



*Thomas A. Saunders III, chairman of The Heritage Foundation's Board of Trustees, released the following statement on May 22, 2018:*

After nearly 10 years as Chairman of the Board of Trustees of The Heritage Foundation, I intend to step down from that role later this year. The Board has unanimously voted to elect our Vice Chairman, Barb Van Andel-Gaby, as Chairman upon my stepping down. I wholeheartedly commend the Board for this outstanding choice. It has been my privilege and honor to serve as Chairman, and I look forward to remaining an active and engaged member of the Board of Trustees after I hand the gavel over to Barb.

I take this step with great confidence knowing that we will have a stellar leadership team in place at Heritage with Barb as Chairman, Kay Coles James as President, and Kim Holmes as the Executive Vice President. With these proven conservative leaders and experts at the helm, The Heritage Foundation will be in good hands. Keeping faith with our 500,000 members, the Board has made the changes it needed to make to further strengthen Heritage and to continue its legacy as the leader of the conservative movement.

I also take this step with great pride in our accomplishments over the last 10 years. The Board has seen significant opportunities in that time, not least of which were the creation of Heritage Action for America as a force to be reckoned with on Capitol Hill and the arrival of President Trump's administration eager to hear and implement Heritage ideas.

The Board has kept Heritage pointed toward the fixed star of America's founding principles and values as embodied in the Constitution. Heritage remains as vigilant and committed as ever to protecting the Constitution.

Thanks to these efforts, Heritage is now poised to make what may be its strongest impact on public policy in a generation. We are committed to the principles that have made America great: free enterprise, limited government, individual freedom, traditional American values, and a strong national defense. The strong executive team in place at Heritage will expand this message to new audiences and turn these principles into reality.

I expect that this transition to Mrs. Gaby's chairmanship will take place in September or October of this year. In the interim, I will work closely with her to effectuate a smooth, seamless, and orderly transition. After stepping down from the chairmanship, I will continue to serve on the Board of Trustees.