



## Speaker Biographies

### KEYNOTE SPEAKER:

#### Heather Simmons, Deputy Director, Gloucester County Board of Commissioners

Deputy Director Simmons is the longest-serving female Commissioner (formerly Freeholder) in Gloucester County history. She launched the 70-member Gloucester County Economic Recovery Collaborative in 2021 with a focus on post-pandemic economic recovery and resiliency. She spearheaded the County's first small business revolving loan fund, resulting in \$13 million in low-interest loans for more than 200 businesses.

Deputy Director Simmons made history again by being the first woman to be elected Deputy Director to the Gloucester County Board of Commissioners on January 1, 2022.

### **Education**

Deputy Director Simmons has lived in Gloucester County since 1994. She holds a bachelor's degree in international relations and politics from Saint Joseph's University, where she was Valedictorian of her graduating class. She also holds a master's degree in public relations from Rowan University.

### **Career**

Deputy Director Simmons is Director of Strategic Projects at Rowan University, where she previously served as Director of Business Outreach and Associate Director of the Edelman Fossil Park. Prior to that she owned her own communications firm.

### **Other Involvements**

Deputy Director Simmons sits on the boards of the NJ Association of Counties, the NJAC Foundation and the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission. She was the honoree at the 2019 Gloucester County Boys and Girls Club Fall Fundraiser, and raised an unprecedented \$400,000 for the organization that year. She chaired the Fall Fundraiser on two additional occasions, raising an additional \$200,000 for youth programming. She was also the 2016 Campaign Chair for the United Way of Gloucester County.

In 2022, Deputy Director Simmons was named the president of the NJAC Foundation. Since 2011, the NJAC Foundation has awarded nearly \$500,000.00 in scholarships to 750 students who continued their education at home in the Garden State. Through the generous grant funding from some of New Jersey's leading corporate citizens, such as Investors Bank, PSEG, NJM Insurance Group, Amazon, and SHI International.

She previously served on the Board of the Greater Glassboro Chamber of Commerce and was a member of the National

Association of Women Business Owners (NAWBO), the Gloucester County Chamber of Commerce and a Commissioner with the Gloucester County Library System.

### **Awards & Recognition**

Deputy Director Simmons was named one of South Jersey Biz Magazine's "Women to Watch", and "Business Advocate of the Year" by the National Association of Women Business Owners-South Jersey Chapter, and was recognized by South Jersey Magazine as a local "Superwoman." She has been named "Woman of the Year, Women in Communications", by the Gloucester County Commission on Women.

### **PANEL Discussion**

#### **MODERATOR:**

#### **Corey S. D. Norcross, Esq., Attorney, Stradley Ronon Stevens & Young**

Corey Norcross is a litigator who counsels her commercial, higher education and government clients through complex and often high-stakes disputes. While she has experience in a wide range of sectors, she concentrates her practice on prosecuting and defending matters involving fraud, Title IX, employment and complex commercial liability.

Corey is an experienced lawyer who has litigated matters before the trial and appellate levels of state and federal courts as well as various arbitral forums. She manages litigation from inception through trial and appeals, has conducted both proactive and reactive internal investigations and has responded to civil investigation demands.

During law school, Corey served as a member of the Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot Court team and volunteered as a trained mediator through the Mediation Project at Rutgers University School of Law – Camden. She was also a judicial intern for the Hon. Robert B. Kugler, U.S. District Judge, U.S. District Court for the District of New Jersey.

#### **Joann Gattinelli, Mayor, Washington Township**

Mayor Gattinelli has been a Washington Township resident for the last 38 years, as well as a Washington Township High School graduate. She's been married to her husband, Sal for 25 years, raising their two sons. She had been a small business owner at Gattinelli Pizza and Pasta in Washington Township for twelve years, and in the restaurant business for over twenty years. Mayor Gattinelli currently holds a real estate license in referral and is currently working as a licensed insurance producer/manager for the Martinelli Agency here in town. She looks forward to working with the residents of Washington Township. You may contact her at [mayorgattinelli@twp.washington.nj.us](mailto:mayorgattinelli@twp.washington.nj.us) or 856-589-0520 x2290.

**Responsibilities** The Mayor's Office serves as a direct link between the Municipality and Washington Township's 50,000 residents. Staff is available from 8:00 to 5:00 each weekday to answer questions, resolve ongoing issues, and connect residents with other municipal departments that may best be able to serve their needs. Additionally, the Mayor's Office serves as the Township's communications outlet, dedicated to providing our community with the most up-to-date news and happenings.

#### **Paul Medany, Mayor, Deptford Township**

Mayor Medany is a lifelong resident of Deptford Township. His wife, Joan, is also a lifelong resident and proud graduate of Deptford High School. The Mayor is a retired member of UA Local 322 and spent his career as a project manager. He also holds a NJ State Master Plumber's license.

Mayor Medany has been active in the community his whole life. He has coached in practically every youth sport organization in Deptford. He is a past vice president of Deptford Little League, a 20-year member of the Deptford Planning Board, twice past president of the Gloucester County Mayor's Association, 30-year member of the Deptford Elks Civic organization, published author in NJ State League Magazine and a speaker at the Statewide convention. The Mayor is a Rutgers certified safety instructor and has taught thousands of volunteer coaches over the years. He holds a fourth degree black belt in Tang Soo Do Karate. The Mayor has served on Township Council for 21 years. He is a current

member of the NJSLOM Legislative Committee. The Mayor is always active in State Legislation and has sponsored numerous legislative initiatives at the state level.

The residents of Deptford are fortunate to have a great volunteer community. Our firefighters, scout organizations, recreation and youth sports and various Township committees and boards all combine to make this a great place to live. The success of our community is due to a true team effort which includes you.

If you have a question or concern, residents may complete an Online Citizens Request Form to submit a formal complaint about any municipal service or program, or to inform the Township about the need for improvements in their neighborhood area, such as road or sidewalk repairs, street lighting, litter, etc.

**Craig Fredrick, Mayor, Woolwich Township**

Craig and his family have been residents of Woolwich Township since 2005. Craig and his wife Jessica are the proud parents of Justin, Evan, Lily (in heaven) and Jenna. Professionally, Craig is a certified master black belt, auditor, and IT security professional and is a graduate of the University of Delaware. Craig enjoyed his time spent serving on the Swedesboro-Woolwich Board of Education (2009-2018), and was honored to serve as President for 4 years. With 3 active kids in the community, Craig has had the opportunity to be a volunteer coach for over 20 local youth sports teams, and served as a board member for both a local basketball and baseball organization. Craig also is an active member at Fellowship Bible Church where he currently serves on the finance ministry and worship teams.

Craig is excited to make Woolwich an even better place to live, work, raise a family and retire.

**Harleen Oberoi, Quality Manager, EEW – American Offshore Structures**

Harleen has been in the Manufacturing and Quality field for the last 20 years serving in various capacities at several companies in the Northeast. She began with EEW in June of 2021, where she and others are working with local technical schools, colleges, and the New Jersey Economic Development Authority to prepare the workforce to support the manufacturing startup at EEW's Monopile facility in Paulsboro.

Harleen is also Six Sigma Lean and Black Belt Certified.