

Biography – Pinellas County Commissioner Janet C. Long

Commissioner Long is no stranger to public service. Her career in government began as a Legislative Aide working in the Old Capitol. The year was 1975 – before word processing, computers, copy machines, fax machines and electronic communication. It was a time when the legislative process was all done by hand.

In 1980, Janet served as the Assistant to the Pinellas County Legislative Delegation until 1986 when she was appointed by Commissioner Bill Gunter as the Deputy Insurance Commissioner for the Florida Department of Insurance with primary day to day management and oversight of the Regional Office located in Pinellas County. She was reappointed by Commissioner Tom Gallagher and again by Commissioner Bill Nelson.

In 2002, Commissioner Long was elected to the Seminole City Council and elected again in 2004 without opposition. In 2006, she was elected as a Democrat to the Florida House of Representatives from District 51 and served through 2010. In her first year of office, she managed to pass five out of her six bills. She has created an electronic newsletter which keeps her constituents abreast of her activities and those of the legislature. In an effort to ensure that her constituents have a voice, she has held various town hall meetings in her district and around Pinellas County on property taxes, the Lealman fire district and the Pinellas Park Water Management District.

While a member of the Florida Legislature she served on the Military & Veterans Affairs Policy Committee; the Economic Development & Community Affairs Policy Council; the General Government Policy Council; the Insurance, Business & Financial Affairs Policy Committee; the Education K-12 Committee and the Transportation & Economic Development Appropriations Committee.

Janet Long was elected countywide to a seat on the Pinellas County Commission in 2012 and again in 2016. She currently serves as Chair of the Commission for 2017.

Commissioner Long serves as Chair of the Pinellas County Economic Development Council, Tourist Development Council, and County Attorney Oversight Committee. She also serves on the Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority (PSTA), the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council, the Business Technology Services Board, and the Election Canvassing Board. In addition to her Pinellas County Board of County Commissioner appointments; she also on the Largo Medical Center Board of Trustees and the Clearwater Central Catholic Advisory Board.

Janet has been married to her husband, Richard, a retired officer with the Seminole Fire Department, for 38 years. Her daughter is a nurse. Her oldest son was a United States Army Captain and Apache Pilot who recently returned from combat duty in Afghanistan. He now flies for a private company. Her youngest son is a police officer with the City of Clearwater and an Army veteran. She has a daughter-in-law who is a police officer with the City of Clearwater and a Navy veteran and another daughter-in-law who was a state prosecutor for seven years and now works in a private law firm in St. Petersburg. Commissioner Long also has three grandchildren.