

For Immediate Release

Wednesday, April 9, 2025

Illinois Chamber Announces the Appointment of Meena Beyers and Martin Montes to its Board of Directors

Springfield, IL – The Illinois Chamber of Commerce is pleased to announce the appointment of Meena Beyers from Nicor Gas and Martin Montes from Barnes and Thornburg to its Board of Directors.

Beyers was named Vice President of business and community development at Nicor Gas in July 2020. In this role, she leads strategies to strengthen our customer and community engagement and drive customer sustainability and economic growth.

"Meena's expertise, experience, and vision will undoubtedly be invaluable as we continue to grow and work towards achieving our mission," said Illinois Chamber President and CEO Lou Sandoval. "Meena brings a wealth of knowledge from her respective field, and we are excited to have her join us in shaping the future of the Illinois Chamber of Commerce."

Montes leads the Chicago office Government Services and Finance team for the law firm Barnes and Thornburg and is a member of the firm's Federal Relations lobbying practice group. He is a trusted adviser to a range of industries, including energy, utility, retail, data centers, technology, manufacturing, higher education and healthcare. Martín is known for cultivating long-standing relationships and his extensive public and community engagement.

"We're so glad to welcome Martin to the Board of Directors," said President and CEO Lou Sandoval. "Martin brings a fantastic mix of experience, fresh ideas, and a true passion for growth and innovation that will be a great addition as we tackle the challenges and opportunities ahead together. We are thrilled to have him."





"The addition of two members of the Energy community is representative of the importance of having insight from our energy partners in policy making," said Sandoval. "Supply side energy optionality is a critical part of the economic development plan for the State of Illinois, and we are looking forward to Meena and Martin's input on our policy initiatives."

About the Illinois Chamber of Commerce

Founded in 1919, the Illinois Chamber of Commerce is an independent membership organization that fosters a Pro-Growth and Pro-Business climate for all Illinois businesses. The Chamber is supported by contributions from a diverse group of companies from across the state. Its membership reflects all components of Illinois' economy, including manufacturing, financial services, transportation, technology, agriculture, mining, construction, utilities, and professional services, as well as other local chambers of commerce, trade groups, and membership organizations. The Chamber works closely with its members to support their success and the growth of the Illinois economy through programming and advocacy that promotes and protects the business climate in Illinois and expands economic opportunities for all.

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