



TO: The Honorable the Members of the Board of Regents

FROM: Betty A. Rosa, Interim Commissioner

SUBJECT: Appointment of Sharon Cates-Williams as Executive Deputy Commissioner

DATE: January 11, 2021

AUTHORIZATIONS:

SUMMARY

Issue for Decision

Will the Board of Regents approve my appointment of Sharon Cates-Williams as Executive Deputy Commissioner?

Reason for Consideration

Ms. Sharon Cates-Williams was appointed at the December 14, 2020 Board meeting to serve as Acting Executive Deputy Commissioner. Prior to that, Sharon had served as Deputy Commissioner for Operations and Management Services for almost 10 years where she has overseen Human Resources, Information Technology, Chief Information Security Office, Chief Privacy Officer, Audit Services, Business and Facilities Services, the Office of State Review, and most recently Cultural Education and ACCES. Prior to joining the Department, Mrs. Cates-Williams served as the Deputy Chief Information Officer and Chief Technology Officer for the NYS Office for Technology (OFT). She has also served as the Commissioner for Information Technology for both the Suffolk County Government and Town of North Hempstead. Mrs. Cates-Williams was a Vice President in the Global Technology Division at Lehman Brothers, Inc. for 17 years before entering public service. Mrs. Cates-Williams has a Bachelor of Business Administration – International Marketing from CUNY – Bernard M. Baruch College.

Proposed Handling

This recommendation is to permanently appoint Ms. Sharon Cates-Williams to Executive Deputy Commissioner. This appointment will come before the Full Board of Regents for final action January 11, 2021.

Timetable for Implementation

If the Board of Regents approves the recommendation, the appointment will be effective immediately.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Regents take the following action:

VOTED, that the Board of Regents approve the appointment of Sharon Cates-Williams as Executive Deputy Commissioner immediately.