



For Immediate Release
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Williams Named as Director of ICC's Office of Diversity and Community Affairs

CHICAGO – The Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) has appointed Lisa G. Williams as the Commission's director of its Office of Diversity and Community Affairs.

Williams brings to the ICC many years of diversity experience in state government including service with the Illinois State Toll Highway Authority and the Illinois Attorney General's Office.

"We are excited to have Lisa lead our efforts to partner with utilities, advocates and other stakeholders to increase supplier diversity among our partners in the energy and utilities fields here in Illinois," said ICC Chairman Brien Sheahan.

During her tenure with the Illinois State Toll Highway Authority, Williams served as the head of workforce diversity as well as its EEO Officer, ADA Coordinator, and Ethics Officer. She was honored with multiple awards for her accomplishments on behalf of employees and applicants with disabilities and outstanding employment outreach.

Williams also worked as an Assistant Attorney General in the Civil Rights Bureau of the Illinois Attorney General's Office for seven years managing the bureau's civil rights investigations and litigation, conducting community "Know Your Rights" educational sessions, and supervising a team of attorneys and law clerks.

Williams was also selected as one of the Chicago Defender's Women of Excellence and she has served in leadership roles on several boards and committees, including the Chicago Bar Association and the National Employment Lawyers Association of Illinois.

Williams replaces Danisha Hall, who was recently promoted to External Affairs Bureau Chief for the ICC.

"I am thrilled and honored to have this role leading the ICC's Office of Diversity and Community Affairs and I am anxious to meet the rest of the staff," Williams said. "Danisha Hall is clearly highly respected for the work she has begun and I am humbled to try to succeed her. I look forward to diving into the important work of promoting diversity and inclusion, helping to increase the participation of minority, women, and veteran-owned businesses in utility procurements, and educating communities on the resources of the ICC."

The ICC's Office of Diversity and Community Affairs is charged with assisting the ICC in its commitment to greater access to utility procurement contracts for women-owned, minority-owned, veteran-owned and small

businesses under state law. The office is developing and maintaining internal and external diversity and inclusion initiatives, including working to improve the ICC's own culture of diversity.

Williams was raised on Chicago's South Side in Hyde Park and attended the University of Chicago Laboratory Schools. She attended the University of Michigan (B.A., political science), the University of Illinois School of Law (J.D.), and completed the coursework required for an A.B. at the University of Illinois School of Labor and Employment Relations."

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About the Illinois Commerce Commission

The Illinois Commerce Commission's mission is to pursue an appropriate balance between the interests of consumers and existing and emerging service providers to ensure the provision of adequate, efficient, reliable, safe and least-cost public utility services. The Commission pursues this mission through three bureaus: The Bureau of External Affairs, which provides educational information on utility issues for consumers, governmental entities and communities and through its Consumer Services Division, resolves customer/utility disputes and develops rules on utility service and consumer protection; the Public Utilities Bureau, which focuses on financial and operational analysis, policy development, public safety and enforcement activities related to electric, natural gas, water, sewer and telecommunications companies; and the Transportation Bureau, which includes trucking insurance and registration, railroad safety, relocation towing, safety towing and household goods moving company enforcement activities. The ICC's five commissioners are appointed by the Governor and approved by the Illinois State Senate for five-year terms.