

For Immediate Release April 17, 2019

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Gov. Pritzker Appoints Maria Bocanegra to the Illinois Commerce Commission

CHICAGO...Effective April 8, 2019, Governor JB Pritzker has appointed Maria Bocanegra to a four-year term at the Illinois Commerce Commission, awaiting confirmation by the state senate.

"I am thankful to Governor Pritzker for appointing me to serve on this important commission and for his confidence in me. I am eager to put my law experience to work on highly technical regulatory issues that directly impact the people of Illinois," said Bocanegra.

Acting Commissioner Bocanegra is an accomplished, well-respected attorney with prior public service in both Democratic and Republican administrations. She most recently served as Arbitrator at the Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission. There, she managed a docket of nearly 3,000 claims, presiding over various matters including pre-trials, trials, settlements, dismissals, attorney fee disputes along with collateral issues involving Medicare and Social Security.

Previously, Acting Commissioner Bocanegra held the Public Seat on the Labor Advisory Board for the Illinois Department of Labor, participating in critical meetings regarding various laws and issues affecting Illinois workers, including those laws enforced by the Department of Labor. She also formerly worked as an attorney with Katz Friedman, where she handled workers' compensation and personal injury claims.

Acting Commissioner Bocanegra earned her Juris Doctor from DePaul University College of Law and her Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Quincy University. She is fluent in Spanish and is the first in her family to obtain a college degree.

"We are pleased to have Acting Commissioner Bocanegra join us as our newest colleague on the Commission. Her strong legal background has prepared her well for this position. We look forward to working with her and the unique perspective she will bring to the conversation," said ICC Chair Carrie Zalewski.

To learn more about the Illinois Commerce Commission click here.

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About the Illinois Commerce Commission

The Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) is a quasi-judicial body made up of five Commissioners. Through its Public Utility Program, the Commission oversees the provision of adequate, reliable, efficient and safe utility services at the least possible cost to Illinois citizens served by electric, natural gas, telecommunications, water and sewer public utility companies. Through its Transportation Regulatory Program, the Commission oversees public safety and consumer protection programs with regard to intrastate commercial motor carriers of general freight, household goods movers, relocation towers, safety towers, personal property warehouses and repossession agencies. The Commission's Rail Safety Program also inspects and regulates the general safety of railroad tracks, facilities and equipment in the state.

To learn more about the Commission, its offices and bureaus, click <u>here</u>. If you are a consumer who needs help resolving a utility dispute call 800-524-0795 or file an online complaint <u>here</u>. For a complaint related to transportation, call 217-782-6448.

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