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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**MICHAEL CAPILETS APPOINTED TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**AT BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF LONG ISLAND**

**Long Island, NY (October 2015)** – Big Brothers Big Sisters of Long Island (BBBSLI) has announced the appointment of Michael Capilets to its Board of Directors.

“We’re excited to have Michael Capilets join our Board of Directors. His passion, excitement and business background will be a tremendous asset furthering our agency’s mission,” said Big Brothers Big Sisters of Long Island CEO, Mark Cox. “We believe his experience will be invaluable to us, especially as we expand our services across Long Island.”

Mr. Capilets is a Managing Director at SVAM International, Inc. responsible for strategic planning, market segment identification and evaluation, business strategy development and client negotiations. Additionally, he has overall responsibility for Marketing and Sales. Since joining SVAM in 2003, he and his team have significantly increased sales revenues making SVAM one of the fastest growing entities on the Island.

“For nearly 30 years, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Long Island has helped so many children get positive results in their life through mentoring,” said Michael Capilets. “I am excited about joining the board at this unique moment in time, so I can make my contribution toward helping more children facing adversity. As Fredrick Douglass said, ‘it is easier to build strong children than to repair broken men’.”

Mr. Capilets’ leadership and passion have become hallmarks of his tenure at SVAM. He serves as a leadership coach and mentor to high potential associates in SVAM’s Mentoring Program. Mr. Capilets resides in Smithtown with his wife Barbara and his son Michael Jr.

**About Big Brothers Big Sisters of Long Island**

Incorporated in 1977, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Long Island (BBBSLI) has operated under the belief that inherent in every child is the ability to succeed and shine. BBBSLI makes meaningful, professionally supported matches between adult volunteers (‘Bigs’) and children (‘Littles’). Our mission is to provide children facing adversity with strong and enduring, professionally supported 1-to-1 relationships that change their lives for the better, forever. To learn more about Big Brothers Big Sisters of Long Island, please visit us at [www.bbbsli.org](http://www.bbbsli.org).

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