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## Houston adds Rwanda to consular corps

Houston Business Journal

The government of the Republic of Rwanda has opened a consulate in Houston and named Ambassador Cynthia Shepard Perry as honorary consul general.

The new consulate makes Rwanda the 12th African country to be represented in Houston and brings the number of consulates in the city to 89 — the third-largest corps in the United States after New York and Los Angeles.

Ambassador Perry formerly served as ambassador to the African nations of Sierra Leone and Burundi, and from 2001 to 2007 served by presidential appointment as the U.S. executive director of the African Development Bank.

Land-locked Rwanda shares borders with Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Tanzania and Uganda. Its key sector is agriculture, with coffee and tea its principal exports.

“Africa continues to play an important role in Houston’s economy. Having a Rwandan presence in the nation’s fourth-largest city will open new windows of opportunity and strengthen our existing ties,” Ambassador Perry said.

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