



## **DELAWARE STATE HOUSING AUTHORITY NEWS RELEASE**

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### **Delaware Council on Housing Welcomes New Members**

The Delaware Council on Housing recently welcomed three new members; Hugh Leahy, Russell Huxtable and William Pearson.

“I am pleased to announce the appointments of three new Council members,” Gov. Ruth Ann Minner said. “Their combined experience working with community organizations, Delaware businesses and housing will be of tremendous benefit to this organization. I want to thank each of them for offering their time to help those in our state who are in need of affordable housing.”

Delaware State Housing Authority Director Sandy Johnson said, “These three very talented people bring unique skills and experience to the Council, and I look forward to working with them on our priority issues of preservation, eliminating chronic homelessness and foreclosure prevention.”

Mr. Leahy is the Senior Vice President of the Delaware Community Foundation, and he manages over \$225 million in donated funds benefiting good causes in Delaware.

He has nearly 35 years of experience in the financial services industry. During his career he has served as President, Director and Board member of the Delaware Bankers Association.

Mr. Huxtable is the Vice President/Chief Operating Officer of Milford Housing Development Corporation (MHDC), a private, non-profit corporation that was organized in 1977 to provide decent, safe and sanitary housing for very low- to moderate-income households in Kent and Sussex Counties, Delaware. MHDC has a long history in affordable housing development that has benefited hundreds of low-income citizens of Delaware.

Mr. Pearson brings 25 years of corporate experience to the Council, with a specialized background in Information Technology and project management systems. Mr. Pearson spent nine years as a Volunteer Instructor with the Academy of Lifelong Learning at the University of Delaware, seven years as an Adjunct Instructor at Delaware Technical and Community College and is an Outreach Coordinator with the Wilmington Main Street program.

Council members Connie Louder and John Walker were re-appointed for three-year terms. Rounding out the Council are members Roseann Harkins (Chair), Norma H. Zumsteg (Vice Chair), Constance McCarthy, Joseph McDonough, Ruth Sokolowski and Vincent White.

The Council on Housing's principle duties are to advise the Governor, the Housing Director and the Legislature, and approve the allocation of loans and grants through the Housing Development Fund. Council members are appointed by the Governor, and meet the second Wednesday of each month. To access the meeting schedule, please visit <http://www.delaware.gov/egov/calendar.nsf/>.

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