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PRESS RELEASE: APPOINTMENT OF JIM GAMBLE TO THE BOARD OF PACT

Parents and Abducted Children Together (PACT) are pleased to announce the election to our board of Mr. Jim Gamble QPM, who was until recently Chief Executive Officer of the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Agency (CEOP).

In a long and distinguished career as a police officer, Jim Gamble was the head of Special Branch in Belfast, Northern Ireland, overseeing anti-terrorist intelligence before becoming Deputy Director General of the National Crime Squad in London. In 2006, he was appointed founding CEO of CEOP.

Under his leadership, CEOP rapidly established a national and international reputation as a supremely effective child protection agency. Its innovative, multi-disciplinary approach has brought together expertise from the public, private and voluntary sectors, with the result that millions of children have been educated and protected, thousands of child protection professionals qualified in specialist courses and hundreds of paedophiles arrested and their networks dismantled. During this time Jim also held the child protection lead for the Association of Chief Police Officers on child protection, including child abduction, child trafficking and all aspects of online protection.

PACT's founder, Catherine Meyer, said: "PACT, with its focus on missing and abducted children, has been proud to work closely with Jim Gamble and CEOP for several years. We are therefore delighted that he has now agreed to join our board. He brings with him not only unparalleled expertise and experience, but also a passionate commitment to the child-focussed approach which lies at the heart of PACT's philosophy."

Jim Gamble said "I have always admired the fact that PACT neither seeks or takes money from government, they have a single focus on doing and saying what is right for children. I therefore look forward to working with Lady Catherine and the team as they continue to support others in the field and critical advocacy for the vulnerable, abducted or missing children who have no voice."

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ABOUT PACT:

PACT (Parents and Abducted Children Together) is an international, non-profit organisation, set up to fight parental child abduction across frontiers and registered in the UK and the US. Parental child abduction is still a PACT priority. But the charity has since broadened its mission to include all categories of missing children. Unlike many other charities, PACT does not take government money because of its wish to remain an independent voice.