/25
Term Expires On	05/31/27
Term	Second Term



Cecilia Ochoa Levine

Cecilia Ochoa Levine has been owner of MFI International Mfg., LLC, headquartered in El Paso, Texas, since 1990. Prior to joining MFI, Levine was President and Founder of Ceci Inc. El Paso, Texas and Contratistas de Confecciones, Juarez, Mexico.

MFI is a Contract Assembler, producing diversified products for industries such as automotive, juvenile, home furnishings, pet, ladies accessories and apparel sectors. MFI also is a provider of Manufacturing, Warehousing, Distribution, Shelter and Consulting Services with offices and plants in Mexico and the United States.

MFI International's Shelter division has given Levine the opportunity to work with major companies including Kimberly Clark, Hasbro, Sara Lee, Pierre Deux and Evenflo, Temperpedic and other mattress companies in establishing manufacturing operations in Mexico and in the United States. She also has guided smaller companies during their start-up phase. Her design experience has been an asset to many of MFI's clients.

Levine has extensive experience in manufacturing, establishing world class production processes and procedures such as ISO certifications, continuous improvement programs and management skills processes, international trade, cross border cultural relationships and economic development.

She participated in Green7 de Mexico – an antimicrobial agent distribution company in Mexico. This product utilizes a technology developed at Emory University that will mitigate infectious diseases such as MRSA.

Levine is a partner in Innovei Asia with offices in Taiwan and with relationships with manufacturing plants in China. She also is a Director and Partner in Innovei Electronics a company that was incubated by MFI International with competencies based on electronic repair. They are certified by companies such as Apple Compute.

From 2003 to 2008, Levine, served as a member of the President's Export Council, which worked with the Department of Commerce, the U.S Trade Representative and the Executive Branch in promoting U.S. Exports. She participant in a fact-finding trip to China and Mexico with Secretary of Commerce Don Evans. In 2008 she was named Chairman of the US/Mexico Border District Export Council by Secretary of Commerce Carlos Gutierrez, a Council that has representation throughout the US and Mexican border region.

From 2002 to 2007, Levine served as a board member for the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, El Paso branch. Served from 2004-2007 as co-chairman.

From 1998 to 2000 she he was Co-Chairman of "Amigos de Bush" a supporting group of Republicans, Democrats and Independents from different states in the United States supporting President Bush's Hispanic values agenda and was awarded the opportunity to plan and execute a sanctioned event at the 2000 Presidential Inaugural events in Washington D.C. with over 800 participants.

Levine founded the family foundation as a 501c3 in the US and a "donataria autorizada" in Mexico – the US/Mexico Strategic Alliance <https://www.usmc-strategicalliance.com/> which networks with various existing organizations to improve the life of U.S. and Mexican citizens living in the border regions of the United States and Mexico. She is also involved in a medical project to relocate used U.S. medical equipment to needy hospitals in Mexico as well as helps to promote the Medical Center of the America and board member of the Biomedical Cluster Juarez/El Paso with organizations as SIVAM (Society of Mexican Artistic Values).

Levine has been working for the last 8 years putting together the social ecosystem that will be housed in the Herzog and de Meuron El Punto project that will be built in Ciudad Juarez. El Punto will house a music conservatory, arts academy, (dance, photography, painting, sculpture etc.), Permaculture program, hospitality Institute, digital education programs “Paco El Chato” (over 10 million users). This ecosystem will be replicable for other regions of the world. These programs are based on a prevention of violence, and addictions. El Punto vision is to work on projects that can help with dignifying humanity.

In 2019 and 2020 the USMC Strategic Alliance in collaboration with FECHAC and the Mohr Family we were able to do 620 free Cataract surgeries for free.

To address the Covid 19 problem the foundation USMC Strategic Alliance in collaboration with FECHAC and Fondo Unido (United Way Chih) opened a clinic “Primer Contacto” to test people with covid and offer medication as well as instructions on how to stay safe at home. We will be doing in 2021 7,200 free test and free medication.

She was a founding member of the Midland, Texas Hispanic Chamber of Commerce in the 1980’s.

Levine was a guest speaker at the Entrepreneur Class in the Business School at Baylor University in Waco Texas for 20 years as well as having served as the Entrepreneur in Residence at the University of Texas at El Paso 2006.

In 2011 was invited to be board member for the Baylor University School of Business and served for 6 years.

In 2012 she was asked to speak at the 6th Annual Global Forum at the McBride Center for International Business the theme being “Women in the World Economy.”

In 2017 she was a Key Note Speaker at the Baylor School Ethics Forum.

She has been a guest speaker in South American countries on economic development and maquiladora opportunities and issues.

Levine presently serves as Vice President of Southwest Maquila Association.

She served in Nation Board of BBVA Compass Bank from 2012- 2016.

Levine serves in the local advisory board of Compass BBVA Bank 2011 - Present

Starting in 2011 to Present – Has worked with Herzog and de Meuron Swiss Architectural Firm to create an architectural and social INCON for the US/Mexico Border. This will create the echo system that can start to define the true DNA of the region. This project is call “El Punto”. Since then we have been engage with several educationa institutions such as the Texas Tec Architectural School, the UACJ Architectural School, MIT Media Lab, Tec de Monterrey Architectural School and Social Scinece School. http://www.elpasoinc.com/el-punto/image_e0db7f32-ce81-11e5-924d-e753fc6be5b

December 2016 to February 2016 – Participated in the organization (with the Juarez and El Paso Bishops) of Pope Francis to Ciudad Juarez and the design of the altar and podium for the Papal Mass.

In 2017 Mrs. Levine’s foundation worked with the State of Chihuahua Desarrollo Social in fixing 76 “centros de bienestar infantil” (center for low income children in Juarez)

In 2017 created a relationship with Earth Block organization to create sustainable spaces in Juarez.

Summer of 2017 became partner and serves on the board of Con Vision 20/20 an eye clinic in Ciudad Juarez as the first of the clinics that will be operating in the “Closter Medico de Juarez” <http://convision2020.com/>

In 2018 open “y Coma” an education a social center for the medical cluster in Juarez.

Levine was invited by Bishop Mark Sipze to participate in the Blue-Ribbon Committee to assist the Catholic Schools of El Paso in 2016. After developing a plan for the schools Levine and the Blue-Ribbon Committee now became the Advisory Board for the El Paso Diocese Catholic Schools to work with Art Edu on the transformation of the schools.

Levine's commitment to health via the family foundation USMC Strategic Alliance worked in collaboration FECHAC and other donors as the Mohr Family on 620 free cataract surgeries in 2019/2020 and in the year 2021 over 230 free cataract surgeries "Ver mejor para Vivir Mejor" and opened a covid clinic "Primer Contacto" to perform over 10,000 free covid test as well as in 2021 in collaboration with the national maquila association INDEX, the County of El Paso, the MCA the private sector in Juarez 33,710 people were vaccinated against covid.

2021 the family foundation obtained 6 mobile health care units and advanced the program "Prevenir para Vivir" a prevention program in collaboration with the National Maquila Association INDEX, and the IMSS.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

In 2009 – "Manufacturer of the year" El Paso Hispanic Chamber of Commerce"

In 2007 - "Exporter of the year award given by the Small Business Association"

In 2006 -USHCC "National; and Regional Hispanic Business Woman of the Year Award"
US Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

In 2006 – McDonald's Hispanos Triunfadores

In 2005 -"Ser Empresario – Border-land Award"

In 2004 -"Orgullo Hispano- Galardón de La Mujer" - Guadalajara México

In 2004 -"Texas Association of Mexican American Chambers (TAMAC) Business Woman of the Year Award"

In 2003 -"Small Business Administration's Minority Women-Owned Business of the Year Award"

In 2002 -"League of Women Voter's Bravo Award"

In 2017 = Award given by the Mexican Council in El Paso representing the industry.

In 2017 – Award from Ambassador of Mexico in the US for work in the industry.

In 2017 – Hispanic Chamber of Commerce – MFI as manufacturer of the year.

In 2018 – Mexicanos Distinguidos – Secretaria de Relaciones Exteriores – Mexicanos en el exterior.

Cecilia Levine is currently or has been affiliated with the following National and International Organizations.

- Board member of Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, El Paso Branch (Director)-Chairmen Protem - 2002-2007
- President's Export Council – 2003 - 2008
- World Trade Center – Chairman of the Board – 2001-2004
- Board member of El Paso Catholic Diocese – 1998-2011
- Paso del Norte Group – Co-Chairman Trilateral Committee for 1 yrs.
- Paisano Bi-national Immigration Advisory Committee – 2000 -2002
- Partnership for Prosperity – Bi National Competitiveness Committee Member 2003-2004
& Production Sharing Action Force Committee Member – 2002-2004

- US/Mexico Strategic Alliance – Founder and President
- Lydia Patterson School board member 2000 – 2008
- El Paso Museum of Art Foundation – 2001-2005
- CINIME (Mexican National Maquiladora Association) through MSI (Mexican Company)
- Member of El Paso Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
- Mexican Federation of Private Health and Community Development Associations (FEMAP) 2000-2002
- Hospital Civil de Guadalajara Foundation Board – 2000-2003
- Governor’s Mansion Foundation “Austin Texas” – 2000-2003
- Kids for Kids (an international initiative to have prodigy children help raise funds for children with cancer)
- INDEX - AMAC - Cd. Juarez Maquiladora Council - through MSI (Mexican company) 2000 - Present
- Plan Estrategico de Juarez – participant
- Society of Corporate Compliance and Ethics -2002-2003
- University of Texas in El Paso Entrepreneur in Residents 2 yrs.
- Chairman of the US/México Border District Export Council – US Commerce Dept.-2008 – present
- SIVAM- board member in Mexico, City and New York 2002- present
- Mi Gran Esperanza- (supports children with cancer) board member in Guadalajara Mexico, 2002- present
- National and Regional Advisory Board Member of BBVA/Compass Bank 2011 – 2015
- BBVA Compass Advisory Board – 2011 -Present
- Juarez Competitiva – US- 2011
- Board of Directors of Orchestra Esperanza Azteca (3 youths orchestras in Juarez)
- Baylor University School of Business Advisory Board Member
- Tecnologico de Monterrey Advisory Board in Cd. Juarez
- District Export Council – US – 2010 – Present
- Fondo Unido de Mexico – Untied Way – 2016 - Present
- Desarrollo Economico del Norte – Vice President - 2016
- Southwest Maquila Association – Executive board 2010- present and Social Responsibility Committee
- Member of Index 1987- Present
- Blue Ribbon Committee El Paso Catholic Diocese – 2017 – Present
- School Board Catholic Dioses of El Paso 2018
- Board and Secretary of Closter Bio Medico Juarez/El Paso 2017- Present
- Board of the DIF in Ciudad Juarez 2016-2018
- Board member of Esperanza Azteca Juarez Orchestra 2011- Present
- Board of Con Vision 20/20 – 2018 – Present
- Advisory Board El Paso Catholic Schools and Communication lead. 2018 – Present
- City of El Paso Committee on Border Relations – 2021- Present
- University of New Mexico Architecture Advisory – 2021 – Present
- Advisory Board Member – Pro Bono Doctors 2021- Present

She was born in Chihuahua, Chih., Mexico in 1950, moved to the United States in 1966 with her parents Juan Ochoa Reynoso, Emma Bunsow de Ochoa and eight brothers and sisters. Attended the University of Texas in El Paso where she studied geology. Cecilia became a naturalized U.S. Citizen in 1982. In 1988 became partners with Lance R. Levine and married shortly after. Cecilia has four children: Chia Wollschlager, Emma Schwartz married to Doug Schwartz, Lawrence Wollschlager, and Lance Michael Levine and Ali W. Levine. Cecilia has four grand-daughters McKenzie Stewart, Taylor Stewart, Sienna Schwartz and Milan Schwartz. Levine’s hobbies are painting, interior, exterior decorating, travel, and the ARTS.

Contact Information:

Cecilia Ochoa Levine
MFI International Mfg., LLC

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