

First Name: Paula Last Name: Cracium

Candidate Statement For PRNC

Paula Cracium is honored to have served on the board of the Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council for six years, presently as Vice President.

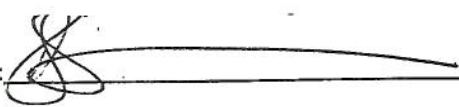
Paula is committed to building "community" within our community and believes that Neighborhood Councils are important in a city like Los Angeles. She explains, "Neighborhood Councils bring the city right to our front door and gives the people a chance to be heard and have an impact on what matters most to them. They also provide a way for our community to stay connected to each other, which is something I think we all desire. I fear we may have lost that sense of 'community' along the way, but it's important to cultivate, because working together is extremely rewarding. People make a difference!"

As one of the founding members of the Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council, Paula has seen first hand the changes and impact that the council has made by getting its "fair share" of city resources for our area. Paula explains, "[The Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council has] paid for computers and needed supplies for our local schools and for vital equipment for our police department and firefighters. We have assisted in disaster preparedness training for the community as well as many community clean-up days. We fought for -- and got approved -- a school for our community as well as needed street and area improvements. We have provided a forum for everything from street maintenance to earthquakes and have provided a place for those who have an interest to find out about changes and development within the community."

Paula is privileged to work as the Director of Development for Shepherd of the Hills Church where she oversees the church's media and development departments as well as the church's special community events such as the annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July Spectacular which draws over 40,000 people each year. She and her husband Paul (yes -- Paul and Paula) have called the San Fernando Valley home for more than twenty-five years and are very proud of their two sons, Stephen (19) and Daniel (16).

Though ministry is her calling and passion, Paula considers community activism both a responsibility and a privilege. Explaining her goal for her role on the council board, Paula shares, "I want to make a positive influence in our area -- to create a 'close community' for this amazing local area."

I declare under penalty of perjury that the above statements are true and correct.

Signature: 

Date: 4/7/08

**CANDIDATE STATEMENT**