

Ethics Commission Hires Executive Director

Rebecca Binstock will begin serving as the next Executive Director of the North Dakota Ethics Commission in September 2022. Prior to serving in this role, she had the privilege to serve as the *pro se* law clerk with the United States District Court for the District of North Dakota. Ms. Binstock is originally from Bismarck. She graduated from the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN, in 2006, with a B.A. in Biology, Society, and Environment. Rebecca then continued her education, earning a M.S. in Education, Teaching, & Learning from Northern State University, Aberdeen, South Dakota, in 2009.

Rebecca taught biology, chemistry, and physics at Aberdeen Central High School in Aberdeen, South Dakota from 2007 to 2009. She then attended the University of North Dakota School of Law and graduated *magna cum laude* in 2012. During law school, Rebecca was a lawyering-skills teaching assistant, served as the Outside Articles Editor for the North Dakota Law Review, and was a co-founder of the Environmental Law Society. Rebecca was elected to the Order of the Coif and Order of the Barrister.

Rebecca began her legal career as an associate with Zuger Kirmis & Smith, focusing on insurance defense and litigation. In 2013, she accepted a term law clerk position with the Honorable Judge Daniel Hovland with the United States District Court for the District of North Dakota. She transitioned to serve as the *pro se* law clerk for the District Court in 2014 and continued to serve in that role until commencing her service with the Ethics Commission. Rebecca also has been an Adjunct Professor at the University of Mary and is owner of Simple Sugar LLC, a local cotton candy company. Rebecca and her husband, Mark, are proud parents of three children and enjoy spending time with their family, as well as running and other outdoor activities.