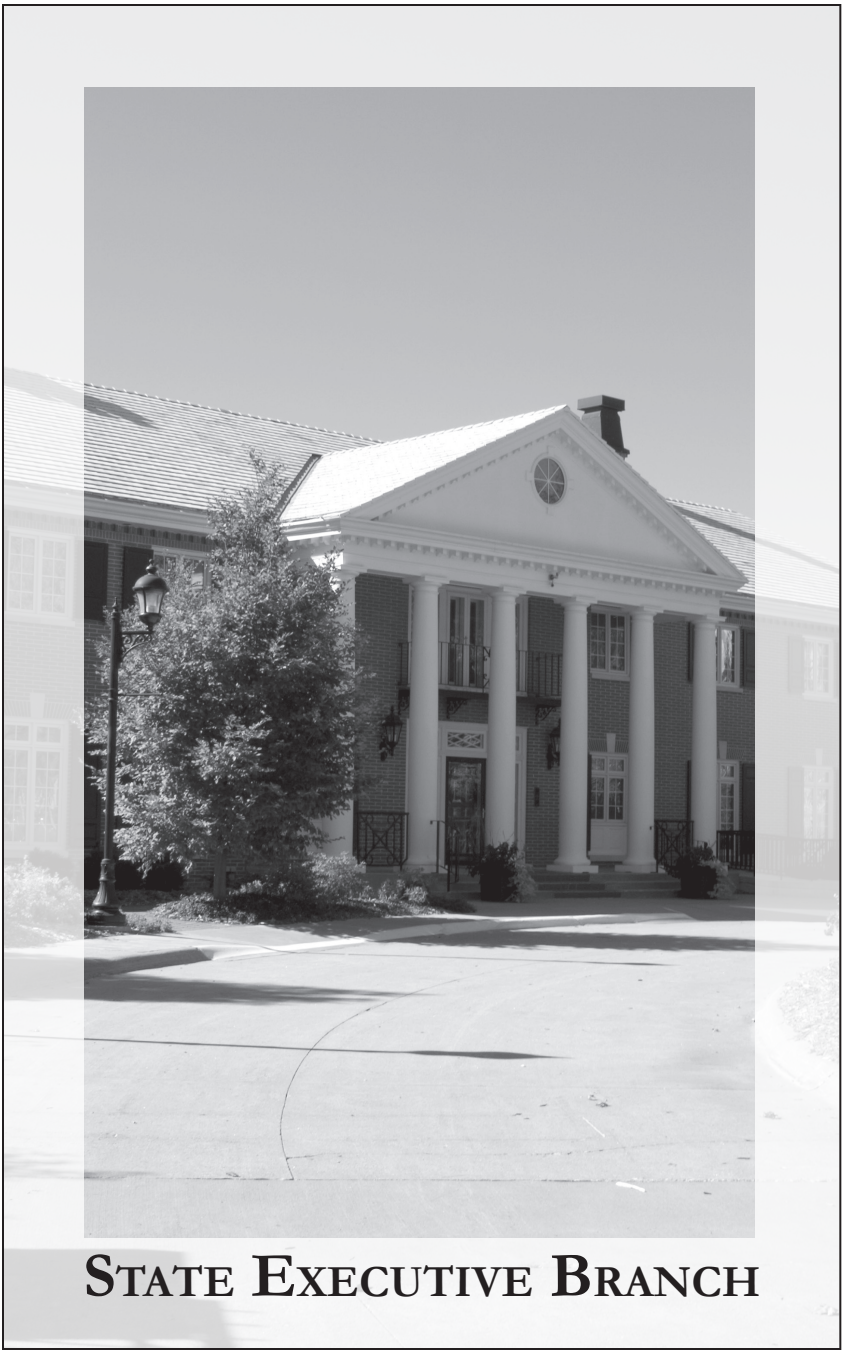
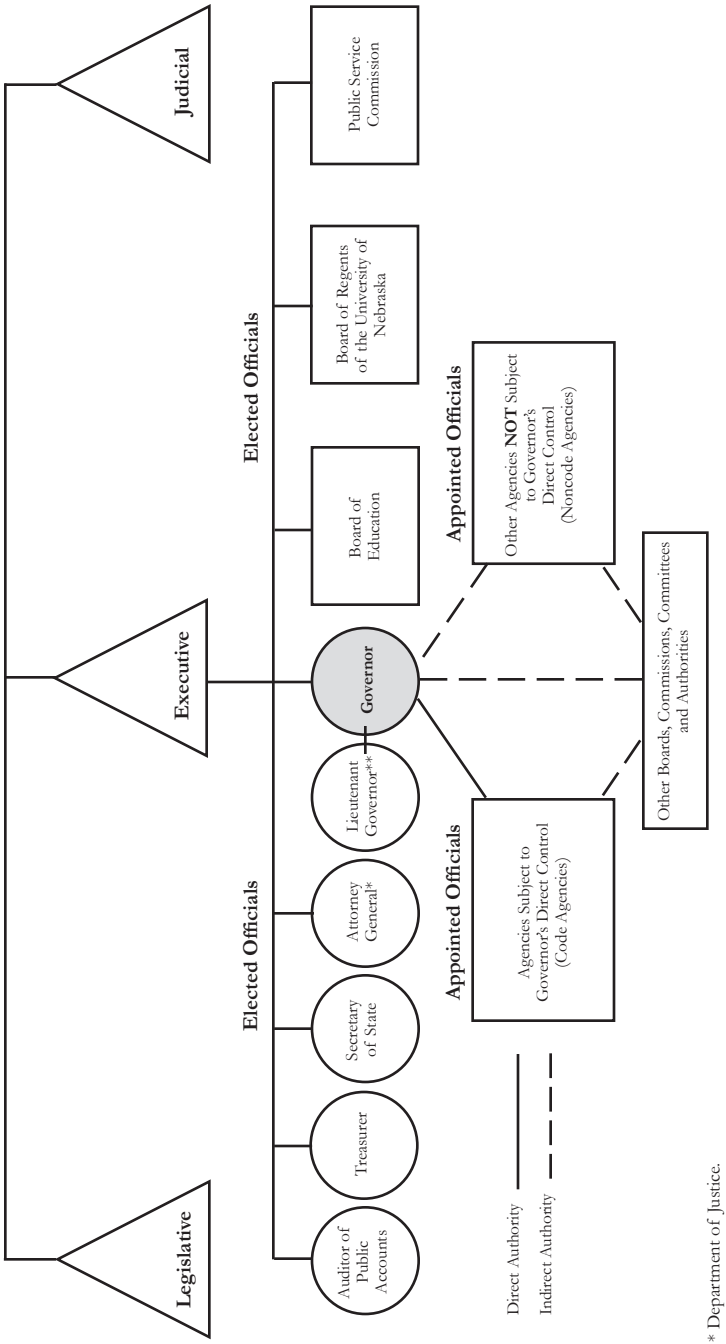


State Executive Branch

Nebraska State Government Organization — Executive Branch[1]



* Department of Justice.
** Lieutenant governor selected by the governor as part of the election process
[1] Source: Governor's Policy Research Office.

State Executive Branch[1]

The executive branch of Nebraska's state government has six officers, several departments and other governmental agencies and bodies.

Executive officers authorized by the state constitution, Article IV, Section 1, are the governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, auditor of public accounts, treasurer and attorney general. Other elected executive officials are the members of the State Board of Education, the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska and the Public Service Commission.

Executive officers are elected by popular vote to four-year terms, except the lieutenant governor, who is appointed by the governor as part of the election process. The governor and treasurer may serve only two consecutive terms; other executive officers may serve an unlimited number of terms.

The executive branch has departments, agencies, boards, commissions, committees, councils, authorities and other governmental bodies. Some were established in the state constitution, others were established by statute or created by executive order of the governor.

The full-fledged departments and agencies of state government are either code agencies or noncode agencies. Code agencies are subject to the governor's direct control. The directors of code agencies serve at the pleasure of the governor, are members of the governor's cabinet and are directly accountable to him or her. Noncode agencies are not subject to the governor's direct control. The offices of the secretary of state, auditor of public accounts, attorney general and treasurer are considered to be noncode agencies. Both code and noncode agencies are full-fledged agencies, meaning they have their own staff, are affiliated with no other agency and appear as distinct entitites in the state budget.

Editor's note: The following descriptions of state government departments, agencies, offices and other entities were compiled with help from the Governor's Policy Research Office, the Legislature's Office of the Revisor of Statutes, the Legislative Fiscal Office and the agencies and offices themselves. All statutory references in this section indicate the location in the Nebraska Constitution or the Revised Statutes of Nebraska where each governmental body was established.

[1] Source: Governor's Policy Research Office.

ELECTED EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Governor

Offices: State Capitol, Second Floor, Room 2316 P.O. Box 94848, Lincoln, NE 68509-4848, phone (402) 471-2244; Governor's West-Central Office, 200 S. Silber, Room 022, North Platte, NE 69101, phone (308) 660-9111, website — www.governor.nebraska.gov

Governor: Pete Ricketts

Statutory References: Nebraska Constitution, Article IV, Section 1; and 84-101

Salary: $105,000

Publications: Governor's message printed in pamphlet form when delivered and in the Legislative Journal; budget message printed in pamphlet form when delivered and in the Legislative Journal

According to Nebraska's constitution, the supreme executive power of the state is vested in the governor. It is the governor's duty "to take care that the laws be faithfully executed and the affairs of the state efficiently and economically administered."

The governor is the chief budget officer and must present the Legislature with a complete budget for all expenditures used in running the state's regular business. The Legislature may, by a three-fifths majority vote, appropriate more than the governor recommends for any given purpose.

By law, the governor also must:

- give information by message to the Legislature
- give accounts of all money received and spent
- appoint certain officers as required by the constitution and statutes and fill vacancies in state offices
- serve as commander-in-chief of the national and state guards
- sign or veto bills passed by the Legislature
- call elections to fill vacancies for members of the U.S. Congress
- issue requisitions for the return of accused persons to Nebraska and other states and countries
- enforce criminal laws

The governor is the chairperson of the Board of State Canvassers and the Board of Pardons. The governor is a member of the State Records Board, Nebraska Capitol Commission, Education Commission of the States, State Board of Health, Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission, Nebraska Hall of Fame Commission, Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice and other groups as provided by law.

When Nebraska was a territory, the U.S. president appointed the governor to a four-year term. The territorial governor received a $2,500 salary.

Nebraska's first state constitution, adopted in 1866, called for the people to elect a governor to a two-year term. The governor's duties were prescribed by an act approved on June 24, 1867.

In 1962, voters approved a constitutional amendment providing that the governor would be elected to a four-year term beginning in 1966. A 1966 general election vote

provided that the governor could serve only two consecutive terms. To run for governor, a person must be a resident of Nebraska for at least five years before the election and be at least 30 years old.

The governor's salary was $1,000 until raised by the constitution of 1875 to $2,500. The constitution of 1920 fixed the governor's salary at $7,500 until otherwise provided by law. The 1933 Legislature reduced the salaries of the governor and certain constitutional officers, but the Nebraska Supreme Court declared the act unconstitutional (129 Neb. 669-699). In 1947, the Legislature increased the governor's salary to $10,000, and the 1951 Legislature raised the salary to $11,000 effective in 1957. The delayed increase was because Article IV, Section 25 of the state constitution provided that no constitutional officer salary could be changed more than once in eight years. In 1956, a general election vote repealed this salary restriction. Lawmakers boosted the salary to $14,000 in 1963. Since then, senators have gradually increased the salary to its current level of $105,000.

From 1889 to 1899, the state paid the rent on a residence for the governor, except during the incumbency of Gov. Lorenzo Crounse (1893-95), who refused to accept the additional payments. In 1899, the Legislature appropriated $25,000 to buy and furnish an executive mansion. Of this sum, $21,385.30 was spent. The 1945 Legislature approved a new Georgian Colonial-style mansion to be built at a cost of $200,000 and completed in early 1958.

By 1997, 40 years of use had taken a toll on the mansion. First Lady Diane Nelson led a fundraising effort to restore the governor's mansion to its original condition. The effort was co-chaired by former First Gentleman Bill Orr and partially funded by proceeds from a cookbook that he authored. After renovations were completed, the mansion was reopened to the public in August 1998.

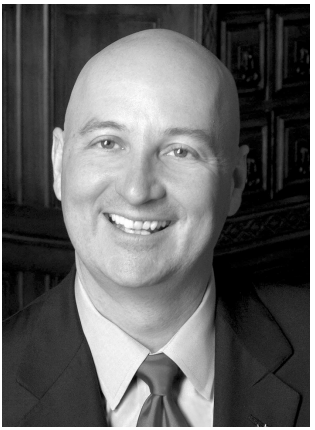
Gov. Mike Johanns and First Lady Stephanie Johanns launched a landscaping renewal project for the governor's residence grounds in November 2001. Private donations paid for most of the project. The state allocated money to make the mansion wheelchair accessible and to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

First Lady Sally Ganem established the Friends of the Governors Residence in 2006, which raised funds for technology modernization projects including a virtual tour of the residence.

In August 2007, Gov. Dave Heineman and First Lady Ganem celebrated the 50th anniversary of the governor's residence by hosting a week-long celebration for Nebraskans. The anniversary was commemorated with the release of "Inspired Recipes from Nebraska," featuring favorite recipes from governors, senators and other Nebraska leaders.

In 2008, the residence was added to the National Registry of Historic Places.

Nebraska Governor, 2021



PETE RICKETTS

Governor's Residence Address: Governor's Residence, 1425 H St., Lincoln, NE 68508

Office Address: State Capitol, Second Floor, Room 2316, P.O. Box 94848, Lincoln, NE 68509-4848, phone (402) 471-2244

Elected Governor: 2014; re-elected 2018

Political Party: Republican

Biography: Born Aug. 19, 1964, in Nebraska City. Graduate of Westside High School, 1982; University of Chicago (A.B.), 1986 and (M.B.A.) 1991. Married Susanne Shore, May 17, 1997; three children: Roscoe, Margot and Eleanor. Former: founder, Drakon, LLC; senior vice president, president and chief operating officer, Ameritrade; sales representative, Woodward Clyde Consultants; customer service representative, Union Pacific. **Member:** director, Mid-America Council of the Boy Scouts; director, Nebraska Game and Parks Foundation; board of advisors, Opportunity Education Foundation; Archbishop's Committee for Development; Knights of Columbus; Knight of the Holy Sepulchre; St. Margaret Mary's Church. **Former member:** board of advisors, Chicago Cubs, 2009-19; director, Christian Urban Education Foundation, 2011-17; director, Bellevue University (treasurer, 2012-13); national committeeman, Republican National Committee, 2007-12; director, TD Ameritrade, 1999-2006, 2007-14; trustee, American Enterprise Institute, 2007-13; director, Children's Scholarship Fund, 2004-11 (chair 2009-10); board, Community Health Charities, 2007-11.

Nebraska Governors, 1854-2021

Territorial

Francis Burt.....1854[1]
Thomas B. Cuming.....1854-1855[2]
1857-1858[4]
Mark W. Izard.....1855-1857[3]
William A. Richardson.....1858[5]
J. Sterling Morton.....1858-1859[6]
1861[8]
Samuel W. Black.....1859-1861[7]
Algernon S. Paddock.....1861[9]
Alvin Saunders.....1861-1867

State

David Butler (R)[10].....1867-1871[11]
William H. James (R).....1871-1873[12]
Robert W. Furnas (R).....1873-1875
Silas Garber (R).....1875-1879
Albinus Nance (R).....1879-1883
James W. Dawes (R).....1883-1887
John M. Thayer (R).....1887-1891
1891-1892[13]
James E. Boyd (D).....1891
1892-1893[14]
Lorenzo Crounse (R).....1893-1895
Silas A. Holcomb (F).....1895-1899
William A. Poynter (F).....1899-1901
Charles H. Dietrich (R).....1901[15]
Ezra P. Savage (R).....1901-1903[16]
John H. Mickey (R).....1903-1907
George L. Sheldon (R).....1907-1909
Ashton C. Shallenberger (D).....1909-1911
Chester H. Aldrich (R).....1911-1913
John H. Morehead (D).....1913-1917
Keith Neville (D).....1917-1919
Samuel R. McKelvie (R).....1919-1923
Charles W. Bryan (D).....1923-1925
1931-1935
Adam McMullen (R).....1925-1929
Arthur J. Weaver (R).....1929-1931
Robert Leroy Cochran (D).....1935-1941
Dwight Griswold (R).....1941-1947
Val Peterson (R).....1947-1953
Robert B. Crosby (R).....1953-1955
Victor E. Anderson (R).....1955-1959
Ralph G. Brooks (D).....1959-1960[17]
Dwight W. Burney (R).....1960-1961[18]
Frank B. Morrison (D).....1961-1967
Norbert T. Tiemann (R).....1967-1971
J. James Exon (D).....1971-1979
Charles Thone (R).....1979-1983
J. Robert Kerrey (D).....1983-1987
Kay A. Orr (R).....1987-1991
E. Benjamin Nelson (D).....1991-1999
Mike Johanns (R).....1999-2005[19]
David Heineman (R).....2005[20]-2015
Pete Ricketts (R).....2015

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[1] Died Oct. 18, 1854.
[2] Acting governor upon the death of Gov. Burt.
[3] Resigned Oct. 25, 1857.
[4] Acting governor upon resignation of Gov. Izard.
[5] Resigned Dec. 5, 1858.
[6] Acting governor upon resignation of Gov. Richardson.
[7] Resigned Feb. 24, 1861.
[8] Acting governor upon resignation of Gov. Black.
[9] Acting governor.
[10] Political affiliation: R=Republican; D=Democrat; F=Fusion (composed of Populists and Democrats).
[11] Elected in 1866, but did not take office until after Nebraska became a state. Impeached.
[12] Acting governor until inauguration of Gov. Furnas.
[13] In office 1887 to Jan. 15, 1891; May 5, 1891, to Feb. 8, 1892.
[14] Election contested by Gov. John M. Thayer. Suit delayed final seating of Gov. Boyd. In office Jan. 15, 1891, to May 5, 1891; Feb. 8, 1892, to 1893.
[15] In office from Jan. 3, 1901, to May 1, 1901. Resigned.
[16] Acting governor upon resignation of Gov. Dietrich.
[17] Died Sept. 9, 1960.
[18] Acting governor from Sept. 9, 1960, to Jan. 5, 1961.
[19] Resigned Jan. 21, 2005, to become the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture.
[20] Became governor upon resignation of Gov. Mike Johanns. Elected in 2006.

Governor's Policy Research Office

Office: Room 1319, State Capitol, P.O. Box 94601, Lincoln, NE 68509-4601, phone (402) 471-2414, fax (402) 471-2528

Director: Lauren L. Kintner

The Governor's Policy Research Office is a division of the governor's office. The director is a cabinet level position and serves at the governor's pleasure.

Statutory Reference: 84-133

The Governor's Policy Research Office, created by the 1979 Legislature, replaced the Office of Planning and Programming, created in 1969. The office helps the governor develop and review state government policy. When needed, the office coordinates and directs multiagency programs or special programs not fitting any particular agency. The office enhances the governor's executive capability.

A small professional staff assist the governor to analyze policy options, promote executive branch cooperation and efficiency, review proposed rules and regulations, respond to public inquiries and research state and national trends. The office monitors all federal legislation that impacts state government and serves as the governor's representative to the National Governors Association. The office monitors legislative bills, coordinates legislative activities of code agencies and coordinates the development and promotion of the governor's legislative agenda.

The agency is organized on a functional basis. Advisors in assigned policy areas serve as liaisons for the governor with state and federal agencies, local political subdivisions, constituents and other public and private entities. Advisors attend legislative briefings and hearings, meetings with state senators, legislative staff, agencies and registered lobbyists representing the governor and the interests of the state.

Lieutenant Governor

Office: Room 2315, State Capitol, P.O. Box 94863, Lincoln, NE 68509-4863, phone (402) 471-2256, email address — mike.foley@nebraska.gov, website — www.ltgov.ne.gov

Lieutenant Governor: Mike Foley

Statutory Reference: Nebraska Constitution, Article IV, Section 1

Salary: $75,000

The Nebraska Constitution of 1875 made the first provision for a lieutenant governor. By law, the lieutenant governor:

- presides over the Legislature
- acts as governor when the governor is out of the state or incapacitated
- becomes governor in case of a vacancy or when the governor is permanently incapacitated
- performs duties assigned by the governor

Nebraska's lieutenant governor also serves as director of homeland security for the state and chairman of the Governor's Homeland Security Policy Group.

Before 1971, the office of lieutenant governor was part-time except during the biennial legislative session. When the Legislature began meeting annually, the office became full-time.

In 1962, voters approved a constitutional amendment providing that the lieutenant governor would be elected to a four-year term beginning in 1966. Before then, lieutenant governors were elected to two-year terms. From 1974 until 2002, the governor and lieutenant governor, by constitutional amendment, secured nominations at the primary election in their respective parties, then ran in the general election on one ticket from the same political party. Beginning in 2002, gubernatorial candidates choose their nominee for lieutenant govenor after winning their respective parties' primary elections.

Nebraska's constitution of 1875 provided that the lieutenant governor receive twice the compensation of a state senator. The lieutenant governor's salary advanced from $6 per day during the session of the 1875 Legislature to $7,500 per year in 1969. The lieutenant governor's salary was increased to $25,000 per year in 1975, to $32,000 in 1979, to $40,000 in 1987, to $47,000 in 1991, to $60,000 in 2003 and to $75,000 in 2006.

Nebraska Lieutenant Governor, 2021

MIKE FOLEY

Home Address: 6410 S. 41st St. Court, Lincoln, NE 68516

Office Address: Room 2315, State Capitol, P.O. Box 94863, Lincoln, NE 68509-4863, phone (402) 471-2256, email address — mike.foley@nebraska.gov

Elected Lieutenant Governor: 2014; re-elected 2018

Political Party: Republican

Biography: Born April 5, 1954, in Rochester, N.Y. Graduate of Bishop Kearney High School in Rochester, N.Y., 1972; State University of New York at Brockport (B.S.), 1976; Michigan State University (M.B.A.), 1978. Married Susan Seiker, Aug. 3, 1990; six children: Laura, Matthew, Marie, Elizabeth, Peter and Andrew. Registered appraiser. Former: state senator, 2000-2006; corporate planning analyst, Nebraska Public Power District; director of financial analysis, National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, 1979-1997; consultant, Kirschner Association, 1978-79; summer positions with U.S. Congressman Michael Harrington, U.S. Department of Transportation and U.S. International Trade Commission; Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner, Washington, D.C., 1984. **Member:** St. Peter's Catholic Church; Legion of Mary.

Nebraska Lieutenant Governors, 1877-2021

Othman A. Abbott (R)[1] 1877-1879
Edmund C. Carns (R).....1879-1883
A. W. Agee (R) 1883-1885
H. H. Shedd (R).....1885-1889
George D. Meiklejohn (R) 1889-1891
Thomas J. Majors (R).....1891-1895
Robert E. Moore (R) 1895-1897
James E. Harris (F) 1897-1899
E. A. Gilbert (F).....1899-1901
Ezra P. Savage (R) 1901-1903
Edmund G. McGilton (R) 1903-1907
M. R. Hopewell (R).....1907-1911[2]
Samuel R. McKelvie (R).....1913-1915
James Pearson (D).....1915-1917
Edgar Howard (D).....1917-1919
Pelham A. Barrows (R).....1919-1923
Fred G. Johnson (R) 1923-1925
George A. Williams (R).....1925-1931
Theodore Metcalfe (R).....1931-1933
Walter H. Jurgensen (D).....1933-1938
Nate M. Parsons (D).....1938-1939[3]
William E. Johnson (R) 1939-1943
Roy W. Johnson (R).....1943-1947
Robert B. Crosby (R) 1947-1949
Charles J. Warner (R) .....1949-1955[4]
Dwight W. Burney (R) 1957-1965
Philip C. Sorensen (D).....1965-1967
John E. Everroad (R).....1967-1971
Frank Marsh (R) 1971-1975
Gerald T. Whelan (D).....1975-1979
Roland A. Luedtke (R).....1979-1983
Donald F. McGinley (D) 1983-1987
William E. Nichol (R).....1987-1991
Maxine B. Moul (D).....1991-1993[5]
Kim M. Robak (D).....1993-1999[6]
David I. Maurstad (R).....1999-2001[7]
David Heineman (R).....2001[8]-2005[9]
Richard Sheehy (R).....2005[10]-2013[11]
Lavon Heidemann (R).....2013[12]-2014[13]
John E. Nelson (R) .....2014[14]-2015
Mike Foley (R) 2015

[1] Political affiliation: R=Republican; D=Democrat; F=Fusion (composed of Populists and Democrats).
[2] Died May 2, 1911.
[3] Elected to fill unexpired term. In office Nov. 8, 1938, to Jan. 5, 1939.
[4] Died Sept. 24, 1955.
[5] Resigned.
[6] Appointed to finish term of Maxine Moul, who resigned. Elected in 1994.
[7] Resigned to become a regional director for the Federal Emergency Management Agency.[7]
[8] Appointed to finish term of David I. Maurstad, who resigned.
[9] Resigned to become governor.
[10] Appointed Jan. 24, 2005, to finish term of David Heineman, who resigned. Elected in 2006.
[11] Resigned Feb. 2, 2013.
[12] Appointed Feb. 13, 2013, to finish term of Richard Sheehy, who resigned.
[13] Resigned Sept. 9, 2014.
[14] Appointed Sept. 29, 2014, to finish term of Lavon Heidemann, who resigned.

Secretary of State

Office: Room 2300, State Capitol, P.O. Box 94608, Lincoln, NE 68509-4608, phone (402) 471-2554, fax (402) 471-3237, email address — sosinfo@nebraska.gov, website — www.sos.ne.gov

Secretary of State: Robert B. Evnen

Statutory References: Nebraska Constitution, Article IV, Section 1; and 84-502

Salary: $85,000

Publications: Nebraska Constitution, Official Report of the Board of State Canvassers, State Election Law Manual

The Office of the Secretary of State dates to 1854, when the first territorial secretary was appointed. In 1964, voters approved a constitutional amendment changing the term of the secretary of state from two years to four years beginning with the 1966 general election.

Since its beginning, the office has functioned as a filing office and repository of official state records. Over time, the office has acquired numerous other duties. The office oversees the following areas: elections, business registry services, occupational licensing, state agency rules and regulations, records management and international relations.

The secretary of state serves as the state's chief election officer. Working with election officials in the state's 93 counties, the office's Elections Division oversees election law, the conduct of elections in the state, election tabulation equipment and the state voter registration system. The division accepts candidate filings and tabulates results for statewide, legislative, judicial retention and certain district elections. The division oversees filings for statewide initiative and referendum petitions.

The secretary of state's office actively promotes election law reform, voter education and voter turnout. The office reaches students through various programs designed to teach the practices of good citizenship, such as voting and community service. The office sponsors Capitol Forum, Honor a Veteran and Youth Election Services. The office also promotes voter registration and voting at Nebraska college campuses and participates in Cornhusker Boys State.

The office's Business Services Division provides several important functions for businesses in the state. Registrations are recorded for corporations, limited liability companies, limited partnerships, limited liability partnerships, trade names and trademarks. The division is the repository of Uniform Commercial Code, agriculture-related and other security interest filings. The division regulates notary public commissions and handles apostilles and authentications (documents going to other countries). The office also has launched numerous online services to ease access to record keeping and banking for entities doing business in Nebraska.

The office's Licensing Division protects the public interest by licensing or registering several occupations. The division oversees collection agencies, debt management agencies, credit services organizations, private detectives, truth and deception examiners, athlete agents and nonrecourse civil litigation funding companies.

The office maintains the Nebraska Administrative Code. The office is responsible for the filing and certification of state agency rules and regulations, and making them available for public inspection.

The secretary of state serves as the state records administrator. The office's Records Management Division assists state and local government agencies in managing the creation, use, storage and disposal of records in an efficient and economical manner. The division provides services and does consulting for government agencies. Services include the storage of state records and the conversion of records into different formats for storage. The division facilitates and publishes the creation and update of records retention and disposition schedules for all Nebraska government entities.

The secretary of state also serves as the state's chief protocol officer for international relations. In that role, the secretary serves as a goodwill ambassador and promotes commercial, educational and cultural relations between Nebraska and the world. The office has hosted five diplomatic conferences where diplomats have come to Nebraska to learn about the state, and two foreign affairs symposiums to discuss Nebraska trade practices. The office also cooperates with the Nebraska Department of Agriculture and the Nebraska Department of Economic Development on additional trade and protocol events.

The secretary of state is the official keeper of the Great Seal of the State of Nebraska, affixing it to official government documents to validate them. The secretary of state must authorize any use of the Great Seal by state agencies or the public. The office is the repository for all public acts, laws and resolutions passed by the Legislature, and bonds and oaths of state elected and appointed officers.

The secretary of state also serves in various capacities on numerous state boards and commissions:

- chairperson, State Real Estate Commission
- chairperson, State Records Board[2]
- chairperson, Nebraska Collection Agency Licensing Board[3]
- secretary, State Board of Pardons
- secretary, State Board of Canvassers
- member, Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission

[2] See Pages 419-420 for details on the State Records Board.
[3] See Page 419 for details on the Nebraska Collection Agency Licensing Board.

Nebraska Secretary of State, 2021

ROBERT B. EVNEN

Office Address: Room 2300, State Capitol, P.O. Box 94608, Lincoln, NE 68509-4608, phone (402) 471-1572

Elected Secretary of State: 2018

Political Party: Republican

Biography: Born in Sioux City, Iowa. Graduate of Lincoln Southeast High School, 1970; Michigan State University (B.A.), 1974; University of Southern California (J.D.), 1977. Married to Debra; three children: Thomas, Julia and Michael. Former: attorney and partner, Woods & Aitken LLP. **Former member:** Nebraska State Board of Education; Lancaster County Personnel Policy Board; Nebraska committee, U.S. Global Leadership Conference; board, Cornhusker Council - Boy Scouts of America; board, Nebraska Continuing Legal Education, Inc. **Honors and awards:** lifetime fellow, Nebraska State Bar Foundation.

Nebraska Territorial Secretaries and Secretaries of State, 1854-2021

Territorial

Thomas B. Cuming ..... 1854-1858[1]
John B. Motley ..... 1858[2]
J. Sterling Morton 1858-1861
Algernon S. Paddock 1861-1867

State

Thomas P. Kennard (R)[3] ..... 1867-1871[4]
William H. James (R) 1871-1873
John J. Gosper (R) 1873-1875
Bruno Tzschuck (R) 1875-1879
S. J. Alexander (R) 1879-1883
Edward P. Roggen (R) 1883-1887
Gilbert L. Laws (R) ..... 1887-1889[5]
Benjamin R. Cowdery (R) ..... 1889-1891[6]
John C. Allen (R) 1891-1895
Joel A. Piper (R) 1895-1897
William F. Porter (F) 1897-1901
George W. Marsh (R) 1901-1905
A. Galusha (R) 1905-1907
George C. Junkin (R) 1907-1911
Addison Wait (R) 1911-1915
Charles W. Pool (D) 1915-1919
1923-1927
Darius M. Amsberry (R) 1919-1923
Frank Marsh (R) 1927-1933
1941-1951[7]
Harry R. Swanson (D) 1933-1941
James S. Pittenger (R) ..... 1951-1953[8]
Frank Marsh (R) 1953-1971
Allen J. Beermann (R) 1971-1995
Scott Moore (R) 1995-2000
John A. Gale, (R) ..... 2000[9]-2019
Robert B. Evnen (R) 2019

[1] Died March 23, 1858.
[2] Acting secretary.
[3] Political affiliation: R=Republican; D=Democrat; F=Fusion (composed of Populists and Democrats).
[4] Term of office began Feb. 21, 1867.
[5] Resigned Nov. 20, 1889, to fill unexpired term in Congress caused by the death of James Laird.
[6] Appointed to fill vacancy.
[7] Died Feb. 9, 1951.
[8] Appointed Feb. 10, 1951, to fill vacancy.
[9] Appointed Dec. 18, 2000, to fill vacancy.

Nebraska Collection Agency Licensing Board

Office: Licensing Division, Office of the Secretary of State, 1201 N St., Suite 120, P.O. Box 94608, Lincoln, NE 68509, phone (402) 471-8606

Licensing Director: David L. Wilson, Jr.

Statutory Reference: 45-603

The Collection Agency Licensing Board reviews applications for collection agency licenses. Any person, firm, corporation or association conducting business as a collection agency must be licensed and obtain a bond.

The board is responsible for the administration of the Collection Agency Licensing Act. The board investigates the qualifications of each applicant and, based on the investigation, may issue or refuse to issue a license.

The secretary of state is the chairperson of the board. The governor appoints four members. Three members, one from each of the state's congressional districts, are licensees engaged in the collection business. The remaining member is appointed at large as a representative of the public and is not a licensee. The terms of office are four years. Members are reimbursed for their actual expenses. All expenses, salaries and expenditures are paid out of the Nebraska Collection Agency Cash Fund.

Member	Represents	Term Expires
Roxanne R. Kracl, Fremont	1st District	Sept. 9, 2019
Steve Lindgren, Lincoln	Public At Large	Sept. 9, 2019
Micheal Morledge, Grand Island	3rd District	Sept. 9, 2021
Jason Thompson, Bennington	2nd District	Sept. 9, 2021
Robert B. Evnen, Lincoln (Chairman)	Secretary of State	Nonexpiring

State Records Board

Office: Records Management Division, Office of the Secretary of State, 440 S. Eighth St., Suite 210, Lincoln, NE 68508, phone (402) 471-2745

Executive Director: Vacant

Statutory Reference: 84-1204

The State Records Board provides electronic access to state government records, information and services through an Internet portal. The board has authority to enter into agreements regarding the management of the portal, provide oversight of the portal manager and set reasonable fees for electronic access. The board also advises and assists the secretary of state, who serves as the state records administrator, in the performance of his or her duties under the Records Management Act.

The secretary of state serves as chairperson of the 12-member State Records Board. Other state officials on the board include the governor, attorney general, auditor of public accounts, state treasurer and director of administrative services, or their designees. The board also includes six members appointed by the governor, one from each of the following constituencies: banking, insurance, law, libraries, news media and the general public.

Member	Represents	Term Expires
Brian Buescher, Omaha	Law	July 16, 2018
Andrew J. Cano, Lincoln	Libraries	July 16, 2020
Tony J. Ojeda, Roca	Insurance	July 16, 2022
M. John Steier, Omaha	Banking Industry	July 16, 2020

Angela Stenger, Norfolk	News Media	July 16, 2022
Walter Weir, Lincoln	General Public	July 16, 2021
Robert B. Evnen, Lincoln	State Records Administrator (Secretary of State)	Nonexpiring
Jason Jackson, Lincoln	Director of Administrative Services	Nonexpiring
Charlie Janssen, Fremont	Auditor of Public Accounts	Nonexpiring
John Murante, Gretna	State Treasurer	Nonexpiring
Douglas J. Peterson, Lincoln	Attorney General	Nonexpiring
Pete Ricketts, Lincoln/Omaha	Governor	Nonexpiring

State Treasurer

Office: Room 2005, State Capitol, P.O. Box 94788, Lincoln, NE 68509-4788, phone (402) 471-2455, website — www.treasurer.nebraska.gov

State Treasurer: John Murante

Statutory References: Nebraska Constitution, Article IV, Section 1; 84-601

Salary: $85,000

Publications: Biennial report; monthly statement

An act of the Nebraska territorial assembly, approved on March 16, 1855, created the treasurer's office. The state constitutions of 1866 and 1875 provided for the state treasurer's office. In 1964, voters approved a constitutional amendment changing the term of the state treasurer from two years to four years starting with the 1966 general election. No state treasurer may serve more than two consecutive terms.

Duties of the office include:

• receiving and keeping money of the state not expressly required to be received and kept by some other state official

• disbursing public money upon warrants drawn upon the state treasury according to law, and not otherwise

• keeping a true and comprehensive account of money received and disbursed

• keeping a just account with each fund, and each head of appropriation made by law, and the warrants drawn against them

• reporting to the Legislature within 10 days after the beginning of each regular session a detailed statement of the condition of the state treasury and its operations for the preceding fiscal year

• giving written information to the Legislature, whenever required, upon any subject connected with the treasury or duties of the treasurer's office

• recording purchases made by the state investment officer

• safekeeping securities purchased for the trust funds and state agencies

• accounting and paying for money received by him or her as treasurer to the successor in office, and delivery of books and records of the office to him or her

The state treasurer is required to deposit, and at all times keep on deposit for safekeeping, the money in his or her hands belonging to the several current funds in the state treasury in state or national banks or in banks doing business in Nebraska of approved standing and responsibility.

The state treasurer administers the Uniform Disposition of Unclaimed Property Act. Under the act, unclaimed funds such as inactive bank accounts, uncashed checks, stock shares, insurance proceeds and utility deposits are remitted to the state treasurer's office. The state treasurer then tries to locate the owners and return the funds owed to them. Funds that are not returned to claimants are deposited in the Permanent School Fund, and the interest from this fund is distributed to Nebraska school districts.

The state treasurer is responsible for administering the Nebraska College Savings Program, known as the Nebraska Educational Savings Trust or NEST. The state treasurer is trustee of NEST, which began operations Jan. 1, 2001. The state treasurer also is responsible for the Nebraska Long-Term Care Savings Program, which began in 2006.

Also administered by the office is the Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) program, known as the Enable Savings Plan. The plan is a tax-advantaged savings program for individuals with qualifying disabilities in Nebraska and nationwide. The first Enable accounts opened in June of 2016. The state treasurer is trustee of the Enable Savings Plan.

The state of Nebraska has implemented a statewide system for receipt, distribution and disbursement of child support. The state treasurer is responsible for receipting and disbursing child support payments. The state Department of Health and Human Services is responsible for providing the state treasurer with distribution instructions for the disbursement of child support.

The state treasurer is a member of the Board of State Canvassers, the State Investment Council, the Quality Jobs Act Board and the State Records Board.

Nebraska State Treasurer, 2021

John Murante

Office Address: Room 2005, State Capitol, P.O. Box 94788, Lincoln, NE 68509-4788, phone (402) 471-2455, email address — nst.info@nebraska.gov

Elected State Treasurer: 2018

Political Party: Republican

Biography: Born Feb. 6, 1982, in Omaha. Graduate of V.J. and Angela Skutt Catholic High School, 2000; University of Nebraska-Lincoln (bachelor's degree), 2004. Married Melissa Ekberg, Dec. 22, 2007; one child: Natalia Patricia. CEO, Big Fred's Pizza. **Member:** St. Patrick's Catholic Church; board, Partnership 4 Kids; Knights of Columbus; Gretna Optimists; U.S. Election Assistance Commission.

Nebraska State Treasurers, 1855-2021

Territorial

Benjamin P. Rankin.....1855[1]
William W. Wyman.....1855-1861
Augustus Kountze.....1861-1867

State

Augustus Kountze (R)[2] .....1867-1869[3]
James Sweet (R) 1869-1871
Henry A. Koenig (R) 1871-1875
J. C. McBride (R) 1875-1879
George M. Bartlett (R) 1879-1883
Phelps D. Sturdevant (F).....1883-1885
Charles H. Willard (R) 1885-1889
John E. Hill (R).....1889-1893
Joseph S. Bartley (R) 1893-1897
John B. Meserve (F).....1897-1901
William Stuefer (R).....1901-1903
Peter Mortensen (R) 1903-1907
L. G. Brian (R) 1907-1911
Walter A. George (R).....1911-1915
George E. Hall (D) 1915-1919
1933-1936[4]
Daniel B. Cropsey (R).....1919-1923
Charles D. Robinson (R) 1923-1927
W. M. Stebbins (R) 1927-1931
Truman W. Bass (R).....1931-1933
1939[6]
H. J. Murray (D) .....1936-1937[5]
Walter H. Jensen (D).....1937-1939
John Havekost (D) .....1939-1941[7]
L. B. Johnson (R).....1941-1943
Carl G. Swanson (R) .....1943-1945[8]
Edward Gillette (R).....1946-1951[9]
Frank B. Heintze (R).....1951-1955
Ralph W. Hill (R) .....1955-1958[10]
Bertha I. Hill (R).....1958-1959[11]
Richard R. Larsen (D) 1959-1961
Clarence L.E. Swanson (R).....1961-1964[12]
P. Merle Humphries (R) .....1964-1965[13]
Fred Sorensen (D).....1965-1967
Wayne R. Swanson (R) 1967-1975
Frank Marsh (R) .....1975-1981[14]
1987-1991
Kay A. Orr (R).....1981-1987[15]
Dawn E. Rockey (D) 1991-1995
David Heineman (R).....1995-2001[16]
Lorelee Hunt Byrd (R) .....2001-2004[17]
Ron Ross (R).....2004-2007[18]
Shane Osborn (R) 2007-2011
Don Stenberg (R).....2011-2019
John Murante (R) 2019

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[1] Appointed by governor to serve until 1855 general election.
[2] Political affiliation: R=Republican; D=Democrat; F=Fusion. Sturdevant represented a fusion of Anti-Monopolists and Democrats; Meserve represented a fusion of Populists and Democrats.
[3] Term of office began Feb. 21, 1867.
[4] Died Dec. 21, 1936.
[5] In office Dec. 21, 1936, to Jan. 7, 1937.
[6] Died Aug. 21, 1939.
[7] In office Aug. 26, 1939, to 1941.
[8] In office 1943 to Dec. 31, 1945.
[9] Appointed to fill vacancy Jan. 1, 1946. Elected in November 1946.
[10] Died July 13, 1958.
[11] Appointed to fill vacancy July 1958.
[12] Died April 5, 1964.
[13] Appointed to fill vacancy April 10, 1964.
[14] Resigned June 1981.
[15] Appointed June 15, 1981, to complete term of Frank Marsh, who resigned; elected Nov. 2, 1982.
[16] Resigned Sept. 2001.
[17] Appointed Oct. 1, 2001, to complete term of David Heineman, who resigned; elected Nov. 5, 2002. Resigned Jan. 6, 2004.
[18] Appointed Jan. 6, 2004, to complete term of Lorelee Hunt Byrd, who resigned.

Auditor of Public Accounts

Office: Room 2303, State Capitol, P.O. Box 98917, Lincoln, NE 68509-8917, phone (402) 471-2111, fax (402) 471-3301, website — auditors.nebraska.gov

Auditor of Public Accounts: Charlie Janssen

Statutory References: Nebraska Constitution, Article IV, Section 1; and 84-301

Salary: $85,000

The major duties of the auditor of public accounts are to:

- conduct audits of state agencies, officers, boards, bureaus and commissions
- conduct annual audits of certain political subdivisions and federal funds by contract
- establish uniform accounting systems for county officers
- establish uniform budgeting for political subdivisions
- register Nebraska school, municipal and public bonds
- set audit standards for auditors conducting audits for state agencies and political subdivisions
- conduct investigations of reports of alleged government waste, fraud and abuse

The auditor is elected to a four-year term and serves as a member of the Board of State Canvassers, State Records Board and Suggestion Award Board.

The office was created by the first territorial Legislature in 1855. The auditor was the general accountant and revenue officer of the territory. The duties have expanded and evolved over the decades as modern accounting theory has been implemented. In 1964, voters approved a constitutional amendment changing the term of the auditor from two years to four years beginning with the 1966 general election.

Nebraska Auditor of Public Accounts, 2021

CHARLIE JANSSEN

Home Address: 1234 N. Bristolwood Dr., Fremont, NE 68025

Office Address: Room 2303, State Capitol, P.O. Box 98917, Lincoln, NE 68509-8917, phone (402) 471-2111, fax (402) 471-3301, email — charlie.janssen@nebraska.gov

Elected Auditor of Public Accounts: 2014; re-elected 2018

Political Party: Republican

Biography: Born Jan. 15, 1971, in Fremont. Graduate of Logan View High School, 1989; Wayne State College (B.S.), 1997. Military service: U.S. Navy (1989-93). Married Ellen Fauss, Sept. 10, 2010. Four children: Charlie, Jr., Betsy Anne, Scarlett Charlize and Dane. Chairman and CEO, RTG Medical. Former: U.S. Navy search and rescue swimmer. **Member:** St. Patrick's Catholic Church; board of directors, Fremont Area United Way; board of directors, Greater Fremont Development Council; senior vice-commander, VFW. **Former member:** Fremont Area Chamber of Commerce; Fremont Veterans Club (president); Fremont City Council.

Nebraska Auditors of Public Accounts, 1855-2021

Territorial

Charles B. Smith 1855-1858
Samuel L. Campbell[1]
William E. Moore 1858
Robert C. Jordan 1858-1861
William E. Harvey 1861-1865
John Gillespie 1865-1867

State

John Gillespie (R)[2] ..... 1867-1873[3]
Jefferson B. Weston (R) 1873-1879
F.W. Liedtke (R) ..... 1879-1880[4]
John Wallichs (R) ..... 1880-1885[5]
H. A. Babcock (R) 1885-1889
Thomas H. Benton (R) 1889-1893
Eugene Moore (R) 1893-1897
John F. Cornell (F) 1897-1901
Charles Weston (R) 1901-1905
Edward N. Searle Jr. (R) 1905-1909
Silas R. Barton (R) 1909-1913
W.B. Howard (R) 1913-1915
William H. Smith (D) 1915-1919
George W. Marsh (R) 1919-1927, 1931-1933
L. B. Johnson (R) 1927-1931
William B. Price (D) ..... 1933-1935[6]
Fred C. Ayres (D) ..... 1935-1937[7]
William H. Price (D) 1937-1939
Ray C. Johnson (R) 1939-1971
Ray A.C. Johnson (R) 1971-1991
John Breslow (D, R)[8] 1991-1999
Kate Witek (R, D)[9] 1999-2007
Mike Foley (R) 2007-2015
Charlie Janssen (R) 2015

[1] Appointed, but did not qualify.
[2] Political affiliation: R=Republican; D=Democrat; F=Fusion (composed of Populists and Democrats).
[3] Term of office began Feb. 21, 1867.
[4] In office from 1879 to Nov. 11, 1880.
[5] In office from Nov. 12, 1880, to 1885.
[6] Died Aug. 19, 1935.
[7] In office from Aug. 20, 1935, to 1937.
[8] After winning re-election as a Democrat, John Breslow switched to the Republican Party in 1994.
[9] After winning re-election as a Republican, Kate Witek switched to the Democratic Party in 2006.

Attorney General
Department of Justice

Office: Room 2115, State Capitol, P.O. Box 98920, Lincoln, NE 68509-8920, phone (402) 471-2682, fax (402) 471-3297, TDD (402) 471-2682, website — www.ago.nebraska.gov, toll-free consumer protection hotline (800) 727-6432, consumer protection website — www.ProtectTheGoodLife.nebraska.gov

Attorney General: Douglas J. Peterson

Statutory References: Nebraska Constitution, Article IV, Section 1; and 84-201

Salary: $95,000

Publications: Annual report, legal briefs, attorney general opinions

The attorney general is the state's chief law officer, with duties authorized by the state constitution, statutory enactments and the common law.

The attorney general has been a constitutional officer since 1875. A 1919 legislative act created the Department of Justice to be administered by the attorney general. This department has "general control and supervision of all actions and legal proceedings in which the State of Nebraska may be a party or be interested, and has charge and control of all legal business of all departments and bureaus of the state, or of any office thereof, which requires the services of attorney or counsel in order to protect interests of the state."

The attorney general has the same powers and prerogatives in each county as county attorneys do. Nearly 400 statutes direct the attorney general to perform duties. The attorney general:

- appears in court to defend actions and claims against the state
- consults with and advises county attorneys, upon their request, in criminal and public revenue matters
- writes opinions, without a fee, upon questions of law submitted to the office by the governor, by the head of any executive department or by any state senator
- prosecutes or defends the state, at the request of the governor or the head of any executive department, in all actions and proceedings, civil or criminal, relating to matters of their departments
- ensures that various state funds receive the money the Legislature has appropriated to them and prosecutes the misuse of such funds
- prepares, when requested by the governor or other executive officers, proper drafts for contracts, forms or other writings for state use
- appears for the state and prosecutes and defends all actions and proceedings, civil or criminal, in the Supreme Court in which the state is interested or a party, and when requested by the governor
- appears for the state by request of the governor or the Legislature to prosecute or defend any action, or conduct any investigation, in which the state is interested or a party, before any court, officer, board, tribunal or commission
- administers the State Tort Claims Act and advises the State Claims Board
- advises and represents state agencies, boards, commissions and officials
- administers a Child Protection Division to assist county attorneys in the preparation of cases involving crimes against children

• investigates complaints of consumer fraud and antitrust activities

• files proceedings to test the constitutionality of any legislative act that in the attorney general's opinion is unconstitutional

• compels any state government agency charged with implementing a legislative act to implement the act if it fails or refuses to do so

• reviews records to determine whether they may be withheld from public inspection pursuant to public record statutes

• consults with the secretary of state to administer election laws

• enforces healthcare professional licensing provisions

• represents the state in criminal appeals and habeas corpus proceedings

• administers a drug and violent crime prosecution unit to assist local prosecutors

• oversees and enforces compliance with civil and criminal statutes, regulations and settlement terms governing the use, manufacture and sale of tobacco/nicotine products within the state

• commences, prosecutes and defends actions affecting the rights of Nebraska water users in interstate streams as against appropriators in any other state and protects the interests of appropriators of water within this state in such cases

• represents the state in workers' compensation and eminent domain proceedings

The attorney general is a member of the Board of State Canvassers, Board of Pardons, State Records Board and Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice.

In 1964, voters approved a constitutional amendment changing the term of the attorney general from two years to four years beginning with the 1966 general election.

The Department of Justice is organized into seven divisions: the Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources Bureau; the Civil Litigation Bureau; the Consumer Protection Bureau; the Criminal Bureau, which includes the Criminal Appeals and Prosecution sections; the Legal Services Bureau, which includes the Legal Services and Administrative Enforcement sections; the Medicaid Fraud and Patient Abuse Unit; and the Department of Transportation section.

Chief Deputy Attorney General: Dave Bydalek
Chief of Staff: Joshua Shasserre
Director of Communications: Suzanne Gage
Director of Operations: Dana Hoffman

Bureau Chief	Bureau
Justin Lavene	Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources
Milissa Johnson-Wiles	Administrative Enforcement Section
Ryan Post	Civil Litigation
Meghan Stoppel	Consumer Protection
Erin Tangeman	Criminal: Appellate
Corey O'Brien	Criminal: Prosecution
Jay Bartel	Legal Services
Mark Collins	Medicaid Fraud and Patient Abuse
Jeff Schroeder	Transportation

Solicitor General
James Campbell

Nebraska Attorney General, 2021

DOUGLAS J. PETERSON

Office Address: Room 2115, State Capitol, P.O. Box 98920, Lincoln, NE 68509-8920, phone (402) 471-2682

Elected Attorney General: 2014; re-elected 2018

Political Party: Republican

Biography: Born April 4, 1959, in Columbus. Graduate of Lincoln East High School, 1977; University of Nebraska-Lincoln, 1981; Pepperdine University (J.D.), 1985. Married Sandra Miller, July 16, 1983; three children: Clay, Kylie and Grant. Former partner, Keating, O'Gara, Nedved & Peter (2000-14); partner, Knudsen, Berkheimer, Richardson & Endacott (1990-2000); assistant attorney general (1988-90); deputy county attorney, Lincoln County (1985-87). **Member:** Lancaster County delegate, Nebraska Republican Party; business committee, Lincoln Berean Church. **Former member:** Commission on Unauthorized Practice of Law, Nebraska State Bar Association; board, Lincoln Crisis Pregnancy Center (chairman); board, Lincoln City Impact; Heartland Big Brothers Big Sisters; state board, Nebraska Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

Nebraska Attorneys General, 1867-2021

Champion S. Chase (R)[1] .....1867-1869[2]
Seth Robinson (R).....1869-1871
George H. Roberts (R).....1871-1873
1875-1879
Joseph R. Webster (R) 1873-1875
C. J. Dilworth (R) 1879-1883
Isaac Powers Jr. (R).....1883-1885
William Leese (R).....1885-1891
George H. Hastings (R) 1891-1895
Arthur S. Churchill (R) 1895-1897
Constantine J. Smyth (F) 1897-1901
Frank N. Prout (R).....1901-1905
Norris Brown (R).....1905-1907
William T. Thompson (R).....1907-1910[3]
Arthur F. Mullen (D) .....1910-1911[4]
Grant G. Martin (R).....1911-1915
Willis E. Reed (D) 1915-1919
Clarence A. Davis (R).....1919-1923
Ora S. Spillman (R) 1923-1929
C. A. Sorensen (R).....1929-1933
Paul F. Good (D).....1933-1935
William H. Wright (D).....1935-1937
Richard C. Hunter (D).....1937-1939
Walter R. Johnson (R).....1939-1949
James H. Anderson (R) .....1949-1950[3]
Clarence S. Beck (R).....1950-1961[5]
Harold P. Caldwell (D) .....1951[6]
Clarence A.H. Meyer (R).....1961-1975
Paul L. Douglas (R).....1975-1984[3]
Robert M. Spire (R).....1985-1991[7]
Don Stenberg (R).....1991-2003
Jon Bruning (R) 2003-2015
Douglas J. Peterson (R) 2015

[1] Political affiliation: R=Republican; D=Democrat; F=Fusion (composed of Populists and Democrats).
[2] Term began Feb. 21, 1867.
[3] Resigned.
[4] Appointed to fill vacancy. In office Oct. 31, 1910, to Jan. 5, 1911.
[5] Appointed to fill vacancy March 1, 1950; elected in November 1950.
[6] Elected for short term. In office approximately 31 hours.
[7] Appointed to fill vacancy. Sworn in March 1, 1985; elected in 1986.