



State of Louisiana

Division of Administration
Office of the Commissioner

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Commissioner Nichols Names New Executive Counsel

BATON ROUGE – Today, Commissioner of Administration Kristy Nichols announced that Chief Advisor Ben Huxen will serve as Executive Counsel and Scott Johnson will serve as General Counsel for Division of Administration.

“Ben has provided valuable service as deputy executive counsel and as my chief advisor,” said Commissioner Nichols. “He has demonstrated an impressive level of expertise and I look forward to his work as Executive Counsel.”

Huxen will continue to serve in his current role in addition to Executive Counsel.

Johnson joins DOA from Louisiana Realtors, where he served as General Counsel. Prior to that, he spent ten years as an attorney for Kean Miller with a focus on industrial litigation.

Commissioner Nichols said, “Scott brings a wealth of experience to his new role. His work in litigation and his service as a U.S. Marine make him an excellent fit for the Division. He will be a great addition to our team.”

Elizabeth Murrill has served the administration for the last six years as Deputy Executive Counsel and Executive Counsel to the Governor, as well as Executive Counsel to the Commissioner. She is leaving to pursue opportunities in the private sector. Her last day is October 31.

“Liz has been a tremendous asset to the state, both at the Governor’s Office and here at the Division,” said Commissioner Nichols. “She has met every challenge with dedication, loyalty and drive. Her service has been invaluable and I wish her all the best in the future.”

Murrill said, “The last six years have been remarkable. I am proud of the work we have done and will always treasure this experience. However, I’m leaving the legal department in good hands. Ben and Scott will be fantastic leaders.”

Biography of Ben Huxen

Huxen currently serves as Chief Advisor to the Commissioner of Administration. Previously, he worked as Deputy Executive Counsel for the Division of Administration. Prior to joining DOA, he worked at both the Attorney General's and the Legislative Auditor's Offices. Huxen received his Juris Doctor from LSU's Paul M. Hebert Law Center and is a CPA and board certified tax law specialist. He has a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting with a minor in Political Science from LSU.

Huxen also served in the Louisiana Army National Guard for six years as a cannon crewmember in the Washington Artillery.

Biography of Scott Johnson

Johnson brings more than 20 years of experience to his new role, including most recently serving as General Counsel for Louisiana Realtors. Prior to that, he worked as an attorney for Kean Miller and Captain in the U.S. Marine Corps, where he served as defense attorney and senior prosecutor. He received his Juris Doctor from the University of Pennsylvania Law School and holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in English Literature from LSU.

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