

**PENNSYLVANIA
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265**

Public Meeting held July 10, 2025

Commissioners Present:

Stephen M. DeFrank, Chairman
Kimberly Barrow, Vice Chair
Kathryn L. Zerfuss
John F. Coleman, Jr.
Ralph V. Yanora

Consumer Advisory Council Membership

M-2025-3056098

ORDER

BY THE COMMISSION:

The Consumer Advisory Council (CAC) of the Public Utility Commission (Commission) was created in 1977 to provide an advisory group consisting of members not employed by the Commission. The CAC advises the Commission about matters related to the protection of consumer interests that are under the jurisdiction of the Commission.¹ The CAC considers matters which arise from consumer inquiry or request, Commission inquiry or request or the proceedings, deliberations or motions of the CAC itself.² The CAC makes periodic reports to the Commission regarding its activities and recommendations as to how the Commission may better serve the public and, particularly, the interest of ratepayers.³

Members of the CAC serve a 2-year term and can be reappointed without limit.⁴ The CAC is composed of persons who, as a group, reflect a reasonable geographic representation of the Commonwealth and includes low-income individuals, members of

¹ 52 Pa. Code § 91.2 (Purposes of the Council).

² 52 Pa. Code § 91.3(a).

³ 52 Pa. Code § 91.3(b).

⁴ 52 Pa. Code § 91.4(a)(1).

minority groups and various classes of customers.⁵ A person may not serve as a member of the CAC if that person occupies an official relation to a public utility or holds or is a candidate for a paid appointive or elective office of the Commonwealth.⁶ Members of the CAC serve without compensation.⁷

It is now time for the Commission to appoint or reappoint members to the CAC for the 2025-2027 term. The Commission appoints members of the CAC as appropriate to comply with the purposes of the CAC.⁸ Additional members are appointed by the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, the Majority and Minority Chairpersons of the Senate Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure Committee and the Majority and Minority Chairpersons of the House Consumer Protection, Technology and Utilities Committee.⁹

As an initial matter, we express our gratitude and appreciation for three members who are not continuing in their roles on the CAC. Tim Hennessey has served on the CAC for 16 years, including eight as its Chairman, and has decided not to seek another term. Justyn Patton, who was appointed by Senator Patrick Stefano, and Eileen Mazza, who is a Commission-appointed member of the CAC, have also decided not to seek another term on the CAC. We thank them for their contributions.

In terms of appointments to the CAC, we hereby confirm the appointment of Patrick Cicero by Governor Josh Shapiro, Chad J. Quinn by Lieutenant Governor Austin Davis, and Charles Lanier by Chairman Danilo Burgos. Mr. Cicero is the former Consumer Advocate of Pennsylvania, former CAC member and chair and currently

⁵ 52 Pa. Code § 91.4(c)(1).

⁶ 52 Pa. Code § 91.4(c)(2).

⁷ 52 Pa. Code § 91.5.

⁸ 52 Pa. Code § 91.4(c)(3).

⁹ 52 Pa. Code § 91.4(c)(3).

works for the Pennsylvania Utility Law Project. Mr. Quinn serves as the Chief Executive Officer of the Pittsburgh-based Dollar Energy Fund and is already a CAC member. Mr. Lanier has a number of volunteer and employment experiences with community advisory boards in Philadelphia, including the Philadelphia Housing Authority where he retired from in 2012. We welcome Mr. Cicero and Mr. Lanier to the CAC and thank Mr. Quinn for his continued service.

We also confirm the reappointments of Commission-appointed CAC members Mary Bach, Lenora Best, Elizabeth Marx, Theresa Mingarell, Sonny Popowsky, and Sylvia Simms. Ms. Bach is a former high school teacher, volunteer chair of AARP's Pennsylvania Consumer Issues Task Force and is a strong voice for consumers across Pennsylvania. Ms. Best has an extensive background in consumer protection policy and is a retired manager with the Commission's Bureau of Consumer Services. Ms. Mingarell is also a prior employee of the Commission's Bureau of Consumer Services and has also worked with the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare. Ms. Simms is the founder of PARENT POWER, a training program to get families more involved in their children's education and has been involved with community improvement efforts for more than a decade. Ms. Marx is the Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Utility Law Project and currently chairs the Pennsylvania Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program Advisory Committee. Mr. Popowsky was the Consumer Advocate from 1990 to 2012. Each of them is continuing their service to the CAC for another term.

Finally, we welcome and confirm the appointment of new Commission-appointed CAC member, Autumn Thomas. Ms. Thomas is retired after a long career with the Pennsylvania Food Merchants Association and is a member of AARP's Pennsylvania Consumer Issues Task Force. This will be Ms. Thomas' first term on the CAC.

We thank all appointees in advance for their involvement on the CAC and their willingness to devote their time and efforts to give consumers an active voice at the Commission. **THEREFORE,**


IT IS ORDERED:

1. That, pursuant to 52 Pa. Code § 91.4(c)(1-3), the Public Utility Commission ratifies and accepts the following appointments to the Consumer Advisory Council for the term beginning on July 1, 2025, and continuing through June 30, 2027:

- a. Governor Josh Shapiro
- b. Lt. Governor Austin
- c. Chairman Danilo Burgos
- d. Commission Appointees

Patrick Cicero
Davis Chad J. Quinn
Charles L. Lanier
Mary Bach
Lenora M. Best
Elizabeth Marx
Theresa D. Mingarell
Sonny Popowsky
Sylvia Simms
Autumn Thomas

BY THE COMMISSION



Matthew L. Homsher
Secretary

(SEAL)

ORDER ADOPTED: July 10, 2025

ORDER ENTERED: July 25, 2025