



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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THBI NAMES NEW PRESIDENT AND CEO

AUSTIN, TX | December 7, 2021 – The [Texas Healthcare and Bioscience Institute](https://www.thbi.com) (THBI) is welcoming Victoria Ford as its new President and CEO. Ford will be the organization’s second head executive following the retirement of Thomas Kowalski, who served as THBI’s President and CEO since its inception 25 years ago. Kowalski announced his retirement in August.

Ford brings 29 years of Texas public policy experience, including six years working within various health and human services policy related roles. In her most recent position as Chief Policy & Regulatory Officer at the Texas Health and Human Services Commission, Ford managed over 2,200 employees across five divisions which were responsible for regulating health care facilities, streamlining business processes and programs, enhancing data and analytics, and more. During her tenure at the agency, she also held the Acting Chief Operating Officer role twice, providing operational support to more than 38,000 employees.

Ford’s four-year term at the Commission was not her first foray into the health and human services policy world. During her tenure in the office of Governor Rick Perry, Ford held a Senior Advisor role for Health and Human Services, which tasked her with the design, development, and strategic direction of the Governor’s health policy agenda, including government health programs, public health, and health facility regulation. She also served as the Assistant Director of the Office of Budget, Planning and Policy and as Health Services Policy Director in that office. Ford also worked in the offices of Senator Frank Madla and Representative Leticia Van de Putte.

Ford holds a bachelor’s degree in political science from UT San Antonio and a Master of Public Administration with an emphasis in health policy from UT San Antonio. She has held several leadership and advisory roles at esteemed organizations such as the Child Advocacy Centers Association of Texas and the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

“We had big shoes to fill when Tom announced his retirement,” said David Margrave, THBI Board Chairman. “We sought an exceptional individual with outstanding policy expertise and a finger on the pulse of the ever-changing healthcare landscape. In Victoria, we found that and more. Her robust experience and vision for the future will ensure that THBI remains the leader in innovative, groundbreaking life science policy.”

“While I have held a number of responsibilities in my career, my passion has always been the betterment of healthcare in Texas,” said Victoria Ford, incoming President and CEO of THBI. “THBI has been a respected organization among the Texas Legislature and it’s a dream to be joining the team as its

next leader. I look forward to continuing the trajectory that Tom has mastered over the last 25 years, as well as achieving new milestones in making Texas a global contender for life science innovation.”

Ford will begin as THBI’s President and CEO effective January 1, 2022.

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About Texas Healthcare and Bioscience Institute

The Texas Healthcare and Bioscience Institute (THBI) is the Texas public policy voice for the healthcare and bioscience industry. The Texas life sciences industry is committed to expanding the boundaries of science by discovering, developing and delivering innovative and needed medications to patients. It is the patient that is the ultimate beneficiary of such advances. The membership of THBI is dedicated to creating an environment where such discoveries flourish and thrive. For more information, visit www.thbi.com.