



**CALIFORNIA'S STEM CELL AGENCY**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2023-01**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD  
OF THE CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE FOR REGENERATIVE MEDICINE  
HONORING JONATHAN THOMAS ("JT") FOR HIS SERVICE TO  
THE CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE FOR REGENERATIVE MEDICINE,  
STEM CELL RESEARCH, AND CALIFORNIA PATIENTS**

WHEREAS, Jonathan Thomas received his Bachelor Degrees in Biology and History at Yale University, where he graduated summa cum laude;

WHEREAS, as a George C. Marshall Scholar at the University of Oxford, Dr. Thomas earned a Doctorate with a medical focus in Commonwealth History;

WHEREAS, Dr. Thomas received his Juris Doctor at Yale Law School, where he retained an involvement with biology by teaching courses on the legal implications of genetic engineering and the impact of disease on history;

WHEREAS, Dr. Thomas' legal experience includes clerking for White House Counsel Lloyd Cutler in the last year of the Carter Administration and for the Honorable George Mackinnon of the United States Circuit Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, and practice at Munger, Tolles & Olson in Los Angeles, California;

WHEREAS, Dr. Thomas worked as an investment banker for Ehrlich Bober & Co., where, among other things, he led a team that underwrote over \$1 billion in bonds for the Los Angeles Community College District;

WHEREAS, Dr. Thomas cofounded Saybrook Capital in 1990, an investment banking and private equity firm based in Santa Monica, California. At Saybrook Capital, he led an early round of financing for Advanced Cell Technology (now Ocata Therapeutics), which now has two embryonic stem cell-based clinical trials in progress;

WHEREAS, Dr. Thomas has served as a member and vice president of the City of Los Angeles Board of Harbor Commissioners and as a member of the Governing Board for the Alameda Corridor Transportation Authority. On the Governing Board for the

Alameda Corridor Transportation Authority, he developed a plan to finance the \$2.4 billion expansion of the Corridor rail lines from the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach to downtown Los Angeles;

WHEREAS, Dr. Thomas has a long-standing commitment to patient advocacy. He spent more than fifteen years on the Board of AbilityFirst and served as Chair for four years. AbilityFirst assists children with spinal cord injuries and mental disabilities that could be targets of stem cell therapies. He is an Honorary member of the AbilityFirst Board;

WHEREAS, In June 2011, Dr. Thomas was elected as Chair of the Governing Board after he was nominated by then-Governor Jerry Brown, Treasurer Bill Lockyer, and Lieutenant Governor Gavin Newsom;

WHEREAS, Dr. Thomas has served as chair of the Governing Board for over 12 years. In that time, JT has lead CIRM in granting \$2,544,510,796 in grants to support groundbreaking research and discovery to advance of stem cell research and accelerate stem cell treatments to patients with unmet medical needs;

WHEREAS, Dr. Thomas has led the agency as it expanded its work with industry, revamped its award processes, prepared for the expiration of bond funding, supported the drafting of Proposition 14, and planned for the next phase of CIRM's programs after the voters approved \$5.5 Billion in additional funding;

WHEREAS, through his experience, commitment, knowledge, and leadership, Dr. Thomas contributed greatly to the momentum of discovery and the future therapies which will be the ultimate outcome of the dedicated work of the researchers receiving CIRM funding; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Governing Board of the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine, on behalf of the people of the State of California, wishes to express its deepest gratitude to JT for his service on CIRM's Governing Board and for his dedication to the advancement of stem cell research and to the mission of CIRM to accelerate world class science to deliver transformative regenerative medicine treatments in an equitable manner to a diverse California and world.

This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its approval.

Date Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Vice Chair, Governing Board  
California Institute for Regenerative Medicine