

TO: The Honorable the Members of the Board of Regents

FROM: Betty A. Rosa, Interim Commissioner

SUBJECT: Appointment of Sharon Cates-Williams as Acting Executive

Deputy Commissioner

DATE: December 14, 2020

AUTHORIZATIONS:

SUMMARY

Issue for Decision

Will the Board of Regents approve my appointment of Sharon Cates-Williams as Acting Executive Deputy Commissioner?

Reason for Consideration

Mrs. Sharon Cates-Williams has served as Deputy Commissioner for Operations and Management Services for almost 10 years where she has overseen Human Resources, Information Technology, Chief Information Security Office, Chief Privacy Officer, Audit Services, Business and Facilities Services, the Office of State Review, and most recently Cultural Education and ACCES. Prior to joining the Department, Mrs. Cates-Williams served as the Deputy Chief Information Officer and Chief Technology Officer for the NYS Office for Technology (OFT). She has also served as the Commissioner for Information Technology for both the Suffolk County Government and Town of North Hempstead. Mrs. Cates-Williams was a Vice President in the Global Technology Division at Lehman Brothers, Inc. for 17 years before entering public service. Mrs. Cates-Williams has a Bachelor of Business Administration – International Marketing from CUNY – Bernard M. Baruch College.

Proposed Handling

This recommendation will come before the full Board of Regents at its Executive Session for discussion at the December 14, 2020 Regents meeting and then will come before the full Board for final action December 14, 2020.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Regents approve the appointment of Sharon Cates-Williams to the position of Acting Executive Deputy Commissioner.

<u>Timetable for Implementation</u>

If the Board of Regents approves the recommendation, the appointment will be effective and she will start in the position December 15, 2020.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Regents take the following action:

VOTED, that the Board of Regents approve the appointment of Sharon Cates-Williams as Acting Executive Deputy Commissioner effective December 15, 2020.