



March 8, 2012

## **DPS Names Cesinger as Communications Director**

AUSTIN - The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) has hired Katherine Cesinger to serve as director of communications, where she will head up the Media and Communications Office (formerly the Public Affairs Office) and work to strategically advance DPS priorities by promoting the department's goals, activities and accomplishments.

"Ms. Cesinger brings a wealth of knowledge, experience and enthusiasm to this new role, and she will be a valued asset to the DPS leadership team," said DPS Director Steven C. McCraw.

Cesinger has more than seven years experience working in state government with an expertise in public relations. She also has significant experience handling crisis communications, having worked closely with the Texas State Operations Center and the Texas Division of Emergency Management during numerous state disasters, including hurricanes Katrina and Rita in 2005. Cesinger also served as one of the primary spokespeople for the State of Texas during Hurricane Ike in 2008 as well as other state disasters. For the last several years, including her time as Gov. Rick Perry's press secretary, she has served as the chief spokesperson for border security, homeland security and emergency management issues in Texas.

Prior to being named the governor's press secretary, Cesinger served as the governor's deputy press secretary for several years at the state capitol. She is also the former communications director for the Governor's Competitiveness Council; worked in the governor's budget, planning and policy division as well as the legislative division; and also recently worked on Gov. Perry's presidential campaign. Before working in the Governor's Office, Cesinger worked for the Louisiana House of Representatives. She earned a bachelor's degree in political science from Louisiana State University.

Her post as director of communications is effective immediately.

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