

CONSTITUTIONAL EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

ELECTED OFFICERS

(Terms Expire January 1, 2007)

Governor

JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM, Northville

Lieutenant Governor

JOHN D. CHERRY, JR., Clio

Secretary of State

TERRI LYNN LAND, Byron Center

Attorney General

MIKE COX, Livonia

APPOINTED OFFICERS

State Treasurer

JAY B. RISING,¹ Lansing

Superintendent of Public Instruction

THOMAS D. WATKINS, JR.,² Lansing

¹Appointed State Treasurer by Governor Jennifer Granholm for a term commencing on January 6, 2003; confirmed by the Senate on January 21, 2003.

²Appointed Superintendent of Public Instruction by the State Board of Education effective April 30, 2001.

THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM, GOVERNOR

JOHN D. CHERRY, JR., LT. GOVERNOR

George W. Romney State Office Building

P.O. Box 30013, Lansing, MI 48909

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As Michigan's chief executive officer, the **governor** is responsible for managing state government to meet the needs of Michigan citizens and families. The governor sets overall policy direction for the executive branch, appoints most department directors and members of state boards and commissions, recommends the state budget to the legislature, and has numerous other responsibilities outlined by the Constitution of 1963 and state statutes.

The **lieutenant governor** performs gubernatorial functions in the governor's absence; presides over the state senate; provides a tie-breaking vote in the senate; serves as a member of the State Administrative Board; heads a number of task forces, commissions and committees; assists the governor in formulating and implementing state policies and programs; and assists the Executive Office in working with the public and government agencies.

The Executive Office includes divisions that help both the governor and lieutenant governor serve the public. These various offices assist in managing state government, developing policy, and implementing new initiatives. The **Legislative Affairs Division** is responsible for working with the legislature to develop and pass bills necessary to implement the governor's agenda. The **Public Policy Division** works with the governor's cabinet and interested citizens and groups in developing new policy initiatives, and advises the governor on a wide range of issues. The **Communications Division** is responsible for media relations and for providing the public with news about state government. The **Legal Division** advises the governor on legal matters. The **Appointments Division** directs the process by which the governor selects candidates for appointment. The **Constituent Services Division** enables citizens to connect directly with the governor's office regarding policy concerns or assistance with state government services. Directors for **Special Projects** and **Community-Based Initiatives** assist and advise the governor on a variety of subjects. The **Scheduling Division** manages requests for the governor's time. The **Operations and Information Technology Division** handles logistics and personnel issues for Executive Office staff.

Additionally, the **Governor's Office for Southeast Michigan** and the **Governor's Upper Peninsula Office** help the governor stay connected to constituents around the state. The **Washington Office** represents Michigan's interests to Congress and the President and advises the governor on important national issues. The **Office of the First Gentleman** focuses on projects that help to advance the governor's priorities.



**GOVERNOR
JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM**

Democrat. Jennifer M. Granholm made history when she was elected the 47th governor of Michigan on November 5, 2002. The first female governor in the state's history, she also served as Michigan's first female attorney general from 1999-2002. Jennifer Granholm is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of the University of California at Berkeley and an honors graduate of Harvard Law School. After graduating from Harvard, she clerked on the Federal Court of Appeals for the Honorable Damon J. Keith. She was a federal prosecutor in the U.S. Attorney's Office, and in 1994 was the youngest person to be appointed as Wayne County Corporation Counsel. With her election in 1998, she became Michigan's first new attorney general in 37 years. She established the state's first High Tech Crime Unit to prosecute Internet crimes, and prosecuted more environmental crimes during her four-year term than in the history of the office. Following the September 11 attacks on the United States, she led a multi-agency effort to ensure that Michigan laws could effectively be used to fight terrorism at the state level and cracked down on gas stations accused of gouging customers during the crisis. Jennifer Granholm is married to Dan Mulhern, a Yale University and Harvard Law School graduate. They have three children: Kate, Cecilia, and Jack.



**LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
JOHN D. CHERRY, JR.**

With a career rich in service in the Michigan Legislature, Lt. Governor John D. Cherry was the ideal choice to be Governor Jennifer M. Granholm's Lieutenant Governor. With 20 years of service in the Michigan Legislature, Cherry received many awards and honors during his career, including recognition from *The Detroit News* as one of Michigan's "Most Effective Legislators."

Known as an inclusive and fair-minded leader who works to forge relationships with both sides, Lt. Governor Cherry served as Senate Democratic Leader from 1995 to 2002. Prior to that, he served as Senate Democratic Floor Leader from 1990 to 1995. He was first elected to the Michigan Senate in 1986, after serving two terms in the Michigan House of Representatives.

His interest in politics began as a teenager. At age 18, he formed a political group for young people, sparked by the national turmoil of the Vietnam War and the civil rights movement. His political activism carried over into his work life, as he took a job as administrative assistant to former State Senator Gary Corbin. He later served as the Michigan political director for the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO, until his election to the Michigan House.

As an active and involved legislator, Lt. Governor Cherry focused on the issues that were most important to him — families, the quality of life in our great state, the environment, and the great outdoors. He has authored and co-sponsored several milestone Michigan laws dealing with workers' rights, environmental protection, and conservation.

Born May 5, 1951, in Sulphur Springs, Texas, Cherry's father John Sr. worked for the phone company, working his way up from lineman to supervisor. While working for the phone company, he met his future wife, Margaret, who was working as an operator. She later retired from the Genesee County Animal Shelter as an office manager, and still resides in Genesee County.

Lt. Governor Cherry received a bachelor's degree in Political Science from the University of Michigan in 1973 and a Master's degree in Public Administration from the University of Michigan–Flint in 1984.

Cherry is married to Pamela M. Faris. They have a daughter, Meghan, and a son, Dan. The family has an active interest in springer spaniels, and Cherry is a member of the Eastern Michigan Springer Spaniel Association. An avid hunter and outdoorsman, Cherry and his family live in Genesee County.



SECRETARY OF STATE TERRI LYNN LAND

Terri Lynn Land was elected to serve as Michigan's 41st Secretary of State in November 2002 and took office on January 1, 2003.

Improved customer service and an expanded technology base are the hallmarks of her administration. She is committed to providing the highest possible level of customer service in a cost-effective and efficient manner. Increasing the availability of Web-based services is the primary way in which she is enhancing customer convenience and department efficiency.

Land believes that effective government thinks creatively. She is open to exploring alternative ways of doing business. For example, Land immediately embarked on an ambitious schedule of visiting with employees and the public at all 173 Department of State branch offices to share ideas regarding better ways of addressing customers' needs.

Land is designated as Michigan's Chief Motor Vehicle Administrator, Chief Election Officer, and Keeper of the Great Seal. She is second in line of succession to the governor. She is a member of the State Administrative Board, the National Association of Secretaries of State, and the Governor's Traffic Safety Advisory Committee.

Prior to her election, Land served as Kent County Clerk from 1992 to 2000, at a time of tremendous change and growth in Michigan's fourth-largest county. She achieved her goal of making county government easier to work with and more accessible. By building coalitions with other members of county government, local and statewide judges, the state legislature, and the voters, she made sure that elections and vital record keeping are completely accurate and accessible. She has also been a leader in enforcing compliance with campaign finance laws and working with the Qualified Voter File.

Land's involvement in politics began in high school, when she was a volunteer for the Gerald R. Ford for President campaign. A budding politician from Grandville High School, she was one of the youngest attendees at the Republican State Convention in 1978.

Heavy involvement with community organizations is also one of Land's traits. She is active with the Metropolitan Hospital Foundation, Potter's House, Byron Center Fine Arts Foundation, Van Singel Community Fine Arts Council, and the Women's Resource Center. In her spare time, Land enjoys gardening and water-skiing.

Of all her accomplishments, Land is most proud of her family. She has been married to Dan Hibma for 19 years. The couple has two children together, Jessica and Nicholas. They attend Corinth Reformed Church, where Land was nursery supervisor for many years. A graduate of Grandville High School, she earned a bachelor's degree in political science from Hope College in Holland, Michigan.



**ATTORNEY GENERAL
MIKE COX**

Mike Cox was born on December 29, 1961, the son of Irish immigrants, John and Rita Cox. Mike grew up in Redford, Michigan, and attended schools in Redford and Detroit. Enlisting in the U.S. Marine Corps after high school graduation, Mike served with distinction as a Marine for 3 years. During that service, Mike earned the Navy Achievement Medal and Command Marine of the Year designation. Upon discharge, Mike enrolled at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor.

It was at the University of Michigan that Mike decided to dedicate himself to public service as a prosecutor. In 1989, Mike graduated from the University of Michigan Law School and accepted a position with the Oakland County Prosecutor's Office. One year later, Mike transferred to the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office in Detroit to serve the community in which he was raised.

In 2000, Mike was appointed the Director of the Wayne County Prosecutor's Homicide Unit. As Director, Mike was responsible for the charging and trial of every homicide prosecution in Wayne County. During Mike's 13 years of prosecutorial service, he had a 90% conviction rate. Mike oversaw 14 specially assigned prosecutors who worked only on homicide cases. Mike's Homicide Unit prosecuted approximately 2/3 of all homicides in the state of Michigan. Under his leadership, the Homicide Unit expanded and developed several innovative programs, such as Operation Second Shot, a joint city/state/federal task force that investigates "cold cases." This operation has investigated and solved 30 previously unsolved homicides in the past year alone.

Prior to leading the Homicide Unit, Mike spent years prosecuting organized crime cases, ranging from public corruption cases to drug and gang-related homicides. He tried well over 125 jury trials, in addition to hundreds of bench trials. Mike is a highly respected trial lawyer and manager, known for his intellect, skill, and unwavering integrity.

Mike's wife Laura is a former federal agent. Mike and Laura have four children, two daughters and two sons.



**STATE TREASURER
JAY B. RISING**

Governor Jennifer Granholm appointed Jay B. Rising as State Treasurer, effective January 6, 2003. As Treasurer, Mr. Rising oversees the collection, investment, and disbursement of all state monies. In addition, the Treasurer administers major tax laws, safeguards the credit of the state, and distributes revenue sharing monies to local units of government. Before accepting his appointment, Mr. Rising practiced law with Miller, Canfield, Paddock and Stone, P.L.C. Practice areas included Public Law, State and Municipal Finance, Public Securities, and Development Finance. Mr. Rising also served as Deputy State Treasurer for Policy Development and Finance and as Chief Deputy State Treasurer between 1983 and 1991.

Mr. Rising holds a law degree from Wayne State University. He received his undergraduate degree from the University of Michigan.



**SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION
THOMAS D. WATKINS, JR.**

Mr. Thomas D. Watkins, Jr. serves as Superintendent of Public Instruction. He was appointed to this position by the State Board of Education effective April 30, 2001. Mr. Watkins started his professional career with Youth and Living Services, Inc., now Starfish Human Services, in 1976. There, he established Counterpoint, a shelter that provided emergency housing for troubled youth and counseling for their families. While serving as Acting Executive Director of Wayne (mental health) Center, 1980-1981, and as a management consultant with Plante and Moran, 1981-1982, he was elected to serve on the Wayne County Charter Commission. In 1982, he served as Deputy Campaign Manager in Governor Blanchard's first successful Blanchard for Governor Committee. In 1983, Governor Blanchard named Mr. Watkins to the post of Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the Governor. He served as Deputy Director of Administration in the Michigan Department of Mental Health from 1983-1984. From 1984 through 1986, he served as Chief Deputy Director in the Department of Mental Health. Governor Blanchard appointed Mr. Watkins Director of the Michigan Department of Mental Health in 1987. As Special Assistant to the President for Public School Initiatives at Wayne State University, 1991-1996, Mr. Watkins played a key role in creating Michigan's first charter school. From 1996-2001, Mr. Watkins served as President and CEO of the Economic Council of Palm Beach County, Florida. Concurrently, he served as Executive Director of the Education Partnership of Palm Beach County, 1996-1999. Mr. Watkins received a Master's of Social Work Administration from Wayne State University in 1979, after earning his Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice in 1977 from Michigan State University. He is in the process of completing requirements in the Doctoral Program, Education Administration, at Wayne State University. Mr. Watkins has two children, Daniel and Katherine.

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION



JOHN C. AUSTIN



ELIZABETH W. BAUER



CAROLYN L. CURTIN



MARIANNE YARED MCGUIRE



HERBERT S. MOYER



KATHLEEN N. STRAUS



REGINALD M. TURNER



EILEEN L. WEISER

Members

Term expires

KATHLEEN N. STRAUS, <i>President</i> , Detroit	Jan. 1, 2009
HERBERT S. MOYER, <i>Vice President</i> , Temperance	Jan. 1, 2005
CAROLYN L. CURTIN, <i>Secretary</i> , Evart	Jan. 1, 2011
JOHN C. AUSTIN, Ann Arbor	Jan. 1, 2009
ELIZABETH W. BAUER, Birmingham	Jan. 1, 2011
MARIANNE YARED MCGUIRE, <i>NASBE Delegate</i> , Detroit	Jan. 1, 2005
REGINALD M. TURNER, Detroit	Jan. 1, 2007
EILEEN LAPPIN WEISER, Ann Arbor	Jan. 1, 2007

ex officio

JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM, Governor
THOMAS D. WATKINS, Jr., Superintendent of Public Instruction

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Members

The 8 voting members of the **Michigan State Board of Education** are elected at-large on the partisan statewide ballot for 8-year terms. Two are elected every 2 years in the general election. In addition, there are 2 nonvoting, ex officio members — the governor and the state superintendent of public instruction, who is chairman of the board. Any vacancies on the board which occur between elections are filled through appointment by the governor for the remainder of the term.

The state board elects its own officers for 2-year terms. It also selects and appoints the state superintendent of public instruction, who administers the Michigan Department of Education.

The state board of education is at the core of an unusual state education system which seeks to carry out Michigan's long tradition of local control balanced against the overall needs of the people statewide.

Historical Background

The Northwest Ordinance in 1787 encouraged schools and the means of education.

In 1809, nearly 3 decades before statehood, Michigan territorial law directed each judicial district to start schools and collect a tax for them. The **territorial council** made it mandatory in 1829 to divide the townships into school districts and gave the state the right to inspect and supervise schools and to set the length of time each would be open.

Michigan's first constitution, in 1835, created the office of superintendent of public instruction. **John D. Pierce**, a New England clergyman who had come to Michigan as a frontier missionary, was named the first superintendent, becoming the first independent administrator of education under a state constitution in the United States.

Michigan became a state in 1837 and adopted a new constitution in 1850 which formalized the state board of education as a **constitutional body**. The state board of education was created by the Michigan Legislature in 1849 to administer what is now Eastern Michigan University. Many duties were extended to the board over the years, but the current responsibilities were established in the 1963 state constitution.

Constitutional Powers

The state constitution provides:

Leadership and general supervision over all public education, including adult education and instructional programs in state institutions, except as to institutions of higher education granting baccalaureate degrees, is vested in a state board of education. It shall serve as the general planning and coordinating body for all public education, including higher education, and shall advise the legislature as to the financial requirements in connection therewith.

— Const. 1963, art. VIII, sec. 3 (in part)

The state board of education exercises its constitutional **duties** of leadership and general supervision over all public education, including adult education and instructional programs in state institutions, except for institutions of higher education granting baccalaureate degrees. The state board advises the legislature on the financial requirements of baccalaureate degree granting institutions.

The state board of education has many direct supervisory duties in connection with local school districts and community colleges and indirect coordinating duties in connection with the 4-year state colleges and universities.

Among its several duties, the state board of education distributes state funds to local school districts; examines and in some cases approves, construction and financial plans of local districts; reimburses schools for certain programs such as school lunches, bus transportation, and remedial and special education; administers federal aid programs; and provides student financial aid. In addition, the state board appoints advisory councils and committees from the education community and general public to investigate, review, or make recommendations.