



Mr Sheriff Richard Sermon MBE
Sheriff of the City of London 2010/2011

Mr Richard Sermon took office as Sheriff of the City of London on the 28th September 2010. As one of the two Sheriffs elected annually into this ancient office, which dates back to the 7th century, Richard Sermon shares responsibility for the smooth running of the Central Criminal Court at the Old Bailey and for the provision of facilities there for HM Judges to administer justice. His duties also include presiding at the annual election of the Lord Mayor and in supporting the Lord Mayor directly on many visits and official functions which he undertakes throughout his year of office, both at home and overseas.

Mr Sheriff Sermon was educated at Nottingham High School and subsequently qualified as a Chartered Secretary. He began his career with Crest Hotels and in 1979 co-founded Shandwick Consultants in the City of London, later becoming Chief Executive of Shandwick International; over a 17 year period he helped to build a global market-leading public relations business. In 1996 he formed his own consultancy practice, Gryphon Corporate Counsel. He has particular expertise in the fields of financial communications, reputation management, corporate governance and the promotion of inward investment and international trade. He has managed businesses in the UK and throughout Europe and worked with banking, corporate and governmental clients in the USA, Africa, China, India, Japan, Kazakhstan and Russia.

Mr Sheriff Sermon has served as an executive and non-executive Director of both FTSE listed and private companies; he is currently a non-executive member of the Management Board of the UK Defence Academy and a Visiting Professor in Corporate Governance at Cass Business School. He is Chairman of the Home Improvement Trust and Joint Honorary Secretary of the City and Guilds of London Institute. He is also a Vice President of Providence Row and after 12 years as Chairman of London Youth received an MBE in 2010 for services to young people.

Mr Sheriff Sermon was apprenticed as a Wheelwright, and served as Master of both the Wheelwrights' Company in 2000/1 and of the Chartered Secretaries' and Administrators' Company in 2006/7. He is a Governor of the City of London School for Girls, a Board Member of the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI) and a Churchwarden of St Mary-at-Hill. He is a member of the Royal Society of St George, the City of London Club, the City Livery Club, the Walbrook Club and the Ward Club of Cheap.

Mr Sheriff Sermon and his wife Rosemary have been married for 40 years. They have an adult son and daughter and two grandsons. They live in the Barbican and at Aynho in Northamptonshire.

28th September 2010