



## **U.S. AbilityOne Commission Leadership Changes – Staff and Office of Inspector General**

ARLINGTON, Va., July 30, 2021 – The U.S. AbilityOne Commission announced today that Kimberly M. Zeich will become Acting Executive Director effective August 1, 2021. She will assume this position following the retirement of Executive Director Tina Ballard on July 31, 2021.

Separately, Stefania Pozzi Porter, formerly the Deputy Inspector General, was designated Acting Inspector General in July following the departure of the Commission’s first permanent Inspector General, Thomas K. Lehrich.

The Commission will conduct searches for a new Executive Director and a new Inspector General.

“On behalf of the Commission, I welcome Kim and Stefania to their new roles,” said Commission Chairperson Jeffrey A. Koses. “We thank Tina and Tom for their leadership and many contributions at a time of transformation and modernization for the Commission and AbilityOne Program.”

Zeich, who was previously the Commission’s Deputy Executive Director, has more than 25 years of Commission experience in a range of staff roles including Director, Program Operations and Director, Business Development.

She holds a master’s degree in National Resource Strategy from the Dwight D. Eisenhower School at National Defense University; an MBA from the University of Maryland Global Campus; and graduated summa cum laude from the College of Journalism at the University of Maryland College Park. She is also a graduate of the Federal Executive Institute’s Leadership for a Democratic Society Program.

Porter has held leadership positions in the Office of Inspector General since joining the Commission in 2017. Her responsibilities in her previous roles as General Counsel and Deputy Inspector General included enhancing management of OIG business units, and developing and overseeing the OIG operations of Audit and Investigations.

Porter previously served as Counsel to the Inspector General at the U.S. International Trade Commission OIG, and as the sole investigator for the agency. She also served as an investigative attorney in the Office of Investigations, Special Investigations Unit, for the Inspector General at the U.S. Department of Commerce.



## **About the AbilityOne Program**

The AbilityOne Program is one of the largest sources of employment in the United States for people who are blind or have significant disabilities. More than 42,000 people who are blind or have significant disabilities, including more than 3,200 veterans, are employed nationwide at nearly 500 nonprofit agencies from Maine to Guam. AbilityOne provided nearly \$4 billion in products and services to the Federal Government in fiscal year 2020. The Program operates at more than 1,000 locations, representing 40 government agencies, including more than 150 Base Supply Centers at military and government installations.

## **About the U.S. AbilityOne Commission**

The AbilityOne Program is administered by the U.S. AbilityOne Commission, the operating name of the Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled. The Commission is an independent Federal agency composed of 15 Presidential appointees: 11 represent Federal agencies, and four serve as private citizens who are knowledgeable about employment barriers facing people who are blind or have significant disabilities. The Commission designates Central Nonprofit Agencies (CNAs) to facilitate the employment of people who are blind or have significant disabilities. CNA Cooperative Agreements with the Commission include performance work statements, quality assurance surveillance plan deliverables, and agreement clauses. The Commission currently executes the AbilityOne Program based on Cooperative Agreements with two CNAs: National Industries for the Blind and SourceAmerica. Commission-designated CNAs are private entities.

