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For Immediate Release

Maryland PSC Announces New Staff Positions and New Title for Hearing Examiner Division

Baltimore—The Maryland Public Service Commission has announced two new staff appointments and a new title for the Commission's Hearing Examiners, effective September 7, 2011.

Terry J. Romine, the Commission's current Executive Secretary, has been named as the new Chief Public Utility Law Judge. Romine joined the PSC in 2007 as Deputy Staff Counsel before assuming her present role that same year. Before joining the Commission she held in-house counsel positions and also was a private practitioner, with an emphasis on telecommunications law, regulatory policy, and administrative law. Her experience includes litigating before more than 15 public service commissions and serving on active duty in the U.S. Navy Judge Advocate General's Corps. Romine received her J.D. with distinction, from the John Marshall Law School and an A.B. from the University of Illinois. She is admitted to practice in Maryland, Illinois, New York, and the District of Columbia.

Romine's new title reflects a renaming of the Hearing Examiner Division, which applies public utility law in hearing applications for the construction of power plants and electric power lines and conducts hearings and rates for gas, electric, and telephone companies; rate adjustments for purchased gas and electricity; plant and equipment depreciation; and consumer complaints not resolved at the administrative level. In addition, the Division hears matters relating to taxicab and for-hire vehicle permit holders and drivers' licenses. Consistent with the Division's core function, Hearing Examiners will be known as Public Utility Law Judges. The Division will become the Public Utility Law Judge Division. In her new role, Romine will lead this Division and hear cases.

Assuming the role of Executive Secretary will be David J. Collins, the current Assistant Executive Secretary, who will be responsible for overseeing the daily operations of the Commission; serve as the principal contact for other state and federal agencies, commissions, or companies doing business with the Commission; and manage information technology, fiscal and budget issues, personnel, purchasing, and procurement. Also, records of all proceedings, filed documents, orders and decisions, dockets, and files are maintained by the Executive Secretary. Collins, who was previously Verizon's Director of State Public Policy, retired in January 2011 after 29 years of serving in various capacities. He holds an M.B.A (with a concentration in finance) and a B.A. in business administration (magna cum laude) from Loyola

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College. In addition, Collins has a graduate certificate in telecommunications management from The George Washington University.

PSC Chairman Douglas Nazarian characterized the changes as “exciting,” stating, “Terry Romine and David Collins are strong assets to our organization, and we are pleased that the Commission and the public will continue to benefit from their talent and expertise in their new roles. And we think the title ‘Public Utility Law Judge’ better captures the judicial character of the important work of our Hearing Examiners.”

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