



ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 3, 2017

MEDIA CONTACT: Angie Holdsworth (602) 542-0844

Commission elects Tom Forese as the New Chairman

(Phoenix) The Arizona Corporation Commissioners named Commissioner Tom Forese as the new Chairman for the Commission. Forese was elected to the ACC in November of 2014 and was sworn into office on January 5th 2015.

Prior to his work on the Commission, Forese had a distinguished record of accomplishment at the Arizona Legislature. He served as Chairman of the House Commerce Committee, which plays a crucial role in economic development and job creation, and served on the House Appropriations Committee.

Forese's past prepared him for the technical and demanding responsibilities of the Corporation Commission, having been actively involved as an executive in both business and educational organizations.

Since being sworn into office, Forese has worked to encourage business growth through policy at the Commission level. He facilitated a series of rooftop solar workshops, spearheaded an initiative to create energy efficiency programs for schools, and produced a series of videos featuring Valley business leaders to help inspire the entrepreneurial spirit.

Chairman Forese announced his priorities for the Commission including accountability in the form of a 10-year audit, and implementing a code of ethics. He called for a focus on the need to attract and develop new technologies to further the growth of Arizona business.

"We must balance utility regulation with the needs of the people but also the needs of economic growth. Arizona is a state that is open for business," said Forese. "The policies and decisions we make can be critical to economic growth. Low energy rates for customers are essential for that kind of growth. I am honored to be named Chairman."

Forese replaces Commissioner Doug Little who served as Chairman for the past year.

"I want to thank Commissioner and Former Chairman Little," said Forese. "His dedication and passion has been widely recognized and his drive will be essential as we all continue to strive for excellence in our work."