



STATE OF MINNESOTA

Office of Governor Tim Walz

130 State Capitol ♦ 75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd ♦ Saint Paul, MN 55155-1611

April 12, 2019

The Honorable Jeremy Miller
President of the Senate
3107 Minnesota Senate Building
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

Dear Senate President Miller:

The following appointments are hereby respectfully submitted to the Senate for confirmation as required by law:

Public Utilities Commission:

Valerie Means, 7785 Cress View Drive, Prior Lake Minnesota, in the County of Scott, effective April 22, 2019, for a term expiring January 6, 2025.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "T. J. Walz".

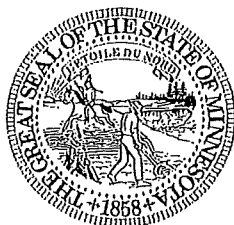
Tim Walz
Governor

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President of the Senate

STATE OF MINNESOTA



TIM WALZ
GOVERNOR

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NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT

Valerie Means

7785 Cress View Drive
Prior Lake, MN 55372
County of Scott
Congressional District 2

Because of the special trust and confidence I have in your integrity, judgment, and ability, I have appointed and commissioned you to have and to hold the office of:

COMMISSIONER

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Effective: April 22, 2019
Term Expires: January 6, 2025

This appointment carries with it all rights, powers, duties, and emoluments granted by law and pertaining to this position until this appointment is superseded or annulled by me or other lawful authority or by any law of this State.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol in the City of Saint Paul, April 12, 2019.



Handwritten signature of Tim Walz in black ink.

Governor

Handwritten signature of Steve Simon in black ink.

Secretary of State

Replacing: Nancy Lange

Cover Letter or Other Helpful Information:

Thank you for considering my application to serve on the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC).

My resume, included below, describes my substantial and diverse legal and policy background. As an Assistant Attorney General and in private practice I developed extensive experience with the many issues the MPUC faces in its decision-making.

The MPUC primarily regulates gas and electric utility services, which are essential to every individual and business in Minnesota. This regulatory responsibility requires the MPUC to ensure that these essential utility services are reliable and affordable. The MPUC makes decisions that determine the type of fuel electric utilities can use to generate their electric service. The MPUC also decides the location of the infrastructure utilities build to deliver those services. As a result, MPUC decisions ultimately affect the lives of nearly every Minnesotan either directly or indirectly. The scope of impacts can range anywhere from the strain on a family's budget to the effects upon the State's environment, public health, economic development and employment.

I believe my professional background and experience dealing directly with utility regulatory issues in public service and in private practice have prepared me for the responsibilities of serving on the MPUC. I look forward to the opportunity to discuss how my skills and attributes would be of value to the important public service work of the Commission.

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Statement of economic interest for a public official

Official: Means, Valerie Smith

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Statement last updated: 4/30/2019

Occupation: Lawyer

Employer: State of MN; MN Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place E, Ste. 350
St Paul, MN 55101

Positions held

Agency	Position held	Appointment date	Appointment ends	Appointment authority
Public Utilities Commission (/reports-and-data/officials-financial-disclosure/agency/14200000/)	Commissioner	4/22/2019	1/6/2025	Governor
Attorney General, Office of the (/reports-and-data/officials-financial-disclosure/agency/70000000/)	Assistant Attorney General	11/21/2005	3/16/2010	Attorney General

Sources of income

None reported

Business or professional activity categories

None reported

Securities

None reported

Real property

None reported

Pari-mutuel horse racing interests

Valerie M. Means

EDUCATION

May 1993

J.D., University of Illinois College of Law, Champaign, Illinois

May 1990

B.A., University of Memphis, Memphis, Tennessee

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PROFESSIONAL LICENSES

State Bar of Illinois, 1993, No. 06216878

State Bar of Minnesota, 2005, No. 0345076

United States District Court, Central District of Illinois, 1995

EXPERIENCE

Minnesota Supreme Court's Roster of Qualified Neutrals/Mediators

Qualified Neutral under Rule 114 of the Minnesota General Rules of Practice

June 2015-present

Moss & Barnett, A Professional Association, Minneapolis, Minnesota

Attorney/Shareholder May 2010-December 31, 2014

Represented public utilities and telecommunications service providers in regulatory proceedings before the Minnesota Public Utility Commission and in state and federal court. Work included administrative, transactional, compliance, contract, legislative advocacy, energy regulatory and litigation matters. Specific topics included work on rate cases, asset purchase and sale agreements, integrated resource plans.

Office of the Minnesota Attorney General, St. Paul, Minnesota

Assistant Attorney General November 2005-March 2010

Provided legal counsel to the Minnesota Department of Commerce, Office of Energy Security (OES) in contested matters pending before the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission. Conducted legal research and provided detailed oral and written legal opinions and advisory memoranda. Reviewed and analyzed records of proceedings and hearings including: filings, testimony, comments, reports of findings of fact and conclusions of law. Provided legal advice on policy questions and legal implications. Advised and assisted the OES relative to compliance with federal and state energy laws, rules and regulations. Monitored proposed legislation pertaining to energy related issues and advised the OES. Specific topics included work on rate cases and certificates of need (route permits, pipelines, transmission lines). Performed other tasks and responsibilities as required.

Law Offices of Valerie M. Smith, Kankakee, Illinois

Attorney-Owner 2001-2005

Civil trial and appellate practice in state and federal courts representing both individuals and business entities in the Chicagoland area. Consistently achieved favorable results for clients. Extensive practice before administrative boards and arbitrators. Bench and jury trials to verdict.

Administrative Law Judge, Kankakee, Illinois

July 2001-August 2005

Conducted formal hearings involving the adjudication of ordinance violations. Duties included administering oaths, regulating the course of the hearings, ruling on preliminary motions, conducting pre-hearing conferences, issuing subpoenas, ruling on proffers of evidence, taking testimony, ruling on questions of evidence, making factual and legal determinations, preparing and issuing rulings thereon.

Sacks, Albrecht, Copeland, Herzog & Smith, Kankakee, Illinois

Attorney/Partner August 1995-1999

AV-rated general litigation firm. Successful and varied practice including complex business contract and tort disputes. Prosecuted and defended claims in state and federal court. Arbitration and mediation proceedings. Appellate practice.

Kankakee County State's Attorneys' Office, Kankakee, Illinois

Assistant State's Attorney November 1993-July 1995

Extensive trial experience.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS:

- Minnesota State Bar Association
- Minnesota Association of Black Lawyers
- Minnesota Women Lawyers

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FORMER PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS:

- Illinois State Bar Association, 1993-2006
- Women's Bar Association of Illinois, 1993-2006
- American Bar Association, 1994-2006
- Chicago Bar Association, 1995-2006
- Association of Trial Lawyers of America, 1994-2003
- Kankakee County Bar Association, 1993-2006
- Society of Women in Law, Founding Member and Vice President 1996, 1996-2006
- Board of Directors, Kankakee Area YMCA, 1996-1999
- Board of Directors, Kankakee Area Salvation Army, 2001-2003
- Advisory Board, Kankakee Community Development Corporation, 2001-2004
- Kiwanis Club, 1998-2006
- Zonta Club, 1999-2006
- Phi Delta Phi Legal Fraternity

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OFFICE OF THE MINNESOTA
SECRETARY OF STATE **STEVE SIMON**

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Application for the position Member

Part I: Position Sought

Agency Name: Public Utilities Commission
Position: Member

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Part II: Applicant Information

Name: Valerie Means
Phone: (612) 968-2667
Mailing Address: 7785 Cress View Drive Prior Lake 55372
Email: means.valerie@yahoo.com
County: Scott
Felony Conviction: No
Mn House District: 55B
US House District: 2
Recommended by the Appointing Authority: False

Public Utilities Commission

Part III: Appending Documentation

Cover Letter and Resume

Type	File Type	
Cover Letter	application/msword	
Resume	text/rtf	

Additional Documents (.doc, .docx, .pdf, .txt)

Type	File Name
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Type**File Name**

No additional documents found.

Part IV: Optional Statistical Information

Race and Natural Origin: African American or Black

Political Party: Democratic-Farm-Labor

Age: 50

Gender: Female

Disability: No

Hispanic, Latino or Spanish origin: No Answer

Part V: Signature

Signature: Valerie Means

Date: 12/21/2018 12:56:55 PM

AGENCY DETAILS

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