



State of Louisiana

Division of Administration
Office of the Commissioner

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Commissioner Nichols Announces Ruth Johnson as Deputy Commissioner of Administration

BATON ROUGE - Commissioner of Administration Kristy Nichols announced today the appointment of Ruth Johnson as the Deputy Commissioner of Administration upon the retirement of current Deputy Commissioner Ray Stockstill. Johnson currently serves as the Assistant Commissioner for Statewide Services.

“Ruth has a wealth of knowledge and experience in state government and administration. She is a valued member of our team here at the Division, and I am thrilled that she will continue her work for the people of Louisiana in her new role,” said Commissioner Nichols.

Johnson will be assume the role of Deputy Commissioner of Administration effective February 24.

Commissioner Nichols also thanked and praised outgoing Deputy Commissioner Stockstill, who will continue to assist the Division in transition through February 24.

Commissioner Nichols said, “Ray has given over 39 years to the State of Louisiana and that service can never be overstated. He has been an incredible asset to the Division and I can't thank him enough for the work he has accomplished here for so long. We wish Ray all the best in his retirement.”

Biography of Ruth Johnson

Prior to this appointment, Ruth Johnson served the DOA as the Assistant Commissioner for Statewide Services, Special Advisor to the Commissioner and Chief Information Officer.

Ruth Johnson returned to Louisiana last year after servings as the Chief Financial Officer for South Carolina’s Department of Health and Human Services, where her responsibilities included financial management of the state’s \$5.5 billion Medicaid program.

Prior to that, Johnson served as Secretary of Louisiana's Department of Children and Family Services for Gov. Bobby Jindal. During her tenure Johnson identified more than \$32 million in cost savings to the state and spearheaded a modernization of the department, which included creating web-based enrollments, migrating to electronic case files, and improving its customer service centers. For her work at DCFS, Johnson was awarded the 2011 State Innovator of the Year Award by the National Association of State Chief Information Officers.

Johnson's previous appointments include Undersecretary for Management and Finance at DCFS, and Deputy Undersecretary of the Office of Juvenile Justice where she was also responsible for overall financial management and oversight.

Johnson also previously served as OJJ's Account Administrator, as well as an accountant manager at the Department of Corrections where she participated in the development of an audit, payment and approval process for the local housing of state inmates. Prior to joining the Department of Corrections, Johnson worked in the Division's Office of Statewide Reporting and Accounting.

Johnson holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in accounting from Louisiana State University.