

RICHARD J. DURBIN

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AND ADMINISTRATION

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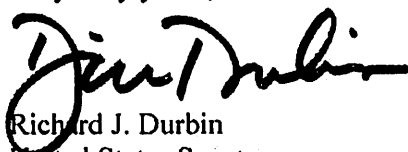
Dear Friends:

It gives me great pleasure to welcome all of you to the Grand Opening of the Art Deco Wola Apartments in Warsaw, Poland. This event would not be happening without the partnership of a number of dedicated organizations and individuals. The architectural firm Kazimierski & Ryba, developer Terra Casa S.A., Chicago-based Polish American Chamber of Commerce, construction contractor STRABAG, and Chicago Sister Cities International all worked hard to develop, create, and promote this extraordinary project. The Art Deco Wola Apartments are a wonderful example of bi-national cooperation and teamwork, and I commend you for all of your hard work and dedication.

In 1960 Warsaw was named Chicago's first sister city, making it the longest standing relationship between Chicago and an international city. It is truly remarkable to see how both cities have grown and changed over the years, but how they continue to work together. Not only were Chicago based Polish Americans instrumental in the completion of the building, but the award-winning design by the architectural firm Kazimierski & Ryba was inspired by the idea of the city sisterhood of Warsaw and Chicago. The distinctive new building, which reflects the finest architectural features of pre-WW II Warsaw and the motifs and architectural styles of art déco in Chicago, is also an excellent example of a successful revitalization of a central city district.

I would like to extend my warmest welcome to all of the new residents of this beautiful building and my congratulations to all those who worked hard to bring this project into being. I wish you the best of luck in your future endeavors.

Very truly yours,



Richard J. Durbin
United States Senator