



SHEILA SIMON

Lieutenant Governor

Sheila Simon (Democrat) was elected Lieutenant Governor on Nov. 2, 2010. Simon is the second woman to serve as Lieutenant Governor in Illinois.

Lieutenant Governor Simon's mission is to make government more accountable, accessible and transparent for the taxpayers of Illinois. She is leading efforts to improve services in rural areas, keep waterways clean, protect military bases from closure, increase college completion rates and inspire ethical government.

As Lieutenant Governor, Simon is first in line for the governorship and handles a variety of responsibilities delegated by statute or assigned by the Governor. These include chairing the Governor's Rural Affairs Council; the Illinois River, Mississippi River, and Wabash and Ohio Rivers Coordinating Councils; and the Interagency Military Base Support and Economic Development Committee. Simon also serves as ambassador to the Illinois Main Street program and is the Governor's point person on education reform.

In her first two years in office, Lieutenant Governor Simon visited the state's 48 community colleges and 12 public universities to advocate reforms to improve affordability, completion rates and job placement. To compete in the global workforce, Simon maintains that 60 percent of working-age adults in Illinois must hold a college degree or certificate by 2025. Simon chairs the Joint Educational Leadership Committee of the P-20 Council and is a member of the state's Performance Funding Committee.

Lieutenant Governor Simon has set a higher standard for ethical leadership by releasing annual detailed financial profiles of herself as well as senior staff members to reveal any potential conflicts of interest. To safeguard taxpayer dollars, she is developing an Income Taxpayer Receipt that shows residents how their money is spent, and serves on the Budgeting for Results Commission. Her office also launched Virtual Legal Clinics to provide free assistance to domestic violence survivors in rural areas.

Simon has a strong record of public service. As an assistant state's attorney in Jackson County, she prosecuted DUI and domestic battery cases, and as a professor she developed the Southern Illinois University School of Law's Domestic Violence Clinic, which serves clients and trains law students. On the Carbondale City Council, she served as a fiscal watchdog and an advocate for open government. Her record on ethics made her a natural choice for the Illinois Reform Commission, which helped establish the first campaign contribution limits in Illinois.

Simon graduated from Wittenberg University in 1983 and from Georgetown University Law Center in 1987. Her parents, the late U.S. Senator Paul Simon and Jeanne Simon, served in the Illinois House and were a lifelong team of public servants. Her father is remembered across the state for his honesty and integrity in public service.

Lieutenant Governor Sheila Simon lives in Carbondale with her husband, Perry Knop. They have two daughters.

214 State Capitol, Springfield, IL 62706; 217-558-3085; www.illinois.gov/ltgov
100 W. Randolph St., Ste. 15-200, Chicago, IL 60601; 312-814-5240