



NATIONAL LIEUTENANT GOVERNORS ASSOCIATION

NLGA Members Bio Book (*Lieutenant Governors and Seconds-in-Command of the States and Territories*)

As of February 2026

ALABAMA

Lt. Governor Will Ainsworth



Lieutenant Governor Will Ainsworth is a father, husband, and small business owner from Marshall County.

Prior to entering public service, he worked as a youth pastor at Albertville's Grace Fellowship Church and was a co-founder of Dream Ranch, one of the most recognized hunting and fishing lodges in the United States.

He currently operates the annual Tennessee Valley Hunting and Fishing Expo, which draws more than 20,000 attendees each year.

In 2014, Lt. Gov. Ainsworth felt the call to serve his community through elected office and won a seat in the Alabama House of Representatives, where he was a champion of public education, farming, and family values issues.

Keeping a self-imposed legislative term limit promise, Ainsworth declared his candidacy for lieutenant governor in 2018 and received the most votes of any candidate for constitutional office on the general election ballot.

Ainsworth, who is committed to providing quality public education to Alabama's schoolchildren, is a strong supporter of the state's nationally-recognized "First Class" prekindergarten program, which provides young learners with the skills and foundational knowledge necessary to excel in their K – 12 education.

Focusing his efforts as lieutenant governor on improving workforce development so that Alabamians may fill and retain long-lasting, well-paying, 21st Century jobs, he also works to promote policies that allow both new and existing industries to expand in Alabama.

Ainsworth was elected as national chairman of the Aerospace States Association and is a member of the Alabama Workforce Council. He also heads the Lieutenant Governor's Small Business Commission and the Lieutenant Governor's Commission on a 21st Century Workforce.

ALASKA

Lt. Governor Nancy Dahlstrom



Nancy Dahlstrom is the 15th lieutenant governor for the State of Alaska.

Dahlstrom was born in Baltimore Maryland. Her family moved to Utah where she was raised and graduated from high school. After high school she moved to Alaska for the summer, where she has remained – Alaska is her chosen home. Dahlstrom attended Wayland Baptist University where she earned a degree in human services. She would go onto earning her Master's from the University of LaVerne. She previously served as a Republican member of the Alaska House of Representatives, representing the 18th and 13th districts.

Dahlstrom served in the Alaska House of Representatives from 2003-2010. She was later appointed as senior military affairs advisor for the governor from 2010-2018 and served as Commissioner of the Alaska Department of Corrections from 2018-2020. Dahlstrom was serving as Co-Chair of the Armed Services Committee, Vice-Chair of the Judiciary Committee and the Legislative Budget & Audit Committee, and was a member of the Economic Development, Trade & Tourism Special Committee and the Energy Special Committee. She also served on the Environmental Conservation, Health & Social Services, Military & Veterans' Affairs and the Public Safety Finance Subcommittees, for the 26th Legislature. She spoke publicly while campaigning about reducing crime, both in her district and in the entire state of Alaska. She was elected back to the state house in 2018 but chose not to be seated, instead accepted the position of Commissioner for the Department of Corrections.

Lt. Governor Dahlstrom has a husband: Kit and four children and eleven grandchildren. Nancy Dahlstrom graduated from the Skyview High School, Smithfield, Utah in 1975, received her Associate of Science in 1992 and her Bachelor of Science in 1994 for Human Services and Business from Wayland Baptist University, and received her Master's degree in Organization Management and Human Resource from University of LaVerne in 1997.

AMERICAN SAMOA

Lt. Governor Eleasalo Pulu Ae Ae Jr.



High Chief Pulu Ae Ae Jr. has been happily married to Titilupe Ae for 54 years. Together they have 8 children whom they've raised in the church, strong in Samoan cultural values of fa'aaloalo (respect), alofa (love) and fa'amalosi (strength). While deeply rooted in tradition and culture, the Ae family values their privacy and maintains a modest profile, choosing to let their actions speak louder than words. Pulu Ae was born and raised most of his life in the village of Pago Pago, and only left when he joined the United States Army for better educational opportunities for his children.

Pulu Ae Ae Jr. is a dedicated Army veteran, with a steadfast commitment to serving the people of American Samoa. With 20 years of honorable service to our country he brings a unique blend of leadership, integrity, and deep understanding of duty to public office.

While in the military, Pulu Ae served numerous tours of duty during the Operation Desert Storm (1990-1991) in Iraq and Kuwait, where he demonstrated unparalleled bravery and resilience in the face of adversity. These trying missions have prepared him for a time such as now, where as the need for brave leaders with strong moral and ethical conviction will stand up and take lead for an HONEST GOVERNMENT.

Following his military career Pulu Ae returned to American Samoa and continued his dedication to public service. Pulu Ae's career began from a grassroots level building relationships while gaining support and understanding from local issues. Pulu Ae's first public office held was serving as Pulenu'u /Mayor of Pago Pago for 5 years. He steadily climbed the political ladder, earning the trust and support of constituents every step of the way. Pulu immediately became known as a man of action and integrity in the village of Pago Pago which secured him an opportunity to run and win the Faipule/House of Representative seat for the village of Pago Pago. He would remain into the House of Representative for 10 years serving the village of his people. He quickly garnered the island wide reputation as a "straight shooter" a man of his word, who was for the people and only feared God.

Pulu Ae's time served as Faipule/House of Representative was not a walk in the park as he openly challenged and sought transparency and accountability from his colleagues in the House of Representative and Senate to make sure that the people he represented were being heard. Driven by the desire to make a difference Pulu Ae was given the opportunity to represent all of American Samoa being hired federally as the Director for the office of Congresswoman Uifa'atali Amata Radewagen in American Samoa, where he served faithfully for 10 years. He continued to champion and being an advocate for all the constituents of American Samoa and tackled tough issues head-on both locally and federally.

Being in this position Pulu heard the mounting issues of the public, which brought him to leave his federal position and serve the people of American Samoa as gubernatorial candidate Lt. Governor along side Pula'alii Nikolao Pula gubernatorial candidate for Governor.

Now, as a candidate running with Pula'alii Nikolao Pula, Pulu Ae brings a wealth of experience and a deep understanding of the needs and concerns of the community. A honest fresh perspective, a clear vision for the future, and a commitment to offering HOPE. With his strong foundation built on integrity, resilience, and genuine passion for public service, Pulu Ae is poised to continue to serve, especially when being called by God.

ARIZONA

Secretary of State Adrian Fontes



In 2022, Adrian Fontes was elected as Arizona's 21st Secretary of State. Secretary Fontes is a proud Arizona native, an honorable veteran of the United States Marine Corps, and the father of three daughters, who has spent a lifetime fighting for justice and defending our Democracy.

Secretary Fontes served on active duty from 1992 to 1996 and was nominated for a meritorious commission. His service to our country taught him the importance of dedication, discipline, and sacrifice to forcefully fight for the American dream.

After graduating from law school, Secretary Fontes spent his career advocating for justice and fighting for those who are disadvantaged — first as a prosecutor with the Denver District Attorney and then at the Maricopa County Attorney's office. He later led the International Prosecution Unit at the Arizona Attorney General's Office. He practiced law for 15 years before running for office in 2016 when he

was elected Maricopa County Recorder.

As Recorder, Secretary Fontes revolutionized the election system by ensuring that every eligible Arizonan had the access they needed to vote. Adrian enhanced ballot tracking technology and increased process transparency, winning recognition and awards from election organizations across the country.

In 2020, at the height of the Covid-19 crisis and amidst violent protests, Maricopa County saw record voter turnout, as well as record numbers of new voters registered for both parties. Secretary Fontes later testified before Congress to inform them of threats facing election officials.

Secretary Fontes is committed to preserving integrity in our elections, making voting easier for registered voters, and ensuring that Arizona's business community has a non-partisan partner in the Secretary's office.

ARKANSAS

Lt. Governor Leslie Rutledge



Leslie Carol Rutledge was sworn in on January 10, 2023 as Arkansas's 21st Lieutenant Governor and the first woman to ever hold the State's second-highest office. Rutledge previously served two-terms as the 56th Attorney General of Arkansas from 2015-2023. She was also the first woman and first Republican elected to the office of Attorney General.

A seventh-generation Arkansan, Rutledge grew up on a cattle farm and attended school at the Southside School District in Independence County. From her mother, an elementary school teacher, and her father, a lawyer and a judge, Rutledge learned the importance of hard work and service. Rutledge is an Arkansas lawyer who has spent her career serving the public.

She graduated from the University of Arkansas and the University of Arkansas at Little Rock William H. Bowen School of Law. Rutledge is admitted to practice law in Arkansas, Washington D.C., and before the U.S. Supreme Court.

Rutledge's career in public service includes being a judicial clerk for Arkansas Supreme Court Justice Josephine Hart, Deputy Counsel in the Office of Governor Mike Huckabee, Deputy Prosecuting Attorney in Lonoke County, and Attorney for Arkansas's Division of Children and Family Services.

Rutledge was Deputy Counsel for the Mike Huckabee for President 2008 campaign, Deputy Counsel at the National Republican Congressional Committee and Counsel for the Republican National Committee during the 2012 Presidential campaign.

Over the years, her civic service has extended to community organizations including the Junior League, Alpha Delta Pi Alumni, National Rifle Association, Federalist Society, Women in Networking in Central Arkansas and the Republican National Lawyers Association.

Rutledge and her husband, Boyce, have one daughter. The family has a home in Pulaski County and farms in Crittenden County and Independence County.

CALIFORNIA

Lt. Governor Eleni Kounalakis



Ambassador Eleni Kounalakis was sworn in as the 50th Lieutenant Governor of California by Governor Gavin Newsom on January 7th, 2019. She is the first woman elected Lt. Governor of California. A native Californian, she visited each of the state's 58 counties during her historic campaign. In addition to her duties as Lt. Governor, Kounalakis is California's Representative for International Affairs and Trade, appointed by Governor Gavin Newsom by executive order.

From 2010 to 2013, Kounalakis served as President Barack Obama's Ambassador to the Republic of Hungary. Kounalakis was the first Greek-American woman – and at age 43 one of America's youngest – to serve as U.S. Ambassador. Her highly acclaimed memoir, "Madam Ambassador, Three Years of Diplomacy, Dinner Parties and Democracy in Budapest" (The New Press, 2015), chronicles the onset of Hungary's democratic backsliding.

Governor Jerry Brown appointed Kounalakis to chair the California Advisory Council for International Trade and Investment in 2014. Kounalakis was a Virtual Fellow at the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Intelligence and Research (INR) between 2014 and 2017, specializing in international trade and immigration. She is currently a director of the Association of American Ambassadors and a National Democratic Institute (NDI) "Ambassadors Circle" advisor.

Prior to her public service, Kounalakis was president of one of California's most respected housing development firms, AKT Development, where she worked for 18 years. She built master-planned communities and delivered quality housing to the Sacramento region's working families – recognizing her as one of the capital region's most prominent businesswomen. Passionate about early childhood development, Kounalakis served as a member of California's First 5 Commission and the California Blue Ribbon Commission on Autism.

Eleni Kounalakis graduated from Dartmouth College in 1989 and earned her Masters in Business Administration (MBA) from U.C. Berkeley's Haas School of Business in 1992. She holds an Honorary Doctorate of Laws from the American College of Greece. She is married to Dr. Markos Kounalakis and the couple has two teenage sons, Neo and Eon.

COLORADO

Lt. Governor Dianne Primavera



Dianne Primavera is a leading patient advocate who has spent three decades fighting for every Coloradan's access to quality, affordable health care.

As a young mom in 1988, Dianne was diagnosed with breast cancer. Her doctor told her that she had, at most, five years to live. Since her first diagnosis, Dianne has fought cancer four times and survived. Her personal battle with cancer inspired her to make it her life's work to ensure every Coloradan has access to the health care they need when they need it.

In 1990, Dianne joined the Rocky Mountain Regional Brain Injury Center, where her work focused on helping individuals dealing with serious injuries recover and resume dignified, fulfilling lives. Since then, she's held many prominent positions throughout the public and nonprofit sectors devoted to furthering life-saving medical research and connecting Coloradans who experience illness with the treatment they need to recover.

In 2006, Dianne was elected to the first of four terms in the State Legislature, representing Broomfield, Superior, and parts of Erie. Throughout her service, Dianne was highly regarded for her success working across the aisle to promote Colorado small businesses, lower prescription drug costs, and expand access to affordable health care.

Most recently, Dianne served as the CEO of Susan G. Komen Colorado, one of the largest organizations in the country dedicated to breast cancer prevention, treatment, research, and education.

Dianne is a lifelong Coloradan and a Broomfield resident. She has two adult daughters and a one-year-old granddaughter, Kailani. Dianne is also an avid country dancer — taking after her dad, who was a dedicated ballroom dancer throughout his life, even on his 95th birthday.

CONNECTICUT

Lt. Governor Susan Bysiewicz



Sworn in on January 9, 2019, Susan Bysiewicz is serving her first term as Connecticut's 109th Lieutenant Governor.

Lt. Gov. Bysiewicz's and Gov. Ned Lamont's first priority is to grow good-paying jobs and investing in the state's future.

Lt. Gov. Bysiewicz is continuing her commitment to economic growth that made her a leading voice for Connecticut residents and small businesses while she served as Secretary of the State from 1999 to 2011. As Secretary of the State, she helped thousands of businesses grow, registered thousands of voters, cut bureaucratic red tape, honored veterans, and fought to keep elections fair.

As a state representative in the Connecticut General Assembly, representing the towns of Middletown, Middlefield, and Durham, Bysiewicz wrote legislation to ban dangerous "drive-through" mastectomies and ensure that women being treated for breast cancer had proper care. She also fought political patronage and wrote the law to ban lobbyists from giving gifts to legislators.

As a business lawyer and a job creator, she has helped over sixty companies access millions of dollars in capital, expand their businesses, and create thousands of jobs in Connecticut.

Lt. Gov. Bysiewicz was raised the proud granddaughter of immigrants who came to Connecticut from Poland and Greece with nothing but hopes for a better future. After many years of factory work, they saved enough to buy a farm in Middletown that became Bysiewicz's childhood home. Growing up and working on the farm, she and her siblings learned the values of hard work, education, and persistence.

Lt. Gov. Bysiewicz graduated from Middletown High School, Yale University and Duke Law School. She is the author of *Ella: A Biography of Ella Grasso*, Connecticut's 83rd governor.

Bysiewicz and her husband David Donaldson reside in Middletown.

DELAWARE

Lt. Governor Kyle Evans Gay



Kyle is a mom, an advocate, an attorney, a State Senator, and the Lt. Governor of Delaware. She ran for public office to advocate for kids and families, improve seniors' quality of life, and fight for equality and prosperity for all Delawareans, and she looks forward to continuing that work in this administration.

Lt Governor Kyle Evans Gay earned a bachelor's degree in international relations and history from Brown University and a law degree from Boston University. Lt Governor Gay began her professional career as a deputy attorney general in the Delaware Department of Justice before clerking in Delaware Superior Court. She has worked in private practice representing clients in Delaware's business courts since 2014. She also practices pro bono on behalf of children in foster care.

Lt Governor Gay has volunteered with several Delaware nonprofits, led multiple professional and civic organizations and served on Delaware's Public Integrity Commission. She also is a past President of the Junior League of Wilmington and currently serves on the board of the Delaware Bar Foundation.

Public service has been at the center of her work long before Lt Governor Gay ever held public office. Her professional life has been rooted in advocacy for equity and justice, and she's seen up close the direct impacts of state policies and legislation on communities across out state. She is ready to get to work and hopes you'll share your vision of Delaware!

Florida

Lt. Governor Jay Collins



Lieutenant Governor (LG) Collins is a highly decorated Army Special Forces combat veteran who sustained a number of debilitating injuries that led to the loss of his leg. Remarkably, he continued to serve five additional years as a Green Beret post-amputation, ultimately retiring after more than 23 years of service. Following his military service, LG Collins took a position with Operation BBQ Relief, overseeing the distribution of millions of meals to Americans following natural disasters and helping veterans and their families by creating culinary delights together. Through his nonprofit work across the country, LG Collins heard the concerns of Americans. Americans who agree that they want their families to succeed, their children to have better lives than they did, and to improve the quality of life in their communities. With this in mind, the LG took the chance and

answered the call to public service by running for Florida State Senate in District 14.

During his tenure as a Florida State Senator, he distinguished himself through strategic leadership and legislative impact. As Chairman of the Agricultural and Transportation Committees, he championed infrastructure initiatives vital to Florida's economic connections across tourism, agriculture, and supported our state's farming industry by banning cultivated meats and protecting farmlands from criminal intent. LG Collins authored and passed over 55 pieces of legislation and secured more than \$120 million in funding to uplift the Tampa Bay region, support Florida's First Responders and Veterans, and invest in premier educational institutions. His proven record of results and vision for Florida's future culminated in his appointment as the 21st Lieutenant Governor of the State of Florida.

A committed family man, LG Collins is married to his wife of 25 years Layla, a retired Veteran with 20 years of service in her own right, and a father to two young sons, Gabe and Colt. As a family they rescued their pup Tucker, attend Grace Family Church, and strive to leave things better than they got it.

On August 12, 2025, Governor Ron DeSantis appointed Collins Lieutenant Governor.

GEORGIA

Lt. Governor Burt Jones



Burt Jones is a successful businessman, community leader, former State Senator and the 13th Lieutenant Governor of the state of Georgia. Burt has a proven record of creating jobs, growing a successful business, and delivering results for Georgia families. A sixth-generation Jackson native, Burt works with his family's business, Jones Petroleum, where he has served as an integral part of growing the diverse, multi-faceted company, employing nearly 2,000 Georgians. Burt also founded JP Capital & Insurance, Inc., a risk-management company specializing in retail insurance brokerage. Through hard work and dedication, Burt built this start-up agency into an established insurance brokerage house founded on dedication, professionalism, and client service.

Before his business career, Burt was a student-athlete and a four-year letterman for the University of Georgia football team. As a former walk-on, Senator Jones was elected by his teammates as permanent team captain for the 2002 season, helping guide the team to its first SEC Championship in 20 years. In 2014, UGA named Burt a Distinguished Alumni and named him to its "40 Under 40" list.

Answering a call to service, Burt was elected to the State Senate for Georgia's 25th District in 2012. During his time in the State Senate, Burt delivered significant wins for his district, including the creation of hundreds of new jobs, two new rural hospitals, and helping grow educational opportunities with 8 career and technical colleges. Burt's successful campaign for Lieutenant Governor focused on lowering taxes, improving our K-12 and higher education system, standing with law enforcement to strengthen public safety, and create more opportunities for every family in Georgia to succeed—all things he will work to accomplish as our next Lieutenant Governor.

Burt lives in Jackson with his wife, Jan, and their two children, Stella and Banks, where they are active members of Rock Springs Church.

GUAM

Lt. Governor Josh Tenorio



Joshua Franquez Tenorio is the 10th elected Lieutenant Governor of Guam. He lives in Talofofo and was raised in Sinajãña by his parents, the late Jesus Atoigue Tenorio and Therese Taitano Franquez Tenorio. His late grandfather Jose Cruz Franquez is his role model.

Lieutenant Governor Tenorio graduated from the Guam Community College Vocational High School. He served as Speaker of the 17th Guam Youth Congress and earned a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and History from the University of Guam. He is a Fellow of the Institute for Court Management at the National Center for State Courts and is a certified court manager and executive.

Tenorio began his government service as a Caseworker and Legislative Assistant to Congressman Robert A. Underwood in the U.S. House of Representatives. Upon returning to Guam, he served as Deputy Chief of Staff to Governor Carl T.C. Gutierrez, concurrently serving as Director of the Bureau of Planning and later as Deputy Director of the Bureau of Budget Management & Research. He led disaster response and recovery efforts as the Governor's Authorized Representative to the Federal Emergency Management Agency for Typhoons Paka, Chata'an, Pongsona and the 2001 earthquake.

In the Guam Legislature, Tenorio served as Chief of Staff to Senator Randy Cunliffe and Speaker Benjamin J.F. Cruz. As Administrator of the Courts, Tenorio led efforts to improve the criminal and juvenile justice systems, expand drug courts and language access programs, and upgrade law enforcement training standards for the marshals and probation services.

He brings experience in Guam's construction, media, and automobile industries, having served most recently as Vice President of Guam Autospot. He is a former member of the Guam Contractors Association. Lieutenant Governor Tenorio is the past Chairman of the Guam Preservation Trust, Guam Historic Preservation Review Board, Department of Chamorro Affairs Board of Trustees, Pa'a Taotao Tano, and Films by Youth Inside. He has served on the Guam Election Commission, Sinajãña Municipal Planning Council, and has also served as Executive Director of the Democratic Party of Guam, and Campaign Manager of the 2008 Obama for America Guam Campaign. Lieutenant Governor Tenorio is an active volunteer on the Guam-CNMI Committee for Employers Support of the Guard and Reserve and is a charter member of the Talofofo Ranger Lions Club.

HAWAII

Lt. Governor Sylvia Luke



Lieutenant Governor Sylvia Luke is the 16th Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, the third woman to hold the office, and the highest-ranking Korean American official in a U.S. statewide position.

Born in Seoul, South Korea, she immigrated to Honolulu at the age of nine with her family. She attended Queen Ka'ahumanu Elementary School, where she learned English with the help of her 5th-grade teacher. She later graduated from Roosevelt High School and the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, where she served as one of the few female presidents of the Associated Students of the University of Hawai'i, marking her introduction to public service. Following her undergraduate degree, she continued her education at the University of San Francisco School of Law.

Sylvia was first elected to the Hawai'i State Legislature in 1998, where she served until 2022. During her twenty-four-year tenure in the State House, she had many roles, most notably as Chair of the Finance Committee, where she developed a reputation for bringing transparency and accountability to the state budget for over a decade.

Sylvia has long supported gender equity, civil rights, and assistance for seniors and immigrants. As Finance Chair, she played a crucial role in securing essential funding for criminal justice reform for female inmates, tax equity for working families, domestic violence survivor services, and care for the aging population.

Throughout her career in public service, Sylvia has been recognized for her advocacy and leadership by many organizations, including Hawaii Women Lawyers, Healthcare Association of Hawaii, Hawaii Technology Trade Association, Korean American Coalition, AARP Hawaii, Hawai'i Farm Bureau, Friends of the Library of Hawaii, and Humane Society of the United States.

As lieutenant governor, Sylvia leads Ready Keiki, the state's initiative to ensure universal access to preschool for all 3- and 4-year-olds. She also oversees Connect Kākou, Hawai'i's statewide effort to expand access to reliable and affordable high-speed internet.

Sylvia is a wife, mother, dog mom, and former practicing attorney in Honolulu.

IDAHO

Lt. Governor Scott Bedke



The people of Idaho elected Scott Bedke as the state's 44th Lieutenant Governor in November 2022. He officially took office on January 6, 2023.

Scott is a proud Idaho native and a 4th generation cattle rancher. Born in Twin Falls and a graduate of Oakley High School, Scott's Gem State heritage stretches back even farther to the 1870s, when his great grandfather homesteaded in the Oakley Basin. After earning his Bachelor of Science in Finance from Brigham Young University in 1981, Scott returned to his hometown where he was later elected to serve on Oakley's City Council.

That first step into public service ignited Scott's passion for working with and for his community. It was in 2000 that Scott was elected as a Representative of

District 27 to be a voice for the citizens of Cassia and Minidoka Counties. During his 11 terms in the Idaho State House, Scott served on the Joint Finance & Appropriations Committee, the Revenue & Taxation Committee, the Resources & Conservation Committee, and the Transportation & Defense Committee. He also chaired the Economic Outlook & Revenue Assessment Committee and served on the Credit Rating Enhancement Committee.

In 2012, Scott was elected as the 41st Speaker of the House, a role that he held with such sensibility and civility that he became the longest-serving Speaker in Idaho's history. Scott is proud to have been directly involved in setting policies that make Idaho what it is today.

Scott has been happily married to his wife, Sarah, for 45 years. Together the two are trying to keep up with their four children and 16 grandchildren. The 5th and 6th generations of Bedkes in Idaho are a big reason why Scott decided to run for Lt. Governor, to protect Idaho's future and to give back to the state that has given his family so very much.

Scott is committed to maintaining the Idaho Way. While this includes a pledge for a limited government, a quality education for every student, and a plan for our state's water supply, it also means keeping the values that matter most, like being a good neighbor, at the forefront.

ILLINOIS

Lt. Governor Juliana Stratton



Lieutenant Governor Juliana Stratton is excited to serve Illinois as the state's 48th Lieutenant Governor. In this role, her portfolio includes leading the Justice, Equity and Opportunity Initiative, and chairing the Illinois Council on Women and Girls, the Governor's Rural Affairs Council, the Military Economic Development Council and the Illinois River Coordinating Council. Lieutenant Governor Stratton currently serves on the Executive Committee of the National Lieutenant Governors Association as Midwest Member-At-Large. Previously, she represented the 5th District in the Illinois House of Representatives and her first elected office was serving as Chair of the Kenwood Academy Local School Council.

Lieutenant Governor Stratton's entire career has focused on bringing people together, building consensus, and solving problems. She started her own consulting firm focused on alternative dispute resolution and served as a mediator, arbitrator and administrative law judge for several government agencies. Lieutenant Governor Stratton previously served as Director of the Center for Public Safety and Justice at the University of Illinois at Chicago, Executive Director of the Cook County Justice Advisory Council, and as a Deputy Hearing Commissioner for the

City of Chicago Department of Business Affairs & Consumer Protection, all with a focus on improving public safety and building stronger communities.

As a lifelong advocate for youth and creating safe spaces for our young people, Lieutenant Governor Stratton is a restorative justice practitioner and trained peace circle keeper. She was also a founding board member of the Chicago Children's Advocacy Center and served on the Board of Directors of the Juvenile Protective Association.

Lieutenant Governor Stratton was born and raised on the South Side of Chicago. She is the proud graduate of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and DePaul University's College of Law. She and her husband Bryan live in the Bronzeville community and have four daughters. And when she can find a bit of free time, she enjoys going to concerts, a good documentary, and training for marathons and triathlons.

INDIANA

Lt. Governor Micah Beckwith



Micah Beckwith is committed to being a voice for the people of Indiana. He is not a career politician or a political insider—he is a true Hoosier who prioritizes people over politics. His story is one of hard work, determination, and a deep commitment to serving his community.

From a young age, Beckwith learned the value of a strong work ethic by working alongside his father in the dairy industry. Over the next decade, he immersed himself in the agricultural business, gaining invaluable experience and taking on the challenges of the industry firsthand. He earned a Bachelor's degree in Business and Economics from Huntington University, which provided the foundation for his entrepreneurial journey.

As a small business owner, Beckwith understands the daily challenges of job creation, meeting payroll, and navigating complex government regulations. His firsthand experience in business has shaped his commitment to helping Hoosiers succeed in a competitive economy.

For over 15 years, he has served in Hamilton County as a Worship Pastor and Campus Pastor, further deepening his passion for helping individuals unlock their God-given potential.

Beyond his work in ministry, Beckwith has been actively involved in Indiana's conservative movement. He has served as the Executive Director of the Indiana Family Action PAC, Indiana State Chairman for U.S. Term Limits, and Executive Director of the Hoosier Leadership Series. He also co-founded the Indiana Coalition Conservatives to strengthen the state's conservative foundation and ensure that Hoosiers remain rooted in the values that matter most.

His mission is to make Indiana a model for conservative governance—a state where every Hoosier can thrive. Whether it's lowering taxes, demanding accountability, defending Constitutional rights, or pushing back against progressive policies, he remains a steadfast advocate for the people.

In his role, he oversees Indiana's \$35 billion agricultural industry and leads the Office of Community and Rural Affairs. He is dedicated to supporting farmers, preserving farmland, and strengthening the rural economy through the Indiana Grown initiatives. As a strong voice for rural communities, he ensures they receive the attention and resources they deserve at the State House.

Above all, Beckwith is a devoted husband and father. He and his wife, Susan, live in Hamilton County with their two children. Together, they are dedicated to building a brighter future for all Hoosiers.

IOWA

Lt. Governor Chris Cournoyer



Chris Gearhart Cournoyer is the 48th Lieutenant Governor of Iowa. Before being appointed by Governor Kim Reynolds in December of 2024, she represented Clinton, Jackson, and Scott counties in the Iowa State Senate. First elected in 2018, she chaired the inaugural Technology committee, from which position she wrote and managed the legislation that made Iowa the sixth state in the nation to protect consumer data in law. She was also Chair of the Education Budget Committee, Vice Chair of the State Government committee and sat on the Education, Natural Resources and Environment, Transportation, and Ways and Means committees.

Lt. Governor Cournoyer has extensive experience in the technology sector and artificial intelligence. The daughter of an engineer and a teacher, she worked as a senior consultant in the Technology Division at Andersen Consulting, the Fortune 500 firm that later became Accenture. After having her first child, she left the corporate world to become an entrepreneur, starting a successful business as an independent website designer and developer. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Computer Science from the University of Texas.

Her entry into public service came when she was elected to her first of two terms on her local school board, which she went on to lead as President. As a member of the Governor's STEM Advisory Council, as well as a former member of the Quad Cities Engineering and Science Council, she is passionate about reaching underserved children through work-based learning and STEM education. She has maintained a personal connection to the classroom as a robotics and coding teacher and remains an active substitute teacher in her community.

Lieutenant Governor Cournoyer is a former reserve Sheriff's Deputy in Scott County, an avid local volunteer, and a proud mother of four.

KANSAS

Lt. Governor David Toland



David Toland was sworn in as Lieutenant Governor of Kansas on January 4, 2021.

David Toland is the 52nd Lieutenant Governor of the State of Kansas and also serves as Secretary of the Kansas Department of Commerce. A seventh-generation Kansan, Toland was appointed Secretary of Commerce by Governor Laura Kelly in January 2019 and Lieutenant Governor in January 2021.

As Secretary of Commerce Toland has overseen sweeping changes within the state's lead economic development agency. Under his leadership, the Department has rebuilt its in-state, domestic, and international business recruitment teams; launched the state's Office of Broadband Development; re-established a Community Development division and the Kansas Main Street Program; and launched the state's first new economic development strategic planning process since 1986. Toland and his team have been at the forefront of Governor Kelly's efforts to support the state's economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, providing technical and financial assistance to thousands of small businesses. He also led negotiations on behalf of Governor Kelly that resulted in the end of the incentives "Border War" that raged between Kansas and Missouri for a decade. These efforts have resulted in over \$2.5 billion in new capital investment by businesses in Kansas in 2020, an increase of nearly 80% over the previous year and the highest in state history.

Prior to joining the team at Commerce, Secretary Toland was the first CEO of Thrive Allen County, a nonprofit coalition that works to improve quality of life and economic conditions in Allen County, Kansas. A seventh-generation Allen Countian, Toland oversaw the organization in its efforts toward improving economic conditions, healthcare access, and quality of life in the small, rural Kansas county.

Prior to his return to his hometown to lead Thrive Allen County, Toland worked as an appointee of Washington, D.C. Mayor Anthony A. Williams, holding key leadership positions in the D.C. economic development and planning offices. He holds both Bachelor's and Master's degrees from the University of Kansas.

Toland and his wife, Beth, an Early Childhood Education Specialist at Allen Community College, were married in 2001 and have two children.

KENTUCKY

Lt. Governor Jacqueline Coleman



Lieutenant Governor Jacqueline Coleman is an educator, basketball coach, writer, founder of a non-profit and the fifty-eighth lieutenant governor of Kentucky. She is wife to Chris, mom to Evelynne, adopted mom to Emma and a bonus mom to Will and Nate. Her family lives in Frankfort.

Public service is a way of life for Jacqueline and her family. She was raised to offer a hand up to those in need and, as a result, has devoted her personal and professional life to serving her community. She is a tireless advocate for public education and a strong proponent of young women stepping into leadership roles.

As a high school basketball coach, Jacqueline led her teams to five consecutive record-breaking seasons and one appearance in the Sweet 16. She earned regional

Coach of the Year honors in 2015.

Jacqueline's leadership doesn't end in the classroom or on the court. Her experience as an alumna of Emerge Kentucky drove her to found her own nonprofit, Lead Kentucky, in 2013. Lead Kentucky ensures Kentucky's college women are prepared, encouraged, and empowered to seek leadership positions on their campuses and later in their professional fields. Since its inception, Lead Kentucky has empowered 50 campus ambassadors with 29 different majors on more than a dozen college campuses.

Most recently, Jacqueline served as an assistant principal at Nelson County High School. She is currently pursuing a doctorate in Educational Leadership at the University of Kentucky.

As Lieutenant Governor, Jacqueline is focused on creating a comprehensive cradle-to-career public education and job training system in Kentucky that will produce the future leaders of our Commonwealth. As a fifth-generation Mercer Countian, she also concentrates on the many challenges facing rural Kentucky. Jacqueline is determined to build a better Kentucky for everyone.

LOUISIANA

Lt. Governor Billy Nungesser



Billy Nungesser is the 54th Lieutenant Governor of the state of Louisiana. He was elected in 2015 and took office in January of 2016. From July 2019 to July 2020, Nungesser served as Chairman of the National Lieutenant Governors Association, a professional association which charts issues and work to be pursued by the second-highest ranking officials in all 50 states and U.S. territories.

Under his administration, the state of Louisiana celebrated a fourth consecutive year of record-breaking visitation as Louisiana welcomed more than 53.2 million visitors, bringing in more than \$18.9 billion to the state.

Billy left a career as a successful businessman to begin his political career following Hurricane Katrina. In 2005, Nungesser rode out Hurricane Katrina at his ranch in southern Plaquemines Parish. In response to his own frustration over the slow response from government following Hurricane Katrina, Billy decided to run for Plaquemines Parish President in 2006. He was re-elected in 2010 with over 70% of the vote.

On April 20, 2010, Plaquemines Parish became ground zero for the nation's biggest environmental disaster. In the wake of the Deepwater Horizon oil rig explosion in the Gulf, Billy became the voice of Louisiana's frustration.

During the Deepwater Horizon oil spill, the New York Times named him the "hardest working man in Louisiana" and ABC named him Person of the Week during the same period. He continues to be the "hardest working man in Louisiana" to date on behalf of all of us.

Today Billy is second-in-command in the executive branch and Louisiana's ambassador as Commissioner of the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism. From natural disasters to promoting our great state...Billy Nungesser is a man for all of Louisiana.

MAINE

Senate President Mattie Daughtry



Senate President Mattie Daughtry is the gubernatorial successor in Maine. A lifelong Brunswick resident, graduate of Brunswick High School and Smith College, she co-owns and brews at Moderation Brewing Company. During her time in the Legislature, Sen. Daughtry has authored and passed nationally-recognized bills to reduce student debt, create Maine's paid family and medical leave law, and grow education funding. Throughout her time in office, she has been proud to support environmental progress in Maine.

MARYLAND

Lt. Governor Aruna Miller



Aruna Miller is the 10th Lieutenant Governor of the state of Maryland. She is the second woman to serve as Lieutenant Governor and the first woman of color and immigrant elected to statewide office in Maryland.

Born in Andhra Pradesh, India, Miller and her family immigrated to the United States when she was 7 years old. The daughter of a mechanical engineer, she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in civil engineering from the Missouri University of Science and Technology.

Miller has devoted her life to public service and removing systemic barriers to opportunity.

As a civil and transportation engineer in Montgomery County's Department of Transportation, Miller worked to improve the safety of the public and alleviate traffic by creating equitable access to transportation throughout the county. For 25 years, she oversaw programs that advanced access to schools and employment centers, and made community facilities safe for pedestrians, bicyclists, transit users, and people with differing abilities.

From 2010 to 2018, she represented District 15 in the Maryland House of Delegates, where she worked with her constituents to create legislation to invest in STEM education, streamline the regulatory process for small businesses, and was a champion for working families, survivors of domestic abuse, and the environment.

Miller served on the Ways and Means Committee and its Revenue, Transportation, and Education Subcommittees. Additionally, in her second term, she served on the Appropriations Committee, where she served as chair of the Oversight of Personnel Subcommittee, vice chair of the Transportation and Environment Subcommittee, and vice chair of the Capital Budget Subcommittee.

In 2018, Miller ran for Congress to represent Maryland's 6th District, finishing second in a competitive field of eight candidates in the Democratic Primary.

For over 30 years, she has lived in Montgomery County with her husband David, where they raised three daughters.

MASSACHUSETTS

Lt. Governor Kim Driscoll



Kim Driscoll is the 73rd Lieutenant Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. She was sworn in on January 5, 2023, joining Governor Maura Healey in an historic series of firsts: Governor Healey is the first woman and first openly LGBTQ person elected Governor of Massachusetts, and together, Healey and Driscoll are the first all-women executive team to lead Massachusetts.

Driscoll was elected the City of Salem's first woman Mayor in 2006, taking office at a time when the community was struggling with record deficits, poor financial management, and a declining bond rating. As Mayor, she turned deficits into record surpluses and saved taxpayers' money by strengthening city services, revitalizing Salem's downtown, leading a vast improvement in Salem's k-12 schools, reforming city pensions and health insurance programs to protect employee benefits, bidding public contracts, and bringing transparency to City Hall.

Working collaboratively with state officials and local partners, Driscoll secured sizable public and private investments, including a new MBTA train station, a state courts complex, senior center, ferry and waterfront port at Salem Wharf, and positioned Salem as the primary marshaling port for the forthcoming Commonwealth Wind project that will serve residents across Massachusetts and New England, establishing the City as a national leader in the offshore wind sector.

From passing one of the first fully-inclusive LGBTQ non-discrimination ordinances in Massachusetts, to securing major investments in veterans' benefits, standing up for immigrants' rights, and enacting one of the first age-friendly action plans certified in the Commonwealth, Salem under Driscoll's leadership has been – first and foremost – an inclusive community that welcomes everyone.

A proud mother of three children who attended Salem Public Schools, Driscoll chaired the Salem School Committee as Mayor. She helped push for collaboration and strategies to improve Salem's schools and for added investments to support teachers and students. Under her leadership, Salem became one of the first communities in Massachusetts to adopt the expansion of free, high-quality early education opportunities starting at age four.

The daughter of a Navy chef from Lynn and an accountant's assistant from Trinidad, Driscoll spent her childhood in a number of states, before attending Salem State University where she studied government and became a stand-out athlete on the women's basketball team. Like so many Salem State students, she fell in love with Salem and made it her home after graduation, pursuing a career in municipal government, and married her college sweetheart, a second-generation union bricklayer.

Beginning with a position as the City of Beverly's Community Development Director after college, Driscoll embarked on her long career of service to municipalities and went on to earn her law degree from the Massachusetts School of Law. Before becoming the Mayor of Salem, Driscoll served as the City of Chelsea's Chief Legal Counsel and Deputy City Manager, and also served on the Salem City Council.

Exemplified by her extensive and successful career in local government, Lieutenant Governor Driscoll is focused on working with Governor Healey to create a forward-looking Commonwealth and communities that work for, empower, and include all who call Massachusetts home, as well as those who aspire to do so.

MICHIGAN

Lt. Governor Garlin Gilchrist



Lieutenant Governor Garlin Gilchrist has dedicated his career to solving problems. An engineer by training, he uses thoughtful innovation, progressive reform, and efficient modernization of policies and programs to make the work better for hardworking families. From spearheading campaigns for equality and justice to harnessing technology to solve real problems, his focus has consistently remained on serving the public and getting things done.

He brings a lifetime of experience to the task, receiving his first computer at age five and setting up a computer lab in a Detroit community recreation center using computers that he built himself at age 16. Lt. Governor Gilchrist studied computer engineering and computer science at the University of Michigan, graduating with honors, and later had a successful career as a software engineer at Microsoft, helping to build SharePoint into the fastest growing product in the company's

history.

Lt. Governor Gilchrist spent the next several years of his career as a social entrepreneur and community organizer who helped people in communities across America realize their full economic and political potential. Upon returning home to Detroit, Lt. Governor Gilchrist worked in local government to make sure build systems that made the government more responsive, transparent, and accountable to city residents. This experience prepared him for a key priority: to bring Michigan's state government fully into the 21st century on every level.

As part of the Whitmer Administration, Lt. Governor Gilchrist has sought to address injustice and inequity across our state at every level. From co-chairing the Michigan Joint Task Force on Jail and Pretrial Incarceration to helming the Coronavirus Task Force on Racial Disparities, these task forces have taken actions that saved lives and protect our most vulnerable populations. Lt. Governor Gilchrist's approach to addressing these disparities is deeply rooted in fact-based practices, science, and connecting with individuals across Michigan.

Lt. Governor Garlin Gilchrist and his wife, Ellen, reside in Detroit where they are raising their twins, Emily and Garlin III, and daughter, Ruby.

MINNESOTA

Lt. Governor Peggy Flanagan



Peggy Flanagan is Minnesota's 50th Lieutenant Governor. At the center of all her work is advocating and making progress for children, working families, communities of color and Indigenous communities, and Minnesotans who have historically been underserved and underrepresented.

A St. Louis Park native, Peggy is proud to be a graduate of St. Louis Park Public Schools. In 2002, she earned her bachelor's degree in American Indian studies and child psychology from the University of Minnesota.

She served on the Minneapolis Board of Education from 2005 to 2009.

She went on to work at Wellstone Action, the organization founded to carry on the work of the late Senator Paul Wellstone, for nearly a decade. As one of the original trainers of Wellstone Action's signature program Camp Wellstone, she trained thousands of progressive activists, community organizers, elected officials, and candidates – including Governor Walz.

Following her work at Wellstone Action, Peggy served as the Executive Director of Children's Defense Fund - Minnesota, a non-profit child-advocacy organization working to level the playing field for all children in our state.

In 2015, Peggy Flanagan was elected to the Minnesota House of Representatives, serving her own community of St. Louis Park, as well as Golden Valley, Plymouth and Medicine Lake. While in office, Peggy served as the DFL lead on the Subcommittee on Child Care Access and Affordability. In 2017, she joined her DFL legislative colleagues to form the POCI (People of Color and Indigenous) Caucus. Together, the caucus works to improve the education, health and economic opportunities of people of color and Indigenous communities across the state.

Peggy brings her experiences of building coalitions and advocating for children and families to the Lieutenant Governor's Office as she works in close partnership with Governor Tim Walz to build One Minnesota.

A member of the White Earth Band of Ojibwe, Peggy lives in St. Louis Park with her husband, Tom, her daughter, Siobhan, and their pets, Reuben and Yogi.

MISSISSIPPI

Lt. Governor Delbert Hosemann



Elected in November 2019 with more than 60 percent of the vote, the Honorable Delbert Hosemann is serving as Mississippi's 33rd Lieutenant Governor. He previously served as Secretary of State.

Lt. Governor Hosemann is committed to serving the public with open and fair government. During his campaign, he advocated for increasing transparency in State government, supporting small businesses, shoring up Mississippi's roads and bridges, providing better access to quality healthcare, and ensuring every child has access to a high quality public education. As the new leader of the 52-member State Senate, he remains committed to making Mississippi an even better place for our children and grandchildren.

Raised in Warren County, Mississippi, Lt. Governor Hosemann comes to the position with substantial experience in the private sector as a businessman and tax lawyer. He is a former partner of Phelps Dunbar, LLP, named as a "Best Lawyer in America" for 18 years. He received his undergraduate degree in Business from the University of Notre Dame, a law degree from the University of Mississippi, and a Master of Laws in Taxation from New York University. Prior to attending law school, Lt. Governor Hosemann served his country in the United States Army Reserve.

Lt. Governor Hosemann's three-term tenure as Secretary of State was marked several major accomplishments including requiring 16th Section land, a revenue source for public schools, to be leased for fair value. By the end of his third term, the Office raised more than \$1 billion for public education.

As Secretary of State, Lt. Governor Hosemann revised Mississippi's business laws and automated legal filings required to start a new business, and fought to enact constitutional Voter ID law. While other states are still embroiled in expensive litigation related to Voter ID, Mississippi's law has increased security in elections and remains unchallenged.

Lt. Governor Hosemann also worked to provide children with autism and other developmental disorders with better access to health insurance. Autism Speaks, the nation's leading autism science and advocacy organization, awarded Lt. Governor Hosemann named the Executive of the Year in 2018.

Before his election to public office in 2007, Lt. Governor Hosemann served as Chairman of the Board of Mississippi Blood Services, Treasurer of the Jackson Medical Mall Association, and a member of the Board of Directors for the Jackson State University Development Foundation. His past accolades including the George L. Phillips Community Service Awards from the U.S. Department of Justice in appreciation for this distinguished service as Chairman of Project Safe Neighborhoods and for his efforts in the Hurricane Katrina First Responder Assistance Project. Lt. Governor Hosemann has also been awarded the J. Tate Thigpen Award for exemplary leadership, support, and commitment to the American Red Cross.

In his spare time, Lt. Governor Hosemann is an avid hunter and runner. He belongs to the National Rifle Association and is a past recipient of the NRA's Kirk Fordice Freedom Award. He is also a member of the Delta Wildlife Foundation and Ducks Unlimited. He has completed both the New York Marathon and the Boston Marathon, and represented Mississippi in the Senior Olympics.

He and Lynn, his wife of 49 years, are members of St. Richard Catholic Church. They are extremely proud of their three children: Kristen, Chad, and Mark; and grandchildren Grace, Nora Lynn, Carson, Charlie, Manse, Charlotte, and Howard Delbert.

MISSOURI

Lt. Governor David Wasinger



On November 5, 2024, David Wasinger was elected to serve as Missouri's 49th Lieutenant Governor.

David is an America-first conservative who is committed to delivering a conservative agenda and real opportunities. A lifelong Missourian, David was born and raised in Hannibal. He was raised by hard-working parents who instilled small-town conservative values of faith in God, respect for law enforcement, honor for our veterans, protecting the unborn, love of family, and the value of hard work.

David is happily married to Colleen, and together they are the proud parents of two sons. He currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Boy Scouts of Greater St. Louis and previously served on the Board of Curators of the University of Missouri, where he was appointed by Governor Matt Blunt.

A lifelong fan of Mizzou Tigers' football, David attended the University of Missouri-Columbia on a merit-based Curators' scholarship, graduating from Mizzou with an accounting degree and earned his CPA. He then went on to Vanderbilt University School of Law, where he put his small-town values to use, fighting for justice for victims and winning for working Missourians.

David later joined a small firm that became Wasinger Daming in Brentwood, Missouri, where he specialized in business law with a clear focus on defending the interests of Main Street, directly benefiting hard-working Missourians and others around the country. David is committed to continuing that fight for Main Street, bringing accountability to state government, and delivering a conservative agenda that brings opportunities for the next generation of Missourians to achieve the American Dream.

MONTANA

Lt. Governor Kristen Juras



A fourth-generation Montanan who grew up on her family's ranch near Conrad, Kristen Juras is a wife, mother, grandmother, attorney, and public servant. On November 3, 2020, Kristen became the second female elected lieutenant governor of Montana in the state's history.

Lieutenant Governor Kristen Juras serves as a partner to Governor Greg Gianforte as they lead the Montana Comeback.

Kristen has broken the traditional mold of the office of lieutenant governor. One news story revealed "her performance of the lieutenant governor's role is also unique, particularly in a position that is often seen as more ceremonial than substantive."

Kristen leads the governor's Red Tape Relief Task Force to cut unnecessary, burdensome regulations that are a wet blanket on job creation and hamper small business owners, farmers, and ranchers. Kristen plays a key role in policymaking, and is actively involved in appointments to boards, commissions, and judicial vacancies.

Before entering public service, Kristen Juras served for 32 years as an attorney in private practice in Great Falls where she helped farmers, ranchers, and small business owners navigate legal issues.

As an attorney, Kristen Juras provided pro bono legal services to clients with disabilities who confront homelessness and addiction. Kristen received the Robert P. Goff Pro Bono Award in recognition of her commitment to pro bono legal services.

In 2000, Kristen joined the faculty at the University of Montana School of Law, teaching classes in property, contracts, estate planning, taxation, business, international, and agricultural law.

Kristen Juras graduated from Conrad High School, the University of Montana, and the University of Georgia Law School.

Married since 1984, Kristen and her husband John are the proud parents to three sons and grandparents to two grandchildren.

N. MARIANA ISLANDS

Lt. Governor Dennis Mendiola



The Honorable Dennis James C. Mendiola is the 14th Lieutenant Governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, serving alongside Governor David M. Apatang. He assumed the Office of the Lieutenant Governor following the passing of Governor Arnold I. Palacios.

Lieutenant Governor Mendiola's career reflects a broad spectrum of public service in both legislative and executive roles. Prior to assuming his current position, he served as a Senator representing the 1st District in the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature, winning a five-way contest for two seats in the Senate during the 2022 election. On January 8, 2025, he was elected President of the Senate for the 24th Commonwealth Legislature.

A graduate of the University of Guam, Lieutenant Governor Mendiola earned a degree in Public Administration with a minor in Military Science. Upon graduation, he was commissioned as a First Lieutenant. His public service career includes his tenure as Commissioner of the Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services, where he oversaw critical emergency response operations for the Commonwealth.

NEBRASKA

Lt. Governor Joe Kelly



Joe Kelly has 25 years of work as a prosecutor, trial attorney and government administrator.

Kelly is Chief of the Criminal Bureau in the Nebraska Attorney General's Office. Prior to that, Kelly served as the United States Attorney for the District of Nebraska from 2018 to 2021. Kelly also served as the Lancaster County Attorney from 2011 to 2018.

Earlier in his career, Kelly served as Chief Deputy County Attorney and as a Deputy County Attorney. From 1987 to 1990, Kelly was an associate with Berniger, Berg and Diver in Colorado Springs.

Kelly earned a Bachelor's degree from the University of Nebraska and his Juris Doctor from the University of Nebraska College of Law. He has two children.

NEVADA

Lt. Governor Stavros Anthony



Stavros Anthony, a Las Vegas resident for 41 years, has made community service and public safety his focus as a Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department officer, a member of the Nevada System of Higher Education Board of Regents, as a City of Las Vegas Councilman and now as Nevada Lieutenant Governor. He was appointed Mayor Pro Tem by Mayor Carolyn Goodman, and served in that capacity from July 2011 to April 2015 and was re-appointed June 8, 2020.

Anthony began his career with Metro Police in 1980 and most recently served the community as a captain overseeing the Financial and Property Crimes Bureau of the department. As a captain, Anthony spent time in charge of many divisions within Metro including Professional Standards, Personnel, Vice/Narcotics, Northeast Area Command and the Transportation Safety Bureau.

Along with his experience in the realm of public safety, Anthony also brings an education background to the City Council. He was elected in 2002 to a four-year term as a regent with the Nevada System of Higher Education and was re-elected to a six year term on the board in 2006. As chairman of the Board of Regents, Anthony led the way in developing a master plan, system goals and a value statement.

Anthony graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice from Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan in 1980. In 1987 he graduated with a Master of Arts in Political Science from the University of Nevada Las Vegas (UNLV), and in 1999 he received his Ph.D. in Sociology from UNLV. He has also attended the University of Louisville Southern Police Institute Administrative Officers Course and the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Va.

Anthony served on the board of directors for Goodwill of Southern Nevada and is a member of the National League of Cities Public Safety and Crime Prevention Policy and Advocacy Committee. In 2012, he was appointed by Governor Sandoval to the Nevada Commission on Aging. In 2014, Anthony was appointed to the Board of Commissioners for the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). In 2015, the Las Vegas City Council appointed him to the Board of Directors for the Nevada League of Cities and Municipalities.

Anthony is also a past member and president of the Board of Directors for St. John Greek Orthodox Church. Anthony received an Exemplary Service Award from Metro Police in 2006, and received an Award of Excellence in 2002 from the Community College of Southern Nevada where he was an adjunct faculty member.

Married for 41 years, the Anthony's have two daughters who are both graduates of the University of Nevada Reno. Anthony enjoys golfing in his free time and playing with his grandsons.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Senate President Sharon Carson



Years Served in the Senate: (14) 2009-2020, 2021-2022, 2023-2024, 2025-2026 (Current)

Years Served in the House: 8; 2000-2008

Profession: Adjunct history and political science professor at Nashua Community College

Education: Graduated from Mount Wachusett Community College with a degree in laboratory technology, Bachelor's and Masters' degrees in American History from the University of New Hampshire. She was awarded a doctoral scholarship from UNH, has taken and passed her doctoral exams in American History, and is currently working on her dissertation

Professional & Community Affiliations: Southern NH Planning Commission; Board of Directors, Vesta Roy Women in Government (2000-2014); NH State Director, Women in Government (2006-2014); State Veterans Advisory Committee (2012-2015); Selective Service Board (2008-2016); ProGun Advisory Board (2008-present); Board of Directors, St. Anselm Ethics in Governance (2014-present); Manchester Airport Authority (2018-present); Board of Trustees, Founder's Academy; Londonderry Old Homes Day Committee; Londonderry Grange; Londonderry tri-centennial committee

Military Service: Retired Sergeant First Class, U.S. Army Reserve

Family: Senator Carson is married with two daughters

Personal: Senator Carson enjoys history, reading, gardening, and knitting

Favorite NH Activity: I enjoy visiting my districts' farms in every season of the year. Whether it's picking strawberries in the spring, different varieties of fruits during the summer, or harvesting apples in the fall, my district highlights the best New Hampshire has to offer!

New Jersey

Lt. Governor Dr. Dale Caldwell



Dr. Dale Caldwell has spent his life serving New Jersey, including leadership roles in the public sector, private sector, and higher education. He currently serves as the President of Centenary University. He formerly served as the executive director of the Rothman Institute of Innovation and Entrepreneurship at Fairleigh Dickinson University, President of the Educational Services Commission (ESCNJ), Deputy Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs (DCA), founding executive director of the Newark Alliance and senior manager at Deloitte Consulting. He volunteered on the New Brunswick school board for 26 years, serving as president for six.

Dale is a pastor of the Covenant United Methodist Church in Plainfield, NJ. There, he has built a congregation based on the values of inclusivity, community, and acceptance. He is guided by Proverbs 31:89, which directs us to "speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves."

Service to others was instilled in Dale from a young age. His mother was a teacher and his father, Rev. Gilbert Caldwell, was a leader in the Civil Rights Movement who knew and marched arm-in-arm with the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

NEW MEXICO

Lt. Governor Howie Morales



Lieutenant Governor Howie Morales, raised in Silver City, New Mexico, has spent his whole life working to improve the lives of people in his community and across our state. He served in the New Mexico Legislature on the Legislative Finance Committee for 11 years. A classroom teacher and proven leader who stands up for seniors and public education, he said “No more cuts to New Mexico’s classrooms.” Howie Morales has fought to protect our most vulnerable communities and local schools, to build a fair economy that works for all of us, and to move New Mexico forward.

Howie learned the value of a dollar at a young age. His father was a Vietnam Veteran who worked in the copper mine while his mother worked multiple hourly-wage jobs. He went to work as a teenager to help provide for the family and later worked as a shoe salesman and maintenance worker to put himself through Western New Mexico University. The first in his family to go to college, Howie went on to earn a PhD in education from NMSU.

Howie went home to teach students in special education in Silver City and Cobre School Districts, and became active in the community. He coached local high school baseball teams to state championships, and he is the longest serving volunteer of Big Brothers/Big Sisters of New Mexico, while raising two children ages 6 and 9. Howie earned the trust of his neighbors and was elected Grant County Clerk, where he modernized voting systems to make sure every vote counted.

Since 2008, Howie has been an aggressive leader for children and classrooms in the State Senate, fighting for his district, and to make every corner of New Mexico a better place to live. He has pushed progressive policies such as universal health care. He fought for rural and tribal economic development, and he fought to protect veterans’ and senior services across the state, and mental health programs.

An experienced leader with solutions, Howie Morales has a solid record helping to lead the effort to meet our state’s big challenges for better jobs and wages, and real improvements to public education.

NEW YORK

Lt. Governor Antonio Delgado



Antonio Delgado is Lieutenant Governor of New York State, appointed by Governor Kathy Hochul in May 2022.

Lieutenant Governor Delgado is from Schenectady, NY, and lives in Rhinebeck with his wife, Lacey, and their twin sons, Maxwell and Coltrane. Growing up, his parents worked for General Electric in Schenectady, demonstrating the values of hard work and commitment to community. That hard-working spirit has stayed with him throughout his life: he earned a Rhodes Scholarship while attending Colgate University in Hamilton, NY, and after returning home from Oxford, he received a law degree from Harvard Law School. Before serving as Lieutenant Governor, Delgado enjoyed a career in the music industry focused on empowering young people through hip hop; worked as an attorney focusing on complex commercial litigation, while dedicating significant time to pro bono work in connection with criminal justice reform; and served in the U.S. House representing New York's 19th Congressional District. It's because of these diverse professional and personal experiences that Delgado finds common ground with people from all walks of life.

Delgado was the first person of color to represent upstate New York in Congress. While there, he focused on improving the lives of New Yorkers, working with local, state, and federal partners — regardless of party — to get results. From improving access to quality, affordable health care, to fighting for universal Pre-K, to serving our nation's veterans, to protecting our small businesses and family farms, Delgado was an effective legislator who achieved results. Eighteen of his bills were signed into law under two different presidents and he was recognized by various organizations throughout his tenure in Congress for his bipartisan work. His legislative accomplishments include passage of his Family Farmer Relief Act, the Strengthening Financial Aid for Students Act, and the Improving Benefits for Underserved Veterans Act, among others. When the pandemic hit, Delgado shifted his focus to securing federal support for frontline and essential workers and small businesses. He successfully secured much-needed loan repayment relief for small businesses and his Direct Support for Communities Act delivered \$10.8 billion to New York State counties, cities, towns, and villages for economic recovery.

Delgado served as Chairman of the House Agriculture Subcommittee on Commodity Exchanges, Energy, and Credit as well as the House Small Business and Transportation & Infrastructure Committees.

NORTH CAROLINA

Lt. Governor Rachel Hunt



Rachel Hunt's professional and political journey is defined by a deep commitment to family and public service. As an attorney, she specialized in domestic law, helping families solve complex issues through mediation. Seeing a need for certified educational consulting, Rachel launched a small consulting business, Hunt for College, LLC, where she offers guidance to students and parents navigating an overwhelming college application process.

When her children were young, Rachel made the choice to put her career on pause and to shift her focus to full-time parenting and community service. For over a decade, she volunteered for the Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools PTA and served on her son's Charter school board. During this time, she also volunteered for numerous community organizations, including chairing the educational committee of the League of Women Voters of Charlotte Mecklenburg and serving on the boards of Lillian's List, Generation Nation, and the NC Foundation for Public School Children.

In recognition of her unwavering commitment to her community and the state, Rachel Hunt was elected to the North Carolina House of Representatives in 2018, overcoming the odds to defeat a four-term incumbent in the fiercely contested and heavily gerrymandered District 103, a victory that demonstrated her resilience and dedication in a district long dominated by one party control. Her effectiveness and dedication to her constituents led to her reelection in 2020, where she continued to serve as a strong and effective voice for her district.

In 2022, Rachel Hunt was elected to the North Carolina Senate, representing District 42. Rachel Hunt's career and her life's work exemplify her deep commitment to the people of North Carolina, her passion for education, and her unwavering dedication to making a positive impact.

As the 36th Lieutenant Governor of North Carolina, Rachel will continue her public service and advocacy on behalf of the state she loves. Rachel is the proud daughter of Governor Jim and Carolyn Hunt, North Carolina's longest-serving Governor and First Lady. The legacy of service and family values instilled in Rachel by her parents lies at the heart of her own commitment to making North Carolina the best place to live, work, and raise a family.

NORTH DAKOTA

Lt. Governor Michelle Strinden



Michelle Strinden was sworn in as the 40th lieutenant governor of North Dakota on December 15, 2024.

Michelle is a dynamic leader, community advocate and dedicated public servant committed to making a positive impact for all North Dakotans. With a passion for serving others and a drive for excellence, Michelle has distinguished herself as a tireless advocate for issues ranging from education and healthcare to economic development and behavioral health.

Born in Grand Forks and raised in Bismarck, Michelle developed a deep-rooted appreciation for the values of hard work, integrity and compassion that she learned from her parents, family and friends in the heart of North Dakota. These values have guided her throughout her personal and professional life, shaping her into the leader she is today.

Michelle's commitment to service led her to pursue an education degree from the University of North Dakota. Equipped with a strong academic foundation and a desire to effect change, she furthered her education with a masters in counseling from Minnesota State University Moorhead. From there, she worked as a school counselor in rural Richland County and West Fargo Public Schools, including three years at the alternative high school.

After the birth of her and Tom's third child, Michelle stepped away from her career in public education to focus on raising their family and serving her community through nonprofit work. During that period of time, Michelle chaired nonprofit boards, ran numerous events, homeschooled two children and assisted Tom as they built their businesses.

Throughout her career, Michelle has held various leadership positions, where she has consistently demonstrated her ability to collaborate effectively, implement innovative solutions, and advocate for those in need. Her experience spans both the public and private sectors, giving her a unique perspective to the challenges facing North Dakota. From 2018 to 2024, she served south Fargo's District 41 as a member of the North Dakota House of Representatives. While in the House, she served on the Education and Political Subdivisions committee before being appointed to serve on the Appropriations Committee, Human Services Subdivision in only her second session. She was an impactful advocate during her time in the Legislature, particularly in the areas of literacy and behavioral health for which she successfully passed several bipartisan bills including significant funding.

She served as the Chair of the interim Juvenile Justice Committee, Chair of the North Dakota Children's Cabinet and on the interim Human Services, Healthcare and Budget committees. Michelle also served her state on the boards for the Anne Carlsen Center and Soul Solutions Recovery Center, an innovative addiction recovery organization in Fargo.

Michelle and her family have lived in south Fargo for 28 years and are active members at Atonement Lutheran Church. In their free time, they enjoy spending time with family and friends at their lake cabin, watching UND hockey and traveling.

OHIO

Lt. Governor Jim Tressel



Jim Tressel was nominated by Ohio Governor Mike DeWine to serve as Ohio's lieutenant governor in February 2025, and was subsequently confirmed by the Ohio Senate and the Ohio House of Representatives. A longstanding champion of education and workforce development, Tressel intends to build upon Ohio's record of achievement in these key areas, and others, throughout the remaining two years of the DeWine administration.

A preeminent educator and football coach, Tressel's career pursuits most recently led him to serve as president of Youngstown State University (YSU) from 2014 until his retirement in 2023. During his tenure, YSU established a trajectory of success that included the increased quality of freshman classes, dramatically rising retention and graduation rates, and record fundraising efforts. Under his leadership, the university's Honors College grew from 300 to more than 1,200 students. The physical plant was also transformed with the addition of private housing options, as well as state-of-the-art academic research and workforce training facilities. Before serving as president of YSU, Tressel served as executive vice president for student success at the University of Akron. Throughout his academic tenure, Tressel has shared DeWine's commitment and passion for helping all Ohioans reach their God-given potential.

Tressel's focus on providing the tools young people need to succeed was also evident throughout his career as a college football coach. Having served as an assistant coach at the University of Akron, Miami University, Syracuse and Ohio State, Tressel was named YSU head football coach in 1986. In his 15-year tenure, including six years as executive director of intercollegiate athletics, YSU appeared in the playoffs 10 times and won four national championships. In January 2001, Tressel became the head football coach at The Ohio State University. In 10 seasons, he guided the Buckeyes to seven Big Ten championships and the 2002 National Championship.

Among his many honors, which reflect his commitment to excellence, Tressel has received the Chevrolet National Coach of the Year Award, the Eddie Robinson Coach of the Year Award, the American Football Coaches Association National Coach of the Year Award, the Paul "Bear" Bryant National Coach of the Year Award, and the Sporting News National Coach of the Year Award. He was inducted into the Ohio State Athletics Hall of Fame in 2015 and the YSU Athletics Hall of Fame in 2013. He was enshrined into the College Football Hall of Fame in 2015. Tressel and his father, Lee Tressel, are the only father-son duo to have both been named to the College Football Hall of Fame.

Tressel graduated from Berea High School in suburban Cleveland, received a bachelor's degree in education from Baldwin-Wallace College, and a master's degree in education from the University of Akron. He currently serves on the Baldwin-Wallace University board of trustees. Tressel has published two books, *The Winner's Manual: For the Game of Life*, and *Life Promises for Success: Promises from God on Achieving Your Best*. While at YSU, he and his wife, Ellen, donated a \$1 million gift to create the Jim and Ellen Tressel Student Work Opportunity Endowment Fund. The Tressels served on the board of the James P. Tressel Institute for Leadership and Teamwork.

The Tressels have four children – Zak, Carlee, Eric and Whitney – who are all accomplished adults, and their three grandchildren are their pride and joy.

OKLAHOMA

Lt. Governor Matt Pinnell



Matt Pinnell was elected as the 17th Lieutenant Governor of Oklahoma on November 6, 2018. Pinnell is President of the Oklahoma State Senate and serves on multiple constitutional boards and commissions. He is also Secretary of Tourism, Wildlife and Heritage on Governor Kevin Stitt's cabinet.

Pinnell is the chief marketer of Oklahoma and spends much of his time promoting tourism, Oklahoma's third largest industry. In partnership with the Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department, he launched the Oklahoma Fishing Trail,

Oklahoma Road Trip, and the pandemic driven "OK Here We Go" campaigns, which have generated more than \$91 million in revenue since 2019. He also spearheaded renovation projects within Oklahoma State Parks, providing necessary updates to bathrooms, lodges, and campgrounds. The total impact of state parks on local economies recently topped \$413 million.

Pinnell is a recruiter for companies looking to move or expand to Oklahoma. Each year, he hosts the Lt. Governor's Turkey Hunt, a two-week event that showcases Oklahoma to prospective out-of-state companies and site selection representatives. He launched a statewide rebrand in 2020, a campaign that has streamlined state agency processes and saved taxpayer dollars.

As an entrepreneur himself, Pinnell champions small business growth. He serves on the Oklahoma Department of Commerce committee focused on small business growth, entrepreneurship, and workforce development. In 2022, he launched 'A Look at Oklahoma CareerTech,' a video interview series that showcases the education and employment opportunities the state's CareerTech system provides.

Matt has an advertising degree from Oral Roberts University. He lives in Tulsa with his wife of 20 years and their four children.

OREGON

Secretary of State Tobias Read



Tobias Read is Oregon's 30th secretary of state. Born in Montana and raised in Idaho, he moved to Salem, Oregon to attend Willamette University before earning his Master of Business Administration degree at the University of Washington. He brings a wide range of public-sector and private-sector experience to the office. He worked at the U.S. Treasury and Nike, Inc. prior to his election as state representative in 2007 and state treasurer in 2017.

As an elected official, Tobias has turned strong ideas and policies into real results that benefit Oregonians. He helped lead the charge to fund full-day kindergarten across Oregon, created and later implemented the Oregon Retirement Savings Program—now known as OregonSaves—which serves more than 130,000

Oregonians, and protected the Elliott State Forest by making it one of the largest research forests and carbon reserves in North America.

As Secretary of State, Tobias' first priority is to hold the State of Oregon accountable for delivering on its promises, managing tax dollars wisely, and running secure, fair elections.

Tobias lives in Beaverton with his wife Heidi and their two children.

PENNSYLVANIA

Lt. Governor Austin Davis



Growing up in the Mon Valley in western Pennsylvania – a longtime industrial center outside Pittsburgh – Austin Davis saw the struggles of working families firsthand. He watched his mom – a hairdresser in McKeesport for more than 40 years – juggle raising a family with putting food on the table, and he watched his dad work hard every day as an ATU bus driver.

Austin knew from an early age he wanted to dedicate his life and career to public service. Throughout his career, he has fought for economic equality, worked to lift people out of poverty and secure fair funding for education, and has been committed to bettering the lives of people in western Pennsylvania.

In high school, when he felt young people needed a voice in city government, Austin founded and served as chairman of the Mayor’s Youth Advisory Council under McKeesport Mayor Jim Brewster. Working with city leaders, Austin helped combat rising youth violence and provided the young people of McKeesport with more opportunities to get involved in civic life.

Austin is a first generation college graduate in his family, and after studying political science at the University of Pittsburgh, he began pursuing a career in public service. By the age of 21, the Tribune-Review called him “a veteran at the politics of helping others.”

Beginning in 2012, Austin joined Allegheny County Executive Rich Fitzgerald’s team, spearheading the office’s vision and transition teams in the early days of the administration and serving as Fitzgerald’s representative on the Jail Oversight Board; the Kane Foundation; the Minority, Women, and Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Advisory Board; and the Shuman Detention Center Advisory Board.

Then in 2018, Austin successfully ran for the state House of Representatives to represent the Mon Valley and his hometown of McKeesport.

Rep. Austin Davis took the oath of office to serve the people of the Mon Valley on February 5, 2018. When he was sworn in, Austin became the first African American to serve as state representative for the 35th Legislative District in Allegheny County, and he became one of only four African American lawmakers to represent a majority-white district.

Currently, Austin serves as chair of the Allegheny County House Democratic Delegation and vice chair of the House Democratic Policy Committee, as well as serving on the House Appropriations Committee, House Consumer Affairs Committee, House Insurance Committee, and House Transportation Committee. Austin is also a member of the Pennsylvania Legislative Black Caucus, Climate Caucus, and PA SAFE Caucus.

Austin remains committed to the Mon Valley and McKeesport, serving as a board member of the Port Authority of Allegheny County, YMCA of Greater Pittsburgh, Communities in Schools of Pittsburgh, and Auberle.

In November 2022, Austin made history and was elected as the first Black Lieutenant Governor of Pennsylvania, and as the youngest Lieutenant Governor elected in the country. Austin is proud to work alongside Josh to move Pennsylvania forward in Harrisburg.

Austin currently resides in McKeesport with his wife, Blayre Holmes Davis.

PUERTO RICO

Secretary of State Rosachely Rivera Santana



Rosachely Rivera Santana is the current Secretary of State of the Government of Puerto Rico, a position she assumed in June 2025 following a nomination supported by mayors, legislators, and community leaders. Her appointment reflects an impeccable record in public service, outstanding performance as a municipal administrator and mayor, and her ability to lead with transparency, determination, and empathy. She was born in Caguas in 1980 and raised in Gurabo by her parents, Marcelina and Rafael. She holds a bachelor's degree in Labor Relations from the University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus, and a master's degree in Industrial-Organizational Psychology from Albizu University. Her academic background has been key to the development of public policies focused on equity, collective well-being, and administrative efficiency.

She made history in 2017 by becoming the first woman elected mayor of the municipality of Gurabo, a position in which she was re-elected with the overwhelming support of 70% and then 80% of the electorate in the 2020 and 2024 elections, respectively. Under her leadership, Gurabo became one of the most organized and resilient municipalities in the aftermath of Hurricanes Irma and María, and has served as a model of municipal governance oriented toward direct service and the protection of vulnerable populations.

Her record of service has been marked by concrete results such as the fiscal stabilization of the municipality, efficient post-disaster recovery, expansion of social services, promotion of economic development, and public investment in infrastructure. These achievements, combined with her reputation as an accessible, honest, and collaborative public servant, were key factors in her selection as second in the constitutional line of succession in the Government of Puerto Rico.

Throughout her career, she has also held key positions such as municipal administrator of Gurabo, university professor, director of municipal agencies, and special aide for governmental relations. She has served on the boards of the Socioeconomic Community Institute (INSEC), Acción Social, the Puerto Rico League of Cities, and COFIM. She also served as secretary of the Puerto Rico Mayors' Federation and vice president of the Municipal Alliance for Integrated Services (AMSI), contributing to numerous social and community impact initiatives.

In June 2025, Ana G. Méndez University awarded her the Presidential Medal, one of its highest honors, in recognition of her extraordinary contributions to Puerto Rico's development, her exemplary leadership, and her professional career.

As Secretary of State, she leads efforts in interagency coordination, foreign relations, outreach to the Puerto Rican diaspora, and the promotion of participatory democracy. Her leadership is guided by an inclusive vision and a public administration rooted in social justice, collaboration, and collective progress.

RHODE ISLAND

Lt. Governor Sabina Matos



Sabina Matos was appointed as the 70th Lieutenant Governor of the State of Rhode Island on April 14, 2021.

Prior to her appointment as Lieutenant Governor, she served on the Providence City Council from January of 2011 until April 2021. During that period, she was elected as the first Latina to hold the position of City Council President Pro Tempore in 2015, and in 2019 she was elected City Council President by her peers. She has the distinction of being the first Latina to hold both positions in the city's history. As the Councilwoman for Ward 15, she represented the neighborhoods of Olneyville as well as parts of the Silver Lake and Valley.

Lieutenant Governor Matos was born in the province of Barahona in the Dominican Republic and later moved to the nation's capital of Santa Domingo. In April 1994, she moved to the United States, first arriving in New York City, where she lived for a short time before moving to Providence with her family.

Lieutenant Governor Matos graduated from Rhode Island College in May of 2001 with a BA in Communications and Public Relations. She is also a graduate of the Latina Leadership Institute and Leadership for a Future.

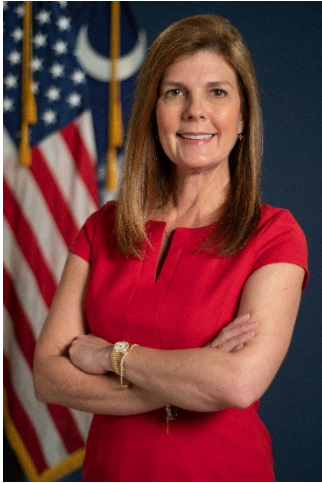
Matos is also a graduate of the Aspen Institute's Rodel Fellowship Program – an invitation-only fellowship program for elected officials at all levels in the United States. She graduated in the same cohort as United States Department of Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg and California's Attorney General Rob Bonta.

The Lieutenant Governor has served as the past President of the ECAS-Educational Center for the Arts and Sciences, and the RI Latino Civic Fund – The Latina Leadership Training, and the Rhode Island Latino Political Action Committee. She has also previously served as the Board Secretary of the Olneyville Housing Corporation and on the Univocal Legislative Minority Advisory Council and Latino Policy Institute boards. Matos has also been a member of Direct Action for Rights and Equality and the Olneyville Neighborhood Association. She is a founding member of LUCHA-Latina's United for Change.

Lieutenant Governor Matos lives in Providence, Rhode Island, with her husband, Patrick Ward, and their two children, Diego and Annemarie.

SOUTH CAROLINA

Lt. Governor Pamela Evette



Pamela S. Evette of Travelers Rest was elected as the 93rd Lieutenant Governor of South Carolina on November 6, 2018.

Prior to her election as the first female Republican lieutenant governor of South Carolina, Evette founded Quality Business Solutions, Inc. (QBS), a payroll, human resources, and benefits services firm headquartered in Travelers Rest. Under her leadership as President and CEO, QBS grew exponentially, going from start-up to one of the nation's fastest growing small businesses. QBS has been repeatedly honored among the fastest growing and best places to work in South Carolina.

Evette has received numerous business and professional accolades, including the ATHENA Leadership Award®, the Enterprising Woman of the Year Award, and the Women Presidents' Organization 50 Fastest-Growing Women-Owned/Led Companies Award. She has also been recognized for her efforts as a public servant on environmental, transportation, and humanitarian causes. In 2024, Evette was named a She Leads Woman of Distinction by She Leads America and received the Joseph H. Rainey Empowered Leadership Award.

A trained accountant and former CFO, Evette has demonstrated a deep understanding of the regulatory issues and challenges facing small and medium sized businesses, and served as a member of South Carolina's Small Business Regulatory Review Committee prior to taking office. This committee is charged with reviewing and supporting or challenging proposed regulations that might impact small businesses' ability to start-up, operate effectively, or grow.

As Lt. Governor, Evette has used her professional background to serve the people and businesses of South Carolina. She has dedicated her time to highlighting S.C.'s thriving small business ecosystem and attracting new business to the Palmetto state. Evette has been a staunch promoter of innovative public-private partnerships and has worked to bring greater awareness to S.C. non-profits and the impact they have in our local communities.

Beyond business, Evette has a passion for serving others, especially the most vulnerable in our society, which has guided her focus on early childhood education and reading. In 2019, she was asked to join the sixth cohort of the Hunt-Kean Leadership Fellows Program which focuses on state education policy. Realizing that every student and individual has unique needs and goals, Evette is committed to advocating for school choice and promoting S.C.'s world-class technical college system as pathways to educational and career success. Moreover, in 2024, she launched her "Empowering Tomorrow's Leaders" Employment Initiative to get more young people working — helping them to build critical life skills.

In partnership with PalmettoPride, Evette created the annual Grab A Bag SC Statewide Cleanup initiative in 2019 and participated in SC7 Expedition to raise awareness for floodwater prevention and the importance of protecting South Carolina's natural resources. She continues to be involved in both of these efforts.

She serves on the boards of directors of the St Francis Foundation (affiliated with Bon Secours St. Francis Hospital) and the National Association of Professional Employer Organizations (NAPEO) where she is also an emeritus member of the state legislative committee.

A native of Ohio, Evette is the granddaughter of Polish immigrants. Her parents, Jennie and Emil Gajoch, were first generation Americans who taught her the value of hard work and the importance of getting involved and giving back.

Evette holds a Bachelors of Business Administration in accounting from Cleveland State University. She and her husband David, President of QBS, attend Prince of Peace Catholic Church in Taylors and have three children, Amanda, Joseph, and Jackson.

SOUTH DAKOTA

Lt. Governor Tony Venhuizen



Tony Venhuizen is a lifelong South Dakotan. He serves as the 40th Lieutenant Governor of South Dakota.

An Armour native, Venhuizen earned his bachelor's degree in political science and history from South Dakota State University in 2005 and his juris doctorate from the University of South Dakota Knudson School of Law in 2008. He was a 2004 recipient of the Harry S. Truman Scholarship.

Venhuizen represented District 13, which includes portions of Lincoln and Minnehaha counties, in the South Dakota State Legislature from 2023-2025. During that time, he served as vice chair of the House Appropriations Committee and as a member of the Legislative Procedure Committee. In 2024, he chaired the State Legislature's 100th Session Planning Committee.

In addition to his legislative service, Venhuizen served for ten years in the Governor's Office, including time as chief of staff to Governor Dennis Daugaard and Governor Kristi Noem. While in the Governor's Office, Venhuizen chaired the 2012 Open Government Task Force, and from 2011-18 chaired the State Board of Finance. Venhuizen also served two stints on the Board of Regents; he was appointed by Governor Mike Rounds, serving from 2003-08, and again by Governor Noem, serving from 2021-23.

Venhuizen is a member of the board of directors of the South Dakota Historical Society Foundation and of the Trail of Governors Foundation, and a former member of the board of directors of the SDSU Research Park and of the Greater Sioux Falls Chamber of Commerce.

Venhuizen and his wife, Sara, have been married for more than 20 years and have three school-age children: Henry, Elizabeth, and Madeleine. Sara is an electrical engineer and a distinguished alumna of South Dakota State University. The family attends Holy Spirit Catholic Church in Sioux Falls.

TENNESSEE

Lt. Governor Randy McNally



The Honorable Randy McNally, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Tennessee, graduated from Oak Ridge High School in 1962 and earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Memphis State University in 1967.

Called to the health care profession, McNally attended and graduated from the University of Tennessee College of Pharmacy in 1969. After starting his career working in community pharmacies, McNally joined Methodist Medical Center in Oak Ridge as a staff pharmacist. He worked at the Center from 1979 until his retirement in 2010.

Lt. Governor Randy McNally first answered the call to public service in 1978 when he ran for the state house. He won election and served four terms. It was in the state house where he first served on the Finance, Ways and Means Committee. His work on the Finance Committee in both the House and the Senate would become his passion and where he made his greatest impact on the state.

As chairman of the Senate's Finance, Ways and Means Committee for a decade, McNally oversaw the General Assembly's only constitutionally prescribed duty: the passage of a balanced budget. Recognized across the state as a finance and budget expert, McNally's leadership has been critical keeping Tennessee budget in balance and its credit "Triple-A" rated.

In addition to his 26 years on the Senate Finance Ways and Means Committee, McNally also served as chairman of the Senate Education Committee in the 102nd and 103rd General Assemblies.

A legislative leader for nearly 40 years, Lt. Governor McNally has been recognized for both his work in the General Assembly and in his community. McNally counts among his many achievements the American Conservative Union Conservative Achievement Award, NFIB's Guardian of Small Business Award, the Tennessee Association of Chiefs of Police Legislative Award, Tennessee Bureau of Investigation award for Legislative Assistance and the Tennessee Press Association Open Government Award.

Lt. Governor McNally and his wife Janice have two adult daughters, Melissa and Maggie and three grandchildren, Haley, Morgan and Trent.

TEXAS

Lt. Governor Dan Patrick



Dan Patrick was first elected lieutenant governor of Texas in 2014 and re-elected in 2018.

A preeminent voice for principled conservative policies both in Texas and across the nation, Lt. Governor Patrick is leading the fight for life and liberty in Texas including securing the border, reducing property and business taxes, standing up for the Second Amendment and addressing Texas' infrastructure challenges to assure that our state continues to flourish economically.

Lt. Governor Patrick presided over what have been called the most conservative and productive sessions of the State Senate in Texas history. Focusing on strategies to keep Texas families and communities safe and the state economy strong, under

his leadership, the Senate passed legislation to dramatically increase support for border security and reduced the franchise tax by 25% on a pathway to eliminating it all together.

Lt. Governor Patrick has championed property tax relief over several legislative sessions, and during the 86th Legislature, he passed landmark property tax reforms stating that taxing entities cannot raise their revenues more than 3.5% without approval from the people.

He continued the education reforms he began as Chair of the Senate Education Committee, tackling the problems of failing schools and giving parents more choices for their children. In 2019, he led the charge to pass the most comprehensive school finance reform in 40 years. He also passed legislation that increased teacher pay statewide, all while compressing school property taxes for millions of Texans.

Lt. Governor Patrick is an outspoken supporter of law enforcement and, among other things, initiated a program that ensures that every police officer on patrol in Texas has a bullet proof vest that is capable of withstanding a high caliber rifle shot.

Lt. Governor Patrick passed the sonogram bill which has saved thousands of lives and has championed numerous other measures to support and protect every life in Texas.

Before he was elected Lt. Governor, Patrick was twice elected to the Texas Senate representing part of Houston and Northwest Harris County. He is a successful small-business man and radio host, a former television anchor, sportscaster, musician, Christian author and movie producer.

Lt. Governor Patrick is also involved in his community, raising over \$16 million for children with disabilities through his radio show.

He started the first seminary in a Texas prison to train long-serving inmates for the ministry. Through the first 5 graduating classes, 162 inmates have graduated and now serve throughout the Texas prison system.

Lt. Governor Patrick has been married to his wife Jan, a former schoolteacher, for 45 years. He and Jan have two children, Ryan and Shane and six grandchildren.

U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS

Lt. Governor Tregenza Roach



Lt. Governor Tregenza A. Roach, Esq. migrated from St. Kitts to the U.S. Virgin Islands at the age of eight to join his parents, Victor and Iona Roach, who had made St. Thomas their home years earlier.

A proud product of the St. Thomas Seventh Day Adventist School and V.I. public schools, Lt. Governor Roach graduated from Charlotte Amalie High School and attended the College of the Virgin Islands as a Holstein-Lewis scholar. He earned a Bachelor of Journalism at the University of Missouri-Columbia and launched his career as a reporter for the Virgin Islands Daily News, rising to News Editor. He holds a juris doctorate from the University of Connecticut School of Law, where he honed his skills as an effective problem-solver, innovative thinker, and detailed analyst.

Roach was a law clerk at various U.S. and V.I. government offices, practiced in the Territorial Court's Civil and Family divisions and was an associate attorney at Bornn Bornn Handy and Rashid. He has been a member of the Virgin Islands Bar since 1991.

The Lt. Governor's early public service career as Legal Counsel to the V.I. Commissioner of Education and as Executive Director of the Board of Education led to his award-winning consultancy as the Coordinator/Researcher of the University of the Virgin Islands' (UVI) Constitution 2008. The website created under his leadership was included by the Library of Congress in materials for the national election 2008. As the United Nations qualified expert on constitutional development in the U.S. territories, he represented the V.I. at the United Nations Decolonization Seminars in Grenada, Indonesia, and St. Kitts.

Roach has served on UVI's faculty, worked on its other projects with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, its Center for the Study of Spirituality and Professionalism, and was Editor-in-Chief of The Caribbean Writer.

Lt. Governor Roach was elected to the 30th, 31st and 32nd legislatures as a staunch advocate for education, the environment, and the youth and elderly. As a member of the Education Committee of the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL), he garnered the support of this influential body to adopt a resolution supporting full citizenship rights for Virgin Islanders which led to a full NCSL conference session devoted to the affairs of the remaining U.S. territories.

Lt. Governor Roach has served as a board member of the Disability Rights Center and the mental health advocacy group Clear Blue Sky, Inc., as Chairman of the V.I. Humanities Council, and as a volunteer reader and speaker in public and private schools. A poet and author, he has been published in numerous journals and is the recipient of regional and national awards for his adult and children's books.

UTAH

Lt. Governor Deidre Henderson



Deidre M. Henderson became Utah's ninth lieutenant governor on Jan. 4, 2021.

As lieutenant governor, she is Utah's chief election officer and serves as secretary of state. Lt. Gov. Henderson has dedicated her time in office to removing barriers to success for all Utahns, ensuring that elections are well run, and bolstering the state's relationship with Native American tribes. In politics, Lt. Gov. Henderson stands by the wisdom of the U.S. Constitution, free markets, fiscal conservatism, federalism, and the blessings of freedom and liberty.

A mother of five adult children, Lt. Gov. Henderson spent her 20s working, wiping her children's noses and bottoms, and helping put her husband, Gabe, through school. She dropped out of college during her first year at BYU to raise a family in Spanish Fork.

Before Utahns elected Lt. Gov. Henderson as the second-highest official in the Beehive State, she served eight years in the Utah Senate representing south Utah County. As a senator, Sen. Henderson built a reputation as a strong conservative and champion of women and families.

A consensus seeker, Lt. Gov. Henderson assembles every point of view to find solutions. She is a staunch advocate for expanding opportunities for all Utahns.

While in office, Lt. Gov. Henderson created Return Utah, a first-in-the-nation state program for Utahns who have been out of the workforce for an extended period. Return Utah helps people gain relevant experience as they re-enter the workforce.

Lt. Gov. Henderson works closely with Utah's eight federally recognized Native American tribes on infrastructure, education, healthcare, and economic development issues. For example, Lt. Gov. Henderson's work with leaders from the Navajo Nation, state government, San Juan County, and Blanding City helped secure a deal to bring running water to the Diné community of Westwater.

Lt. Gov. Henderson has a passion for history and stands on the shoulders of Utah's many history-making women like Seraph Young Ford, Martha Hughes Cannon, Becky Lockhart, Alberta Henry, and so many more.

While serving as lieutenant governor, she returned to college and earned a bachelor's degree in history from Brigham Young University. Lt. Gov. Henderson loves theater, history, and rural Utah. She hopes to improve how Utah responds to domestic violence.

Lt. Gov. Henderson and her husband Gabe reside in Spanish Fork and spend as much time as possible with their children, three sons-in-law, and two adorable grandsons.

VERMONT

Lt. Governor John Rodgers



Lt. Governor John Rodgers is a dedicated father, husband, farmer, and public servant, currently serving as Vermont's 84th Lieutenant Governor. He resides with his wife, Brenda, on their 200-year-old family farm in Glover, VT, where they continue farming alongside their son.

John's journey in public service began as a collector of delinquent taxes in Glover before being elected to the Vermont House of Representatives in 2003, serving eight years. After a brief hiatus, he represented his district in the Vermont State Senate for another eight years, gaining a reputation as a principled and collaborative legislator. John worked across party lines to champion the rights of working Vermonters, earning respect for his steadfast commitment to constitutional rights and advocacy for affordable living.

Born and raised on his family's dairy farm in West Glover, John grew up learning the values of hard work, honesty, and community. A fifth-generation Vermonter, he developed a deep connection to the land and a strong work ethic. After graduating from Sacred Heart High School in Newport and earning an Associate's Degree from New Hampshire Technical College, he launched a masonry business, specializing in historic restorations, which became his passion.

John and Brenda, married for 33 years, have two grown sons. Their eldest, John F., and his wife Kristen, are raising their two children on the family farm while running their business, 12K Granola. Their younger son, Derek, a Navy veteran, works in biotech while his wife Stephanie serves in the U.S. Navy. Together, they are proud grandparents to three grandchildren.

Through farming, forestry, and their family hemp business, John remains deeply rooted in Vermont, committed to preserving the family farm for future generations.

Virginia

Lt. Governor Ghazala F. Hashmi



Senator Ghazala Hashmi is the first Muslim and the first South Asian American to serve in the Virginia Senate. As an experienced educator and advocate of inclusive values and social justice, her legislative priorities include public education, voting rights and the preservation of democracy, reproductive freedom, gun violence prevention, the environment, housing, and affordable healthcare access.

As a four year old, Ghazala emigrated with her mother and older brother from India to the United States where they joined her father in Georgia just as he was completing his PhD in international relations and beginning his university teaching career. Ghazala grew up in that small college town, at a time when public schools were being desegregated, and so she saw firsthand how communities can be built and dialogue promoted through intentional efforts to bridge cultural, racial, and socioeconomic divides. After graduating as valedictorian of her high school class and receiving multiple full scholarships and

fellowships, Ghazala earned a BA with honors from Georgia Southern University and her PhD in American literature from Emory University in Atlanta.

Ghazala and her husband, Azhar, moved as newlyweds to the Richmond area in 1991, and she spent nearly 30 years as a professor, first teaching at the University of Richmond and then at Reynolds Community College. While at Reynolds, she also served as the Founding Director of the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL). She and Azhar have two adult daughters who both graduated from Chesterfield County Public Schools and the University of Virginia.

First elected to office in November 2019, Ghazala won an upset victory over a Republican incumbent, delivering the majority to Democrats for the first time in years and shocking the political establishment. In 2024, because of the confidence her Democratic colleagues have in her, she was named Chair of the Senate Education and Health Committee, a crucial leadership post for two critical Democratic priorities, reproductive freedom and public education.

As a state Senator, Ghazala has dedicated her efforts to improving the lives of others, focusing on issues of inequity in housing, education, health care, environmental justice, and much more.

WASHINGTON

Lt. Governor Denny Heck



Denny Heck is humbled to serve as Washington's 17th Lieutenant Governor. First elected in 2020, Lieutenant Governor Heck brings to the office a lifetime of experience in the public, private, and non-profit sectors.

As Lieutenant Governor, he is the President of the Washington State Senate and Chair of the Senate Rules Committee. He also serves as Acting Governor whenever Governor Inslee is out of the state. In addition to these constitutional duties, the Lieutenant Governor is designated other duties in state law. Lieutenant Governor Heck currently serves on the Advisory Committee of the Export Import Bank of the United States and is a member of the Governor's Council of Economic Advisors.

Lieutenant Governor Heck previously served as the first United States Representative from Washington's 10th Congressional District. While in Congress, he served on the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, the House Financial Services Committee, and the Joint Economic Committee.

Prior to his service in Congress, Lieutenant Governor Heck successfully grew several small businesses in Washington State. One of those small businesses, which specializes in workplace education, started in Olympia with only two employees and grew to more than 300 people throughout the United States. Lieutenant Governor Heck was also an original investor in Real Networks, the digital entertainment company that pioneered streaming media on the Internet.

A strong advocate of open government, in 1993 Lieutenant Governor Heck cofounded TVW to provide the people of Washington State greater accessibility to their state government. TVW has grown into the nation's preeminent statewide public affairs network. While at TVW, the Lieutenant Governor hosted the renowned public affairs program Inside Olympia and won an Emmy for a documentary he wrote, produced, and directed.

Early in his career, Lieutenant Governor Heck served his community in the State House of Representatives. Elected to five terms, he was chosen by his colleagues to serve as House Majority Leader before retiring in 1986. While in the State House, Lieutenant Governor Heck was one of the prime authors of the state's historic Basic Education Act. After his time in the Legislature, he served as Chief of Staff to Governor Booth Gardner during his second term.

Lieutenant Governor Heck was born in Vancouver, Washington and graduated from The Evergreen State College in 1973. He has been married since 1976 to Paula Fruci Heck, an educator who began her career as a teacher and retired as principal at Jefferson Middle School in Olympia. He and Paula have lived in Olympia since 1985. They have two sons, Bob and Trey, and are grandparents to Maleah and Kal.

WEST VIRGINIA

Lt. Governor Randy Smith



Randy E. Smith is a coal miner born on March 3, 1960, in Oakland, Maryland, to George and Lola Clem. A graduate of East Preston High School, he is married to Patty Smith and has two children, Amy J. Wotring and R. Scott Smith. Smith is affiliated with the National Rifle Association, Brookside Church of the Brethren, the FFA Alumni Association, and the CTE Advisory Board. Elected to the House (2012-2014) and Senate (2016-2024), he served as Senate President during the 80th Legislature and chaired the Committee on Energy, Industry, and Mining during the 83rd through 86th Legislatures. He is a Protestant. Senator Randy E. Smith was unanimously elected as President of the West Virginia Senate in January 2025 and will preside over the Upper Chamber during the 87th Legislature. President Smith commenced his Senate service following his election in the 2016 General Election,

representing the constituents of the 14th Senatorial District. Prior to his election to the Senate, he served in the West Virginia House of Delegates from 2012 to 2016.

Beginning as a laborer, he dedicated almost 44 years to the Mettiki Coal Company, retiring as a safety director. Throughout their marriage, he and his wife have ventured into ownership of various small businesses. Smith's interests include hunting, fly fishing, and sharing stories with those he encounters.

A prominent figure in youth sporting leagues, he was honored with the distinction of the Honorary State Farmer degree by the West Virginia State chapter of the FFA.

President Smith is a proud father to two children, Amy and her husband Tim Wotring, Scott and his wife Beth, as well as a grandfather to seven grandchildren and a great-grandfather to four.

WISCONSIN

Lt. Governor Sara Rodriguez



Lt. Gov. Sara Rodriguez, MSN, MPH, RN, was sworn in as Wisconsin's 46th Lieutenant Governor on January 3, 2023. A working mom, wife, and proud Wisconsinite, Lt. Gov. Rodriguez was elected on November 8, 2022. Before her election, she served in the Wisconsin State Assembly, representing Assembly District 13, comprised of a portion of Waukesha and Milwaukee Counties. While serving as a state representative, she worked on the Committees on Health, Insurance, Energy and Utilities, and Science, Technology and Broadband.

Lt. Gov. Rodriguez is an experienced healthcare executive who has worked in various leadership roles for over 20 years, including founding her own small business. Prior to serving in the Wisconsin State Assembly, Lt. Gov. Rodriguez was the vice president of Population Health and Integrated Care Management at one of the largest healthcare systems in the Midwest. In this role, she provided strategic direction to the teams that managed population health interventions for risk-based contracts and direct-to-employer products.

Before running for office, Lt. Gov. Rodriguez built a career in public health and population health management. She held positions with public health departments at the local, state, and federal levels, including serving as an epidemic intelligence service officer with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the chronic disease director for the state of Colorado, a healthcare systems consultant, and a vice president at a Fortune 100 Company.

Lt. Gov. Rodriguez graduated from Brookfield East High School and earned master's degrees in public health and nursing from Johns Hopkins University. She is passionate about community service as a returned Peace Corps volunteer and Girl Scout Troop leader.

WYOMING

Secretary of State Chuck Gray



Chuck Gray was elected Wyoming's 24th Secretary of State in 2022. As Secretary of State, he oversees the administration of elections, registration of all statutorily authorized business entities, registration of trade names and trademarks, regulation of Wyoming's securities industry, and enforcement of Wyoming's securities statutes. He also serves on the State Loan and Investment Board, the Board of Land Commissioners, and the State Building Commission. Pursuant to the Wyoming State Constitution, Secretary Gray also serves as second-in-command for the Executive Branch.

Prior to his tenure as Secretary of State, Secretary Gray served in the Wyoming House of Representatives for three terms, representing House District 57 in Natrona County. In his first session as a member of the Wyoming House of Representatives, he was the lead sponsor of the ultrasound bill, the first pro-life bill passed in 30 years. He was also the lead sponsor of Wyoming's voter ID law, which was signed into law in 2021. During his time in the legislature, he served on numerous committees, including Minerals, Business & Economic Development; Agriculture, State and Public Lands; Revenue; Judiciary; Management Audit; and Management Council.

As Wyoming Secretary of State, Secretary Gray has emphasized election integrity, working on a number of election integrity reforms that have become law. Secretary Gray is known for his conservative record and for his championing of election integrity. He is a six-time CPAC award winner, winning the award for his conservative voting record each year in the legislature. He has also received Wyoming Right to Life's Platinum Award for his pro-life record.

Secretary Gray graduated from the Wharton School of Business in 2012 with a B.S. in economics.