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## **Long Island Life Sciences Initiative Establishes Nassau County Presence**

**October 1, 2002 (Long Island, NY)** – The Nassau County Department of Economic Development, led by Deputy County Executive Peter Sylver, expressed its commitment to the Long Island life sciences industry today by establishing a Nassau County office for the Long Island Life Sciences Initiative (LILSI) at 400 County Seat Drive in Mineola. This pledge comes in response to a strategic plan put forth by Nassau County Executive Tom Suozzi, which outlines several key mechanisms to boost Nassau County’s economy, including the creation and retention of high-technology jobs.

Deputy County Executive Peter Sylver articulated his strong commitment to growing the life sciences industry in Nassau County saying, “Nassau County is enthusiastic about the long-term economic development potential of the life sciences community. We support LILSI as a strategic partner and a highly effective vehicle for tackling issues fundamental to the success of the life sciences on Long Island.” Sylver added, “Government support of the life sciences industry will have significant long-term impact on the region, particularly in terms of increasing high-wage jobs.”

LILSI, which currently occupies office space at the Center for Advanced Technology (CAT) in Medical Biotechnology at Stony Brook University, has always recognized the great need for a Nassau County presence since the organization was formally established in January 2002. “This is a real opportunity for LILSI to expand contact with life sciences firms and academic research institutions in Nassau County, and the partnership forged with the Suozzi administration is just as critical,” stated Joe Scaduto, Executive Director, LILSI. “This is a Long Island initiative, and it is important to have a presence in both counties,” he continued.

The Long Island life sciences industry has been recognized as a leading economic driver for the future. Long Island is home to a vibrant life sciences community that includes approximately 300 companies and world-class, internationally renown academic and research institutions such as Brookhaven National Laboratory, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, the North Shore-Long Island Jewish Research Institute and Stony Brook University. The establishment of a Nassau County location for LILSI will greatly facilitate industry and local government access, and will further enhance grass root efforts to address critical issues for industry success in the region.

LILSI is a regional trade association focused on the attraction, retention and development of life sciences firms on Long Island, and aims to address issues of strategic importance to the growth of the pharmaceutical, biotechnology, medical device, and life systems technology (nutriceutical, cosmeceutical) sectors. More information can be found on the LILSI website ([www.lilsi.org](http://www.lilsi.org)), or by calling 631-632-1080.

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