# Chapter Four

# **State Executive Offices**

Governor	
Lieutenant Governor	
Attorney General	
State Auditor	
Secretary of State	
Executive Councils and Boards	
Executive Officers Since Statehood	

# OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR



Tim Walz (Democratic-Farmer-Labor) Elected: 2018, 2022 Term: Four years Term expires: January 2027 Statutory Salary: \$127,629

Mankato. BS, Social Science Education, Chadron State College (1989); MS, Educational Leadership, Minnesota State University, Mankato (2001); Teacher, Harvard World Teach (1989-1990); Command Sergeant Major, Army National Guard (1981-2005); Teacher, Mankato West High School (1996-2006); Representative, First Congressional District of Minnesota, United States House of Representatives (2006-2019).

130 State Capitol, 75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., St. Paul, MN 55155 Phone: (651) 201-3400 Toll-free: (800) 657-3717 Minnesota Relay: (800) 627-3529 Website: mn.gov/governor/

Email: Use online form at: http://mn.gov/governor/contact

**Minnesota Constitution provides:** To qualify as governor, a person must be 25 years old, reside in the state one year, be a citizen of the United States and elected by the people (Article V).

The primary duties of the governor are to oversee all operations of state government and to take the lead in shaping public policy through legislative proposals and agency initiatives. The operation of government is carried out through more than 23 major departments whose heads are appointed by the governor. These department heads, along with the lieutenant governor and chief of staff, make up the governor's cabinet.

The departments of revenue and management and budget are the governor's chief advisors on financial matters; the departments of employment and economic development, labor and industry, and commerce advise the governor regarding economic development, the business climate, and business regulation; the departments of health, human services, education, and corrections advise the governor on various social policies; and the departments of pollution control and natural resources carry out the governor's environmental policies.

The governor appoints people to state boards and commissions and appoints judges for all state courts when vacancies occur. He chairs the State Executive Council, Land Exchange Board, and Board of Investment. As commander-in-chief of state military forces, the governor can activate the National Guard for emergency duty.

The governor reviews all bills passed by the legislature and has the power to veto those he disapproves. On occasion, the governor may appear before the Legislature. Because of the separation of powers required by the Minnesota Constitution, a governor may enter a legislative chamber only with the permission of the Legislature. Only the governor has the power to call a special session of the Legislature.

## OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



Peggy Flanagan (Democratic-Farmer-Labor) Elected: 2018, 2022 Term: Four years Term expires: January 2027 Statutory Salary: \$82,959

St. Louis Park. B.A., University of Minnesota (2002); Senior Trainer, Director / Founder, Native American Leadership Program, Director of External Affairs, Wellstone Action (2006-2013); Executive Director, Children's Defense Fund - Minnesota (2013-2016); Representative, District 46A, Minnesota House of Representatives (2015-2019).

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Email: Use online form at: http://mn.gov/governor/contact

**Minnesota Constitution provides:** To qualify as lieutenant governor a person must be 25 years old, reside in the state one year, be a citizen of the United States, and elected by the people jointly with the governor by a single vote applying to both offices (Article V).

The lieutenant governor assists the governor in carrying out the functions of the executive branch, as well as serving in the governor's place in the event of his absence or disability. The governor, as prescribed by law, may file a written order with the secretary of state to delegate to the lieutenant governor any powers, duties, responsibilities, or functions performed by the governor. Other official duties include serving as a member of the State Executive Council, chairing the Capitol Area Architectural Planning Board, and chairing the Advisory Committee on Capitol Area Security.

The lieutenant governor is a key member of the governor's cabinet and is involved in major policy and budget decisions.

## OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL



Keith Ellison (Democratic-Farmer-Labor) Elected: 2018, 2022 Term: Four years Term expires: January 2027 Statutory Salary: \$121,248

Minneapolis. University of Minnesota (J.D., 1990). Private legal practice; (Representative, Minnesota House of Representatives (2002-2006); Representative, Minnesota's Fifth District, United States House of Representatives (2007-2019).

445 Minnesota Street, Suite 1400, St. Paul, MN 55101 Phone: (651) 296-3353 or (800) 657-3787 Minnesota Relay: (800) 627-3529 Website: www.ag.state.mn.us

Email: attorney.general@state.mn.us

**Minnesota Constitution provides:** The attorney general is an officer in the executive department. To qualify as attorney general, a person must be a qualified voter, 21 years old and elected by the people (Articles V, VII).

The attorney general is the state's chief legal officer. The attorney general's duties arise from the Minnesota Constitution, state statutes, and common law. Every agency, board, and commission of the state receives legal representation from the attorney general. The attorney general also acts in a parens patriae capacity on behalf of the people of Minnesota. ("Parens patriae" means "parent of the country," a doctrine that grants the inherent power and authority of the state to protect persons who may be unable to act on their own behalf.)

The attorney general has authority to initiate legal actions to enforce of the civil laws of the state, preserve and enhance public safety, and protect civil and human rights. The attorney general also provides assistance to county attorneys in criminal justice. As a statewide elected official, the attorney general works to help all Minnesotans afford their lives and live with dignity, safety, and respect, and to that end advocates for a wide range of policy and legal initiatives.

The attorney general is a member of the State Executive Council, Board of Pardons, Board of Investment, and Land Exchange Board.

## OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR



Julie Blaha (Democratic-Farmer-Labor) Elected: 2018, 2022 Term: Four years Term expires: January 2027 Statutory Salary: \$108,485

Ramsey. St. Cloud State University (B.S., 1992); St. Mary's University (M.Ed., 2007). Teacher, Anoka-Hennepin School District (1999-2010, 2014-2016); President, Anoka-Hennepin Education Minnesota (2010-2014); Secretary-Treasurer, MN AFL-CIO (2016-2018).

525 Park St., Suite 500, St. Paul, MN 55103 Phone: (651) 296-2551 Fax (651) 296-4755

TDD: (800) 627-3529 Website: www.osa.state.mn.us Email: state.auditor@osa.state.mn.us

Minnesota Constitution provides: The state auditor is an officer in the executive department. To qualify as state auditor a person must be a qualified voter, 21 years old and elected by the people (Article V, VII).

The state auditor is charged with overseeing more than \$40 billion spent annually by local governments and approximately \$20 billion in federal dollars spent by the State of Minnesota. The state auditor's office does this by performing audits of local government financial statements and completing the statewide single audit by reviewing documents, reports, and complaints submitted to or gathered by the office. The financial information collected from local governments is analyzed and is the basis of statutorily required reports issued by the office.

The state auditor serves on the State Executive Council, Board of Investment, Land Exchange Board, Public Employees Retirement Association Board, Minnesota Housing Finance Agency Board, Rural Finance Authority Board, and Minnesota Historical Society Board.

Audit Practice Division performs financial and legal compliance audits of local governments and the statewide single audit. An audit determines if an entity has adequate controls to safeguard its assets and whether the entity's financial statements are fairly presented. In addition, an audit determines whether local government activities are being administered in accordance with certain Minnesota laws. Deputy State Auditor / General Counsel: Ramona Advani, (651) 297-3673, Ramona.Advani@osa.state.mn.us

**Government Information Division** collects data and works to disseminate local government financial information effectively to assist with public discussions and policy decisions. This division continually works to improve the usefulness of the information and enhance the data with meaningful analysis while improving overall access to that data. **Director:** Kathy Docter, (651) 296-7003, Kathy.Docter@osa.state.mn.us

Legal/Special Investigations Division promotes integrity and accountability in local government by providing legal compliance expertise to the office's several divisions and by providing legal compliance information and training to local government officials. The division investigates allegations of theft or misuse of public funds on behalf of local government officials, law enforcement agencies, and the citizens of Minnesota.

Deputy State Auditor / General Counsel: Ramona Advani, (651) 297-3673, Ramona.Advani@osa.state.mn.us

Pension Division monitors investment, financial, and actuarial reporting for approximately 550 public pension plans. Its objective is to ensure compliance with state statutes governing the administration of plans covering approximately 20,000 members. Director: Rose Hennessy Allen, (651) 296-5985, Rose.Hennessy-Allen@osa.state.mn.us

Tax Increment Financing Division promotes legal compliance and accountability through examining and auditing political subdivisions' use of tax increment financing (TIF). The division reviews annual reports containing financial information from approximately 1,650 TIF districts. Assistant State Auditor / TIF Director: Jason Nord, (651) 296-7979, Jason.Nord@osa.state.mn.us

## OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE



Steve Simon (Democratic-Farmer-Labor) Elected: 2014, 2018, 2022 Term: Four Years Term expires: January 2027 Statutory Salary: \$95,722

Hopkins. BA, Political Science, Tufts University (1992); JD, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities (1996); Minnesota Assistant Attorney General; Attorney, private practice; Minnesota House of Representatives (2005–2015); Chair, House Elections Committee (2013–2015).

180 State Office Building, 100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., St. Paul, MN 55155 **Phone:** (651) 201-1324 **Website:** www.sos.mn.gov **Email:** secretary.state@state.mn.us

Minnesota Constitution provides: The secretary of state is an officer in the executive department. To qualify as secretary of state, a person must be a qualified voter, 21 years old and elected by the people (Article V, VII).

The secretary chairs the State Canvassing Board, convenes Minnesota's electoral college, and serves on the Executive Council and Board of Investment. As keeper of the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota, the secretary of state certifies the authenticity of official documents such as acts of the legislature and proclamations and executive orders issued by the governor. The office publishes the Minnesota Legislative Manual.

**Elections Division** is responsible for administration of Minnesota election law. The office of the Minnesota Secretary of State partners with county auditors, and city and township officials in the administration of elections. The office operates the statewide voter registration system and prepares the official roster of voters for each election.

Other election duties include certifying voting systems, conducting administrative recounts, accepting filings by candidates for federal and state offices, training local election officials and creating materials for use in training election judges. The office provides information to voters on voter registration, elections, absentee ballots, polling place locations, candidates and election results, and maintains a one-stop voter information website at www.mnvotes.gov. This office conducts extensive outreach to encourage all eligible citizens to exercise their right to vote. **Email:** secretary.state@state.mn.us

**Open Appointments** manages the application process for open seats on state boards and agencies. **Email:** open.appointments@state.mn.us

**Business Services Division** reviews, approves, and files articles of incorporation and amendments for all businesses and nonprofit organizations, and similar documents for limited liability companies, doing business in the state. This division also records assumed business names, limited partnerships, and limited liability partnerships; accepts applications for legal newspaper status and provides business data to the public in the form of lists, online access, subscriptions, and responses to telephone inquiries.

The division provides many online services for Minnesota's businesses, including business name searches, business name filings, filing articles or renewals, and ordering copies and certificates of these documents.

Walk-in service for business filings, certification orders, and authentication of documents for use in other countries is available at 332 Minnesota Street, Suite N201, Saint Paul, MN 55101. Email: business.services@state.mn.us

UCC Division maintains records filed under the Uniform Commercial Code regarding

collateral that has been pledged to secure loans. It also administers the Central Notification System (CNS) for farm product liens and files and maintains state and federal tax liens. Email: ucc.dept@state.mn.us

Notary Services processes notary public applications, renewals and changes, and maintains a notary database. Email: notary.sos@state.mn.us

Safe at Home address confidentiality program assists survivors of domestic violence and others who fear for their safety. The program provides a mail forwarding service to allow them to go about their lives, interacting with public and private entities without leaving traces of where they live. Participants enroll in Safe at Home with the help of one of about 200 trained advocates located throughout Minnesota. Email: safe.athome@state.mn.us

Office Staff:

Chief of Staff/Deputy Secretary of State: Julie Strother, 651-201-1342, Julie.Strother@state.mn.us

**Deputy Secretary of State for Operations:** Ann Lindstrom, 651-335-0055, Ann.Lindstrom@state.mn.us

Director of Elections/Deputy Secretary of State: Paul Linnell, 651-556-0647, Paul.Linnell@state.mn.us

Director of Government Relations: Nicole Freeman, 651-201-1334, Nicole.Freeman@state.mn.us

General Counsel: Justin Erickson, 651-201-6895, Justin.Erickson@state.mn.us

Director of Business Services: Adam Hansen, 651-201-6870, Adam.Hansen@state.mn.us

Director of Safe at Home: Dianna Umidon, 651-201-1382, Dianna.Umidon@state.mn.us

**Communications Director:** Peter Bartz-Gallagher, 651-201-1332, Peter.Bartz-Gallagher@state.mn.us

Deputy Communications Director / Press Secretary: Cassondra Knudson, 651-297-8919, Cassondra.Knudson@state.mn.us

**Communications Designer:** Amanda Scheid, 651-201-6878, Amanda.Scheid@state.mn.us

## EXECUTIVE COUNCILS AND BOARDS

#### STATE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

200 Administration Building, 50 Sherburne Ave., St. Paul 55155 Phone: (651) 201-2555 Law provides: The council consists of the governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, state auditor, and attorney general. The council designates state depositories; approves mineral leases, extensions of timber permits, and sale and disposal of certain state lands; acts as a calamity board and may grant emergency relief (*Minnesota Statutes*, Chapter 9).

#### LAND EXCHANGE BOARD

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, 500 Lafayette Rd., St. Paul 55155 Law provides: The governor, attorney general, and state auditor can unanimously approve the exchange of state public lands for publicly or privately owned lands (Minnesota Constitution, Article XI, section 10; *Minnesota Statutes*, Sections 94.341–.349).

#### STATE BOARD OF INVESTMENT

#### 60 Empire Dr., Suite 355, St. Paul 55103 Phone: (651) 296-3328

Law provides: The board, comprised of the governor, state auditor, secretary of state, and the attorney general, administers the investment of all state funds. The board is responsible for the investment, purchase, and sale of securities for statewide pension funds, trust funds, and cash accounts. An advisory council advises the board and the executive director on general policy and investment management. Minnesota statutes prescribe the types of securities in which funds may be invested by the board and include provisions to insure the quality of investments (Minnesota Constitution, Article XI; *Minnesota Statutes*, Chapter 11A).

### EXECUTIVE OFFICERS SINCE STATEHOOD

#### GOVERNORS

#### Name

Henry H. Sibley Alexander Ramsey Henry A. Swift Stephen Miller William R. Marshall Horace Austin Cushman K. Davis John S. Pillsbury Lucius F. Hubbard A. R. McGill William R. Merriam Knute Nelson David M. Clough John Lind Samuel R. Van Sant John A. Johnson Adolph O. Eberhart Winfield S. Hammond J. A. A. Burnquist J. A. O. Preus Theodore Christianson Floyd B. Olson Hjalmar Petersen Elmer A. Benson Harold E. Stassen Edward J. Thye Luther W. Youngdahl C. Elmer Anderson Orville L. Freeman Elmer L. Andersen Karl F. Rolvaag Harold LeVander Wendell R. Anderson Rudy Perpich Al Quie Rudy Perpich Arne Carlson **Jesse** Ventura Tim Pawlentv Mark Dayton Tim Walz

Post Office St. Paul St. Paul St. Peter Worthington St. Anthony St. Peter St. Paul Minneapolis Red Wing St. Peter St. Paul Alexandria Minneapolis New Ulm Winona St. Peter Mankato St. James St. Paul Minneapolis Dawson Minneapolis Askov Appleton South St. Paul Northfield Minneapolis Brainerd Minneapolis St. Paul St. Paul South St. Paul St. Paul Hibbing Dennison Hibbing Shoreview Maple Grove Eagan St. Paul Mankato

Assumed office May 24, 1858 January 2, 1860 July 10, 1863 January 11, 1864 January 8, 1866 January 9, 1870 January 7, 1874 January 7, 1876 January 10, 1882 January 5, 1887 January 9, 1889 January 4, 1893 January 31, 1895 January 2, 1899 January 7, 1901 January 4, 1905 September 21, 1909 January 5, 1915 December 30, 1915 January 5, 1921 January 6, 1925 January 6, 1931 August 24, 1936 January 4, 1937 January 2, 1939 April 27, 1943 January 8, 1947 September 27, 1951 January 5, 1955 January 2, 1961 March 25, 1963 January 2, 1967 January 4, 1971 December 29, 1976 January 4, 1979 January 3, 1983 January 7, 1991 January 4, 1999 January 6, 2003 January 3, 2011 January 7, 2019

#### LIEUTENANT GOVERNORS

Name William Holcombe Ignatius Donnelly Henry A. Swift Charles D. Sherwood Thomas H. Armstrong William H. Yale Alphonso Barto James B. Wakefield C. A. Gilman A. E. Rice G. S. Ives D. M. Clough Frank A. Day John L. Gibbs Lvndon A. Smith Ray W. Jones Adolph O. Eberhart E. E. Smith S. Y. Gordon J. A. A. Burnquist Geo. H. Sullivan Thos. Frankson Louis L. Collins W. I. Nolan Chas. E. Adams Henry Arens K. K. Solberg Hjalmar Petersen Gottfrid Lindsten C. Elmer Anderson Edward J. Thye Archie H. Miller C. Elmer Anderson Ancher Nelsen Donald O. Wright Karl F. Rolvaag A. M. Keith James B. Goetz Rudy Perpich Alec G. Olson Lou Wangberg Marlene Johnson Joanell Dyrstad Ioanne E. Benson Mae Schunk Carol Molnau Yvonne Prettner Solon Tina Smith Peggy Flanagan

Post Office Stillwater Nininger St. Peter Prescott High Forest Winona Sauk Centre Blue Earth St. Cloud Willmar St. Peter Minneapolis Fairmont Geneva Montevideo Minneapolis Mankato Minneapolis Browns Valley St. Paul Stillwater St. Paul Minneapolis Minneapolis Duluth Jordan Clarkfield Askov Minneapolis Brainerd Northfield Hopkins Brainerd Hutchinson Minneapolis Rochester Rochester Winona Hibbing Spicer Bemidji St. Paul Red Wing St. Cloud Inver Grove Heights Lafavette Duluth Minneapolis St. Louis Park

Assumed office May 24, 1858 January 2, 1860 March 3, 1863 January 11, 1864 January 8, 1866 January 7, 1870 January 9, 1874 January 7, 1876 January 10, 1880 January 4, 1887 January 5, 1891 January 3, 1893 January 31, 1895 January 5, 1897 January 3, 1899 January 5, 1903 January 5, 1907 June 25, 1910 January 3, 1911 January 7, 1913 October 28, 1916 January 2, 1917 January 4, 1921 January 6, 1925 June 25, 1929 January 6, 1931 January 3, 1933 January 8, 1935 January 5, 1937 January 2, 1939 January 4, 1943 April 27, 1943 January 2, 1945 January 5, 1953 September 3, 1954 January 3, 1955 January 8, 1963 January 2, 1967 January 4, 1971 December 29, 1976 January 4, 1979 January 3, 1983 January 7, 1991 January 3, 1995 January 4, 1999 January 6, 2003 January 3, 2011 January 5, 2015 January 7, 2019

#### ATTORNEYS GENERAL

Name Charles H. Berry Mankato Gordon E. Cole Faribault William Colvill F. R. E. Cornell George P. Wilson Winona Charles M. Start W. J. Hahn Moses E. Clapp H. W. Childs Wadena W. B. Douglas W. J. Donahower St. Paul Edward T. Young George T. Simpson Winona Lyndon A. Smith Clifford L. Hilton Albert F. Pratt Anoka G. A. Youngquist Henry N. Benson St. Peter St. Paul Harry H. Peterson William S. Ervin J. A. A. Burnquist Miles Lord Walter F. Mondale Robert W. Mattson Douglas M. Head Warren Spannaus Hubert H. Humphrey III Mike Hatch Lori Swanson Eagan Keith Ellison

Post Office Lake City Minneapolis Rochester Minneapolis Fergus Falls Moorhead Appleton Montevideo Fergus Falls Crookston Minneapolis Minneapolis Minneapolis Minneapolis Minneapolis Minneapolis Minneapolis New Hope Burnsville Minneapolis Assumed office May 24, 1858 January 4, 1860 January 8, 1866 January 10, 1868 January 9, 1874 January 10, 1880 March 11, 1881 January 5, 1887 January 2, 1893 January 2, 1899 April 1, 1904 January 2, 1905 January 4, 1909 January 1, 1912 March 9, 1918 December 21, 1927 February 2, 1928 November 20, 1929 January 3, 1933 December 15, 1936 January 2, 1939 January 3, 1955 May 4, 1960 December 30, 1964 January 2, 1967 January 4, 1971 January 3, 1983 January 4, 1999 January 2, 2007 January 7, 2019

### STATE AUDITORS

Name	Post Office	Assumed office
W. F. Dunbar	Caledonia	May 24, 1858
Charles McIlrath	St. Paul	January 1, 1861
O. P. Whitcomb	Rochester	January 13, 1873
W. W. Braden	Preston	January 10, 1882
Adolph Biermann	Rochester	January 5, 1891
Robert C. Dunn	Princeton	January 7, 1895
Samuel G. Iverson	Rushford	January 5, 1903
J. A. O. Preus	Minneapolis	January 5, 1915
Ray P. Chase	Anoka	January 5, 1921
Stafford King	St. Paul	January 6, 1931
William J. O'Brien	Mendota Heights	March 7, 1969
Rolland F. Hatfield	St. Paul	January 4, 1971
Robert W. Mattson	St. Paul	January 6, 1975
Arne H. Carlson	Roseville	January 4, 1979
Mark Dayton	Minneapolis	January 7, 1991
Judith H. Dutcher	Minnetonka	January 3, 1995
Patricia Anderson	Eagan	January 6, 2003
Rebecca Otto	Marine on St. Croix	January 2, 2007
Julie Blaha	Ramsey	January 7, 2019

#### SECRETARIES OF STATE

Name	Post Office	Assumed office
Francis Baasen	New Ulm	May 24, 1858
James H. Baker	Mankato	January 2, 1860
David Blakeley	St. Paul	November 17, 1862
Henry C. Rogers	St. Paul	January 8, 1868
Hans Mattson	Minneapolis	January 7, 1870
S. P. Jennison	Red Wing	January 5, 1872
John S. Irgens	Austin	January 7, 1876
Fred Von Baumbach	Alexandria	January 10, 1880
Hans Mattson	Minneapolis	January 4, 1887
Frederick P. Brown	Blue Earth	January 5, 1891
Albert Berg	Center City	January 7, 1895
Peter E. Hanson	Litchfield	January 7, 1901
Julius A. Schmahl	Redwood Falls	January 7, 1907
Mike Holm	Roseau	January 4, 1921
H. H. Chesterman	St. Paul	July 7, 1952
Virginia Holm	St. Paul	September 16, 1952
Joseph L. Donovan	Duluth	January 3, 1955
Arlen I. Erdahl	Blue Earth	January 4, 1971
Joan Anderson Growe	Minneapolis	January 6, 1975
Mary Kiffmeyer	Big Lake	January 4, 1999
Mark Ritchie	Minneapolis	January 2, 2007
Steve Simon	Hopkins	January 5, 2015