



## Oklahoma Workers' Compensation Commission

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### **Workers' Comp Commission Hires New General Counsel**

(Oklahoma City November 6, 2019) – Oklahoma Workers' Compensation Commission (WCC): The Commissioners of the WCC have hired Lauren Hammonds Johnson as the agency's new General Counsel effective November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019. The General Counsel will work directly under Commissioners Mark Liotta, Jordan Russell and Megan Tilly.

Chairman Liotta said, "Lauren has an impressive array of legal experience from her time as an Assistant Attorney General for the State of Oklahoma. Of particular interest to us was her assignment to the General Counsel and Executive Division of the Attorney General. As a part of this position she was one of the lead educators on Oklahoma's Open Meeting and Open Records Act."

Mrs. Hammonds Johnson will be taking over the role of General Counsel from Sarah Greenwalt McMurray, who has been appointed as an Assistant U.S. Attorney with the U.S. Attorney's Office.

The WCC's General Counsel is charged with providing counsel regarding compliance with the Oklahoma Open Meetings Act for meetings of the WCC and its advisory bodies, responding to open record requests, drafting and managing all contracts, directing the WCC's rulemaking process and ensuring compliance with general agency statutory mandates. The General Counsel additionally supports the agency's regulatory functions including permitting services and the compliance division

Lauren spent the last six years working for the Oklahoma Office of the Attorney General as an Assistant Attorney General. Her time at the Office of the Attorney General included an assignment to a Multicounty

Grand Jury Unit that prosecuted various types of criminal cases across the state. She was also assigned to the General Counsel and Executive Division where she published opinions on behalf of the Attorney General.

Lauren received her Bachelor's degree in accounting from Oklahoma State University and earned her Juris Doctorate from the University of Oklahoma College of Law. She currently resides in the Oklahoma City area with her husband Kevin.

Oklahoma's workers' compensation system was reformed in 2013, by the Administrative Workers' Compensation Act (Act). The Act created the Workers' Compensation Commission (WCC) which became fully operational effective February 1, 2014. The WCC provides a forum for workers' compensation hearings and appeals, ensures compliance with relevant statutes by employers, and regulates organizations who wish to self-fund their workers' compensation obligations.

For additional information, contact: Director of Communications and Administration Collin Fowler at (405) 522-8606; [Communications@wcc.ok.gov](mailto:Communications@wcc.ok.gov)



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