



# STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

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*Chair*

CASANDRA B. WATSON  
*Vice Chair*

BERNADETTE M. MATTHEWS  
*Executive Director*

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## ELECTION NEWS

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### STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS APPOINTS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**SPRINGFIELD (Jan. 20, 2022)** – The Illinois State Board of Elections this week named longtime staff member Bernadette Matthews the agency's executive director.

Matthews had served as assistant executive director since 2017 and had been acting executive director since April 2021. Matthews' appointment was approved by a unanimous, 8-0 vote from the board at its Jan. 19 meeting.

A graduate of The Catholic University of America and Seton Hall University School of Law, Matthews joined the Board of Elections as legal counsel in 2009.

In other action, Tonya L. Genovese was sworn in as a member of the board. Genovese, a Granite City native who practices law with the [Gori Law Firm](#) of Edwardsville, fills the vacancy created following the death of Board Member William Haine in August.

The State Board of Elections is an independent state agency charged with the responsibility of having general supervision over the administration of election laws of the State of Illinois. Elections are administered locally by the State's 108 election authorities.

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