



Summit County
CHILDREN SERVICES
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MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Summit County Children Services Deputy Executive Director Announces Retirement,
New Deputy Executive Director Named**

AKRON, OH – May 2022 – Katerina Papas, Deputy Executive Director, Administrative & Legal Services/General Counsel of Summit County Children Services (SCCS), announced plans to retire effective June 1, 2022. Catherine Pomeroy Van Horne, JD will succeed Ms. Papas.

“It has been a great honor to work in this capacity for over 31 years helping to protect the vulnerable children in Summit County,” said Papas. “After more than three decades of service, it is the right time for me to retire considering that the agency is in the hands of strong leadership which will continue its critical mission of serving children and families”

Ms. Papas has been with SCCS since June 1991 when she joined the agency’s Legal Department as Director of Legal Services. She served in that position until becoming Deputy Executive Director and General Counsel in 2001. In June 2006, she was appointed Interim Executive Director, a position she held until September 2007. Prior to her employment at SCCS, Ms. Papas practiced private law and was employed by the Akron City Law Department.

Ms. Papas has served on numerous community boards and committees. She has held leadership positions in several community organizations, such as the Junior League of Akron, Women’s Network, the Girl Scouts the International Institute and others. Ms. Papas is also a graduate of Leadership Akron.

Ms. Papas earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Kent State University, where she excelled in social science courses that focused on child welfare, family dynamics and psychology. She then earned a Juris Doctorate degree from The University of Akron School of Law and was admitted to the practice of law by the Ohio Supreme Court, the U.S. District Court and the U.S. Court of Appeals.

SCCS is excited to announce that Catherine Pomeroy Van Horne, JD will be taking over Ms. Papas’ position as the new Deputy Executive Director, Administrative & Legal Services/Chief Legal Counsel for SCCS.

Ms. Pomeroy Van Horne graduated from Case Western Reserve University School of Law during which time she clerked for the City of Cleveland Law Department. She began her career in child welfare while serving as a Guardian Ad Litem

for Cuyahoga County Juvenile Court before working at the Cuyahoga County Prosecutor's Office as an Assistant Prosecuting Attorney in the Children & Family Services Division.

Ms. Pomeroy Van Horne joined SCCS in 2003 in the Legal Department and currently serves as the Senior Legal Counsel. In addition to her new role at SCCS, she will assume responsibility for the Client Rights and Quality Improvement Department. Ms. Pomeroy Van Horne will officially begin this position June 1st.

"I'm excited and honored to bring my passion for child welfare law to this key position and to furthering the goal of promoting safety, well-being and permanency for the children of Summit County," said Pomeroy Van Horne.

For more information about Summit County Children Services, please visit summitkids.org.

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