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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Stamoulis Elected Grand President of Daughters of Penelope

## Born in Athens, Organization's New Leader is an Educator

**WASHINGTON (July 28, 2011)**—The Daughters of Penelope (DOP), a preeminent international women's organization, elected Nicky Stamoulis, Seminole, Fla., Grand President for the 2011-12 administrative year. Elections were held July 22, 2011 at the 89<sup>th</sup> Annual AHEPA Supreme Convention in Miami Beach, Fla.

"It is a great honor to be elected Grand President," said Stamoulis, who is a member of Aeneas Chapter 210, St. Petersburg, Fla. "I look forward to working with the Grand Lodge and the members to take our existing successful programs in education, philanthropy, and social services to greater levels to the benefit of the community."

Stamoulis, a 35-year member of the Daughters of Penelope, has served all major positions at national and regional levels within the organization, including Grand Vice-President (2010-11) and Citrus District 2 Governor for two terms (2003-05). Also, she has served as the DOP national chairperson for the University of Miami Sylvester Comprehensive Center (2005-06), and she was instrumental in the establishment of the St. Petersburg AHEPA/Daughters of Penelope Scholarship Foundation.

"The Daughters of Penelope has been a constant in my life," she added. "I strongly believe in the values and objectives of our Order. I also believe the members are the heartbeat of the organization because of the strength and passion each member possesses."

The newly-elected grand president was born in Athens, Greece and immigrated to Massachusetts before settling in Seminole, Fla. She has a Bachelor of Science degree and Master's Degree in Education. Since moving to Florida 14 years ago, Stamoulis has taught the fourth and fifth grades. She also has a certificate in bilingual education (English and Greek) and has taught Greek School. Stamoulis is married to Charles Stamoulis.

## 2011-12 Daughters of Penelope Grand Lodge

Elected to the Daughters of Penelope Grand Lodge were: Grand Vice President Joanne Saltas, Murray, Utah; Canadian President Christina Andrews, Edmonton, Alberta; Grand Secretary Anna-Helene Panagakos, Brooklyn, N.Y.; Grand Treasurer Demi Thomas, Ridgewood, N.J.; Grand Governor Zone I Cookie Patelos, Albany, N.Y.; Grand Governor Zone II Connie Pilallis, Boca



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Raton, Fla.; Grand Governor Zone III Barbara Maligas, Spring, Texas; Grand Governor Zone IV Cleo Rumpakis, Portland, Ore.; and Maids of Athena Grand Advisor Melva Zinaich, Charleston, S.C.

"Our Grand Lodge has a tremendous amount of experience with our officers having served in all capacities within the organization," said Stamoulis. "We all look forward to traveling the country and visiting communities in the constant effort to fulfill our mission."

Founded in San Francisco in 1929, the Daughters of Penelope is the first women's organization of its kind established in the United States. It is an affiliate organization of the American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association (AHEPA).

The mission of the DOP is to promote the ancient Greek ideals of Hellenism, Education, Philanthropy, Civic Responsibility, and Family and Individual Excellence.

For more information about the DOP, or any of its programs or projects, please visit <a href="https://www.daughtersofpenelope.org">www.daughtersofpenelope.org</a>.