

Sherina Maye Edwards

Commissioner Sherina Maye Edwards was appointed by Governor Pat Quinn on February 25, 2013, to a five year term on the Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC). This appointment was historical as she was the youngest commissioner ever appointed in the state of Illinois.

Prior to her appointment, Commissioner Edwards practiced as an attorney with the highly ranked international law firm, Locke Lord LLP, where she focused on all aspects of consumer finance litigation. Since her appointment to the ICC, she has taken an interest in electric reliability, water, natural gas and critical infrastructure issues. Through her active involvement in the National Association for Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC), Commissioner Edwards serves as the Chair of the Subcommittee on Supplier and Workforce Diversity and as a member of the Committee on Gas, with previous service on the Water Committee. She has also been selected to co-chair the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) Voluntary Information-Sharing System Working Group and is a member of the Organization of MISO States, serving as Secretary of the Board.

Commissioner Edwards has been a champion for diversity and inclusion and in September 2014, founded the Women's Energy Summit as an annual forum for select women across the nation to discuss pertinent issues in the energy industry, highlight accomplishments, uplift rising stars and break down barriers. In 2015, she co-founded the Chicago chapter of the Women's Energy Network, an organization which attracts, educates and develops professional women across the energy value chain. She was influential in the establishment of the ICC's Office of Diversity and Community Affairs and the formation of the Illinois Utilities Business Diversity Council, a forum for best practice sharing and information exchange among Illinois' utilities with a focus on advancing the growth and utilization of diverse businesses in the state of Illinois.

Most recently, Commissioner Edwards was selected as a 2017 Eisenhower Fellow. In this capacity, she will serve as an ambassador for the United States in South Africa and Australia, meet with leading experts in the energy field, and learn more about the shift to renewable energy. A member of the Leadership Greater Chicago Fellows Class of 2015 and the Lake Shore chapter of the Links, Inc., Commissioner Edwards sits on several boards, including the Board of Directors of the Girl Scouts of Greater Chicago and Northwest Indiana, the National Executive Board of Delta Sigma Theta and the Founding Board of Directors of the Great Lakes Academy Charter School. She also spends time volunteering with and mentoring underprivileged youth in the Chicago community. Commissioner Edwards earned a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Spelman College, cum laude, and a Juris Doctorate from Howard University School of Law in Washington, D.C., where she was a merit scholar.