



Matthew G. Bevin
Governor

Charles G. Snavely
Secretary
Energy and Environment Cabinet

Commonwealth of Kentucky
Public Service Commission
211 Sower Blvd.
P.O. Box 615
Frankfort, Kentucky 40602-0615
Telephone: (502) 564-3940
Fax: (502) 564-3460
psc.ky.gov

Michael J. Schmitt
Chairman

Robert Cicero
Vice Chairman

Talina R. Mathews
Commissioner

NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Andrew Melnykovich
502-782-2564 or 502-564-3940
502-330-5981 (cell)
Andrew.Melnykovich@ky.gov

Gwen R. Pinson Named as PSC Executive Director *Formerly with Office of General Counsel in Finance and Administration Cabinet*

FRANKFORT, Ky. (Oct. 2, 2017) – The Kentucky Public Service Commission (PSC) has named Gwen R. Pinson as its executive director.

Before coming to the PSC, Pinson was the executive director of the Office of General Counsel in the Finance and Administration Cabinet.

She succeeds Talina Mathews, who in July was named to serve as a PSC commissioner by Gov. Matt Bevin. Pinson joins the PSC's staff today.

"My fellow commissioners and I feel fortunate to have someone with Gwen's experience and ability to direct the PSC's day-to-day operations," PSC Chairman Michael Schmitt said. "Her educational background in accounting and the law and her prior work in both government and the private sector have prepared her well for the responsibilities of her new position."

"I am proud that the commissioners have entrusted me with the responsibility of leading the PSC staff, which continues to live up to its reputation for professionalism and excellence despite facing both operational issues and difficult regulatory decisions," Pinson said.

"This is a challenging time to be in state government," she said. "But the work of the PSC touches nearly every citizen in Kentucky, so this agency must continue to function effectively and efficiently."

A native of eastern Kentucky, Pinson earned a Bachelor of Business Administration, *summa cum laude*, in accounting from Morehead State University. She received a Juris Doctorate from the University of Kentucky College of Law, where she graduated first in her class.

Pinson practiced law in the litigation departments of Stoll Keenon Ogden PLLC and Dinsmore & Shohl LLP in Lexington, Kentucky. She also served in the Office of General Counsel in the Finance and Administration Cabinet during the administration of Gov. Ernie Fletcher.

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In 2014, Pinson became Director of Operations for Jobs for Kentucky's Graduates, Inc., the state affiliate of Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG). A national non-profit organization, JAG helps underserved students overcome obstacles to graduation and career success by offering a broad range of support services.

Pinson returned to state government in December 2015, once again becoming general counsel for the Finance and Administration Cabinet.

Pinson is active in her community, serving on the board of directors for the Foster Care Council of LexKy and the board of the University of Kentucky College of Law Alumni Association. Pinson previously served as chair of the Internal Audit Board of the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government.

The PSC is an independent agency attached for administrative purposes to the Energy and Environment Cabinet. It regulates more than 1,500 gas, water, sewer, electric and telecommunication utilities operating in Kentucky.

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