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## LEGISLATIVE ETHICS COMMISSION

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For Immediate Release  
December 18, 2018

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# **LEGISLATIVE ETHICS COMMISSION**

## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

The members of the Legislative Ethics Commission (LEC) have recommended unanimously that the Illinois General Assembly appoint Carol Pope as Legislative Inspector General (LIG), effective March 1, 2019. She will be appointed to serve through June 30, 2023, as set by statute.

Judge Pope has had a long and distinguished career in public service, having previously served as State's Attorney (Menard County) for seven years, Circuit Court Judge for 17 years, and as Appellate Justice in the Fourth Appellate District for nine years. She currently serves as a member of the Illinois Judicial Ethics Committee which provides ethics advice to judges throughout Illinois.

In accordance with statutory changes approved in June 2018, a public search process was initiated in August to solicit candidates for the position of Legislative Inspector General. A four-member Search Committee reviewed and evaluated all applications for the position and recommended Judge Pope as a finalist. She subsequently was interviewed by the LEC. The LEC has recommended her appointment as Legislative Inspector General by joint resolution of the Illinois General Assembly.

Acting Legislative Inspector General Julie Porter will continue to serve in that capacity until February 28, 2019, in order to ensure continuity within the Office of the Legislative Inspector General. Acting LIG Porter was originally appointed in November 2017.

The Office of the Legislative Inspector General is responsible for investigating complaints of violations of the State Officials and Employees Ethics Act and other forms of misconduct by members of the Illinois General Assembly and State employees under the jurisdiction of the legislature.