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Carrie K. Zalewski and Maria S. Bocanegra Confirmed as ICC Chairman and Commissioner

SPRINGFIELD... Carrie K. Zalewski and Maria S. Bocanegra were confirmed by the Illinois State Senate late Friday as the newest members of the Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC). Zalewski is serving as Chairman.

Chairman Zalewski was appointed to a five-year term on March 29, 2019 by Governor J.B. Pritzker and Commissioner Bocanegra was appointed to a four-year term on April 8, 2019.

“I would like to thank Governor Pritzker and the Illinois State Senate for this opportunity to serve the citizens of Illinois,” said Chairman Zalewski. “As Chairman of the ICC, I am committed to engaging with all interested parties and stakeholders in an open and transparent manner as we tackle the challenges that lie ahead.”

Chairman Zalewski is an accomplished, well-respected attorney who has served on the Illinois Pollution Control Board since 2009. Over the past decade she has decided complex environmental cases under the Illinois Environmental Protection Act, shaped critical rulemaking and worked to properly balance the interests of Illinois businesses and residents while protecting Illinois’ land, air, and water. She was appointed under Democratic and Republican governors and earned the respect of her peers and stakeholders directly involved in Board decisions.

Previously, Zalewski served as Assistant Chief Counsel for the Illinois Department of Transportation. She also worked in private practice. She earned her Juris Doctor at the Chicago-Kent Law School and her Bachelor of Science in Engineering from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Commissioner Bocanegra brings to the ICC an extensive record of public service. She most recently served as Arbitrator at the Illinois Workers’ Compensation Commission where 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.

“I look forward to working alongside Chairman Zalewski on this important commission. I am aware of the complexities facing this position and the important balancing of the interests that must be achieved,” said Commissioner Bocanegra. “To that point, I am grateful to Governor Pritzker and members of the Illinois Senate for their confidence in me.”

Previously, 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 worked in private practice handling workers’ compensation and personal injury claims.

Commissioner Bocanegra earned her Juris Doctor from DePaul University College of Law and her Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Quincy University.

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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 [here](#). If you are a consumer who needs help resolving a utility dispute call 800-524-0795 or file an online complaint [here](#). For a complaint related to transportation, call 217-782-6448.

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