



## PRESS RELEASE

*For Immediate Release*

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### **SAVE THE REDWOODS LEAGUE APPOINTS JAMES LARSON AS PRESIDENT AND MELINDA THOMAS AS VICE PRESIDENT OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**SAN FRANCISCO** (October 10, 2012) — [Save the Redwoods League](#), the only nonprofit organization dedicated to protecting ancient [redwoods](#) throughout their natural range, today announced the **appointment of James Larson and Melinda Thomas as President and Vice President of the Board of Directors**, respectively.

“Save the Redwoods League is delighted to welcome new leadership on our Board of Directors,” said Ruskin K. Hartley, executive director of Save the Redwoods League. “Their understanding of conservation issues and expertise in building public awareness and strategic partnerships will be invaluable as the League continues its work to ensure that current and future generations can enjoy magnificent redwood forests.”



#### **James Larson, President**

Previously serving as a member of the Board of Directors for Save the Redwoods League, Larson brings a proven track record as a California Board-certified attorney specialist in estate and trust law and a pro bono advisor to nonprofits. He has served as President of the Mendocino Conservation and Planning Foundation, President of the Mendocino County Bar Association, and Chair of the Mendocino County Air Pollution Control District Hearing Board. Larson’s extensive expertise will continue to serve Save the Redwoods League well.



#### **Melinda M. Thomas, Vice President**

Thomas also brings her experience as a member of the Board of Directors for Save the Redwoods League. She is currently the inaugural Entrepreneur in Residence for New York City, working to connect resources and mentoring with aspiring scientific entrepreneurs, and strengthening science networks in New York. Thomas previously served as VP, Operations at CardioDx, where she took the company from day one through its first product launch, with responsibility for all non-research functions. Prior to this, Thomas was the VP of Operations at ParAllele Biosciences.

#### **About Save the Redwoods League**

Walk through a redwood forest—home of the tallest, largest, and some of the oldest living beings on Earth—and you can't help but feel an overwhelming sense of awe and peace among these magnificent giants. Since 1918, Save the Redwoods League has led the effort to protect the coast redwoods and giant sequoias for all to experience and enjoy.

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**WALK AMONG GIANTS**

To date the League has completed the purchase of more than 190,000 acres of redwood forest and associated land. For more information, please visit [SaveTheRedwoods.org](http://SaveTheRedwoods.org), or to receive monthly email updates, sign up at [SaveTheRedwoods.org/signup](http://SaveTheRedwoods.org/signup).

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