

## **PRESS RELEASE: For Immediate Release**

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### **NEW SISTERS IN CRIME BOARD OF DIRECTORS GET DOWN TO BUSINESS**

Sisters in Crime (SinC), an international organization of female mystery authors and fans, has elected its 2009/2010 board of directors, and they have gotten down to business.

Award-winning author Judy Clemens was elected president. In this role, she will focus efforts on the organization's newly adopted mission to promote the professional development and advancement of women crime writers. Judy, from Ottawa, Ohio, is the author of a series featuring dairy farmer and Harley-enthusiast Stella Crown.

Charlaine Harris, *NY Times* best-selling author of the Sookie Stackhouse series featured in HBO's *First Blood* series has returned for a second term of service on the board.

Marcia Talley of Edgewater, MD, best-selling author of the Hannah Ives mystery series, was elected vice-president and president-elect.

Kathryn Wall, Hilton Head SC, author of the Bay Tanner series, was re-elected as treasurer.

Also elected were: Mary Saums (Nashville, TN); Jim Huang, owner of The Mystery Company bookstore (Carmel, IN); Cathy Pickens (Charlotte, NC); Mary Boone, library liaison; Robin Burcell; Nancy Martin (Pittsburgh, PA), Charlaine Harris (Magnolia, AR); Nadia Gordon/ Julianne Balmain (San Francisco, CA); and past-president Roberta Isleib (Madison, CT).

Founded in 1986, SinC now has 3,000 members globally, including authors, readers, publishers, agents, booksellers, and librarians, who are dedicated to strengthening the voice of female mystery writers. The group compiles and distributes statistical information of reviewed books to point out gender bias to publishers and conducts reader surveys about reading habits, purchasing decisions and author gender preferences.

SinC also created a book club database to connect crime fiction readers with published authors and will open the 2009 Bouchercon World Mystery Convention in Indianapolis in October with a "SinC Into a Great Writing" workshop, featuring agent Donald Maass and author Nancy Pickard. [[www.bouchercon2009.com](http://www.bouchercon2009.com)]

Sisters in Crime's mission is to promote the professional development and advancement of women crime writers to achieve equity in the industry. For more information, visit [www.SistersinCrime.org](http://www.SistersinCrime.org)