

## Chapter Four

# State Executive Offices

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**“THE MOSES WHO IS LEADING  
MINNESOTA TO THE PROMISED LAND.”**



Clara Ueland was a lifelong women’s rights activist and prominent Minnesotan suffragist. She was president of the Minnesota Woman Suffrage Association when the nineteenth amendment was passed in 1919. That same year, she also became the first president of the Minnesota League of Women’s Voters.

As women’s organizations gained momentum around the turn of the twentieth century, Ueland became serious about the suffrage movement. Her interest was piqued by a Minneapolis suffrage convention in 1901. Soon after, Ueland joined two organizations in support of the cause. She even went on to help found the Woman’s Club of Minneapolis, but left in 1912 to focus her energy on women’s voting rights.

## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR



**Tim Walz** (Democratic-Farmer-Labor)

**Elected:** 2018

**Term:** Four years

**Term expires:** January 2023

**Statutory Salary:** \$127,629

Mankato. BS, Social Science Education, Chadron State College (1989); MS, Educational Leadership, Minnesota State University, Mankato (2001); Teacher, Harvard World Teach (1989-1990); Command Sergeant Major, Army National Guard (1981-2005); Teacher, Mankato West High School (1996-2006); Representative, First Congressional District of Minnesota, United States House of Representatives (2006-2019).

130 State Capitol, 75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., St. Paul 55155

**Phone:** (651) 201-3400 **Toll-free:** (800) 657-3717 **Minnesota Relay:** (800) 627-3529

**Fax:** (651) 797-1850 **Website:** [mn.gov/governor/](http://mn.gov/governor/)

**Email:** Use online form at: <http://mn.gov/governor/contact>

**Minnesota Constitution provides:** To qualify as governor, a person must be 25 years old, reside in the state one year, be a citizen of the United States and elected by the people (Article V).

The primary duties of the governor are to oversee all operations of state government and to take the lead in shaping public policy through legislative proposals and agency initiatives. The operation of government is carried out through more than 23 major departments whose heads are appointed by the governor. These department heads, along with the lieutenant governor and chief of staff, make up the governor's cabinet.

The departments of revenue, and management and budget are the governor's chief advisors on financial matters; the departments of employment and economic development, labor and industry, and commerce advise the governor regarding economic development, the business climate, and business regulation; the departments of health, human services, education, and corrections advise the governor on various social policies; and the departments of pollution control and natural resources carry out the governor's environmental policies.

The governor appoints people to state boards and commissions and appoints judges for all state courts when vacancies occur. He chairs the State Executive Council, Land Exchange Board, and Board of Investment. As commander-in-chief of state military forces, the governor can activate the National Guard for emergency duty.

The governor reviews all bills passed by the legislature and has the power to veto those he disapproves. On occasion, the governor may appear before the Legislature. Because of the separation of powers required by the Minnesota Constitution, a governor may enter a legislative chamber only with the permission of the Legislature. Only the governor has the power to call a special session of the Legislature.

## OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



**Peggy Flanagan** (Democratic-Farmer-Labor)  
**Elected:** 2018  
**Term:** Four years  
**Term expires:** January 2023  
**Statutory Salary:** \$82,959

St. Louis Park. B.A., University of Minnesota (2002); Senior Trainer, Director / Founder, Native American Leadership Program, Director of External Affairs, Wellstone Action (2006-2013); Executive Director, Children's Defense Fund - Minnesota (2013-2016); Representative, District 46A, Minnesota House of Representatives (2015-2019).

130 State Capitol, 75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Blvd., St. Paul 55155

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**Fax:** (651) 797-1850 **Website:** [mn.gov/governor/](http://mn.gov/governor/)

**Email:** Use online form at: <http://mn.gov/governor/contact>

**Minnesota Constitution provides:** To qualify as lieutenant governor a person must be 25 years old, reside in the state one year, be a citizen of the United States, and elected by the people jointly with the governor by a single vote applying to both offices (Article V).

The lieutenant governor assists the governor in carrying out the functions of the executive branch, as well as serving in the governor's place in the event of his absence or disability. The governor, as prescribed by law, may file a written order with the secretary of state to delegate to the lieutenant governor any powers, duties, responsibilities, or functions performed by the governor. Other official duties include serving as a member of the State Executive Council, chairing the Capitol Area Architectural Planning Board, and chairing the Advisory Committee on Capitol Area Security.

The lieutenant governor is a key member of the governor's cabinet and is involved in major policy and budget decisions.

## OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL



**Keith Ellison** (Democratic-Farmer-Labor)  
**Elected:** 2018  
**Term:** Four years  
**Term expires:** January 2023  
**Statutory Salary:** \$121,248

Minneapolis. University of Minnesota (J.D., 1990). Private legal practice; (Representative, Minnesota House of Representatives (2002-2006); Representative, Minnesota's Fifth District, United States House of Representatives (2007-20019).

102 State Capitol, 75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
St. Paul 55155

**Phone:** (651) 296-3353 or (800) 657-3787 **Minnesota Relay:** (800) 627-3529

**Website:** [www.ag.state.mn.us](http://www.ag.state.mn.us)

**Email:** [attorney.general@state.mn.us](mailto:attorney.general@state.mn.us)

**Minnesota Constitution provides:** The attorney general is an officer in the executive department. To qualify as attorney general, a person must be a qualified voter, 21 years old and elected by the people (Articles V, VII).

The attorney general is the chief legal officer for the state. The attorney general's duties arise from the Minnesota Constitution, state statutes, and common law. Every board, commission, and agency of the state receives its legal counsel and representation from the attorney general. The attorney general is also permitted to act in a *parens patriae* capacity on behalf of the people. ("Parens patriae" means "parent of the country" a doctrine that grants the inherent power and authority of the state to protect persons who are legally unable to act on their own behalf.) The attorney general has authority to initiate legal actions for the enforcement of the civil laws of the state, the preservation of order, and the protection of public rights. The attorney general provides assistance to county attorneys in the criminal justice area.

As a statewide elected official, the attorney general advocates for a wide range of policy initiatives and legal reforms to protect Minnesotans and enhance their quality of life.

The attorney general is a member of the State Executive Council, Board of Investment and Land Exchange Board.

## OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR



**Julie Blaha** (Democratic-Farmer-Labor)  
 Elected: 2018  
 Term: Four years  
 Term expires: January 2023  
 Statutory Salary: \$108,485

Ramsey. St. Cloud State University (B.S., 1992); St. Mary's University (M.Ed., 2007). Teacher, Anoka-Hennepin School District (1999-2010, 2014-2016); President, Anoka-Hennepin Education Minnesota (2010-2014); Secretary Treasurer, General Board Member, MN AFL-CIO (2008-2018).

525 Park St., Suite 500, St. Paul 55103  
 Phone: (651) 296-2551 Fax (651) 296-4755  
 TDD: (800) 627-3529

**Website:** [www.auditor.state.mn.us](http://www.auditor.state.mn.us)  
**Email:** [state.auditor@osa.state.mn.us](mailto:state.auditor@osa.state.mn.us)

**Minnesota Constitution provides:** The state auditor is an officer in the executive department. To qualify as state auditor a person must be a qualified voter, 21 years old and elected by the people (Article V, VII).

The state auditor is charged with overseeing more than \$20 billion spent annually by local governments in Minnesota. The state auditor's office does this by performing audits of local government financial statements and reviewing documents, data, reports, and complaints submitted to or gathered by the office. The financial information collected from local governments is analyzed and is the basis of statutorily required reports issued by the office.

The state auditor serves on the State Executive Council, Board of Investment, Land Exchange Board, Public Employees Retirement Association Board, Minnesota Housing Finance Agency Board, Rural Finance Authority Board, Council on Local Results and Innovation, and Collaborative Governance Council.

**Audit Practice Division** performs financial and legal compliance audits of local governments. An audit determines if an entity has adequate controls to safeguard its assets and whether the entity's financial statements are fairly presented. In addition, an audit determines whether local government activities are being administered in accordance with certain Minnesota laws.

**Deputy State Auditor–Audit Practice:** Greg Hierlinger, (651) 296-7003

**Government Information Division** collects data and works to disseminate local government financial information effectively to assist with public discussions and policy decisions. This division continually works to improve the usefulness of the information and enhance the data with meaningful analysis while improving overall access to that data.

**Director:** Kathy Docter, (651) 296-7003

**Legal/Special Investigations Division** promotes integrity and accountability in local government by providing legal compliance expertise to the office's several divisions and by providing legal compliance information and training to local government officials. The division investigates allegations of theft or misuse of public funds on behalf of local government officials, law enforcement agencies, and the citizens of Minnesota.

**Deputy State Auditor / General Counsel:** Ramona Advani, (651) 297-3673

**Pension Division** monitors investment, financial, and actuarial reporting for approximately 730 public pension plans. Its objective is to ensure compliance with state statutes governing the administration of plans covering approximately 20,000 members.

**Director:** Rose Hennessy Allen, (651) 296-5985

**Tax Increment Financing Division** promotes legal compliance and accountability through examining and auditing political subdivisions' use of tax increment financing (TIF). The division reviews annual reports containing financial information from approximately 2,200 TIF districts. **Assistant State Auditor / TIF Director:** Jason Nord, (651) 296-7979

## OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE



**Steve Simon** (Democratic-Farmer-Labor)

**Elected:** 2014, 2018

**Term:** Four Years

**Term expires:** January 2023

**Statutory Salary:** \$95,722

Hopkins, BA, Political Science, Tufts University (1992); JD, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities (1996); Minnesota Assistant Attorney General; Attorney, private practice; Minnesota House of Representatives (2005–2015); Chair, House Elections Committee (2013–2015).

180 State Office Building, 100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., St. Paul 55155

**Phone:** (651) 201-1324

**Website:** [www.sos.state.mn.us](http://www.sos.state.mn.us)

**Email:** [secretary.state@state.mn.us](mailto:secretary.state@state.mn.us)

**Minnesota Constitution provides:** The secretary of state is an officer in the executive department. To qualify as secretary of state, a person must be a qualified voter, 21 years old and elected by the people (Article V, VII).

The secretary chairs the State Canvassing Board, convenes Minnesota's electoral college, and serves on the Executive Council and Board of Investment. As keeper of the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota, the secretary of state certifies the authenticity of official documents such as acts of the legislature and proclamations and executive orders issued by the governor. The office publishes the Minnesota Legislative Manual.

**Elections Division** is responsible for administration of Minnesota election law. The office of the Minnesota Secretary of State partners with county auditors, and city and township officials in the administration of elections. The office operates the statewide voter registration system and prepares the official roster of voters for each election.

Other election duties include certifying voting systems, conducting administrative recounts, accepting filings by candidates for federal and state offices, training local election officials and creating materials for use in training election judges. The office provides information to voters on voter registration, elections, absentee ballots, polling place locations, candidates and election results, and maintains a one-stop voter information website at [www.mnvotes.org](http://www.mnvotes.org). This office conducts extensive outreach to encourage all eligible citizens to exercise their right to vote.

**Email:** [secretary.state@state.mn.us](mailto:secretary.state@state.mn.us) **Phone:** (651) 215-1440

**Open Appointments** manages the application process for open seats on state boards and agencies. **Email:** [open.appointments@state.mn.us](mailto:open.appointments@state.mn.us) **Phone:** (651) 297-5845

**Business Services Division** reviews, approves, and files articles of incorporation and amendments for all businesses and nonprofit organizations, and similar documents for limited liability companies, doing business in the state. This division also records assumed business names, limited partnerships, and limited liability partnerships; accepts applications for legal newspaper status and provides business data to the public in the form of lists, online access, subscriptions, and responses to telephone inquiries.

The division provides many online services for Minnesota's businesses, including business name searches, business name filings, filing articles or renewals, and ordering copies and certificates of these documents.

Walk-in service for business filings, certification orders, and authentication of documents for use in other countries is available at 60 Empire Drive, St. Paul 55103.

**Email:** [business.services@state.mn.us](mailto:business.services@state.mn.us) **Phone:** (651) 296-2803

**UCC Division** maintains records filed under the Uniform Commercial Code regarding collateral that has been pledged to secure loans. It also administers the Central Notification System (CNS) for farm product liens and files and maintains state and federal tax liens.  
**Email:** ucc.dept@state.mn.us **Phone:** (651) 296-2803

**Notary Services** processes notary public applications, renewals and changes, and maintains a notary database. **Email:** notary.sos@state.mn.us **Phone:** (651) 296-2803

**Safe at Home** address confidentiality program assists survivors of domestic violence and others who fear for their safety. The program provides a mail forwarding service to allow them to go about their lives, interacting with public and private entities without leaving traces of where they live. Participants enroll in Safe at Home with the help of one of about 200 trained advocates located throughout Minnesota.

**Email:** safe.athome@state.mn.us **Phone:** (651) 201-1399

**Office Staff:**

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Julie Strother, Chief of Staff, 651-201-1334, julie.strother@state.mn.us

David Maeda, Director of Elections, 651-556-0612, david.maeda@state.mn.us

Samm Bonawitz, Dir. of Government Relations, 651-201-1342, samm.bonawitz@state.mn.us

Bibi Black, Legal Advisor, 651-201-1326, bibi.black@state.mn.us

Juin Charnell, Business Services Manager, 651-201-1361, juin.charnell@state.mn.us

Dianna Umidon, Director of Safe at Home, 651-201-1382, dianna.umidon@state.mn.us

Ben Petok, Communications Director, 651-297-8919, ben.petok@state.mn.us

## EXECUTIVE COUNCILS AND BOARDS

### STATE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

2nd Floor, Administration Bldg., 50 Sherburne Ave., St. Paul 55155 **Phone:** (651) 201-2555

**Law provides:** The council consists of the governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, state auditor, and attorney general. The council designates state depositories; approves mineral leases, extensions of timber permits, and sale and disposal of certain state lands; acts as a calamity board and may grant emergency relief (*Minnesota Statutes*, Chapter 9).

### LAND EXCHANGE BOARD

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, 500 Lafayette Rd., St. Paul 55155

**Phone:** (651) 259-5377

**Law provides:** The governor, attorney general, and state auditor can unanimously approve the exchange of state public lands for publicly or privately owned lands (Minnesota Constitution, Article XI, section 10; *Minnesota Statutes*, Sections 94.341–.349).

### STATE BOARD OF INVESTMENT

60 Empire Dr., Suite 355, St. Paul 55103 **Phone:** (651) 296-3328

**Law provides:** The board, comprised of the governor, state auditor, secretary of state, and the attorney general, administers the investment of all state funds. The board is responsible for the investment, purchase, and sale of securities for statewide pension funds, trust funds, and cash accounts. An advisory council advises the board and the executive director on general policy and investment management. Minnesota statutes prescribe the types of securities in which funds may be invested by the board and include provisions to insure the quality of investments (Minnesota Constitution, Article XI; *Minnesota Statutes*, Chapter 11A).



## EXECUTIVE OFFICERS SINCE STATEHOOD

## GOVERNORS

Name	Post Office	Assumed office
Henry H. Sibley	St. Paul	May 24, 1858
Alexander Ramsey	St. Paul	January 2, 1860
Henry A. Swift	St. Peter	July 10, 1863
Stephen Miller	Worthington	January 11, 1864
William R. Marshall	St. Anthony	January 8, 1866
Horace Austin	St. Peter	January 9, 1870
Cushman K. Davis	St. Paul	January 7, 1874
John S. Pillsbury	Minneapolis	January 7, 1876
Lucius F. Hubbard	Red Wing	January 10, 1882
A. R. McGill	St. Peter	January 5, 1887
William R. Merriam	St. Paul	January 9, 1889
Knute Nelson	Alexandria	January 4, 1893
David M. Clough	Minneapolis	January 31, 1895
John Lind	New Ulm	January 2, 1899
Samuel R. Van Sant	Winona	January 7, 1901
John A. Johnson	St. Peter	January 4, 1905
Adolph O. Eberhart	Mankato	September 21, 1909
Winfield S. Hammond	St. James	January 5, 1915
J. A. A. Burnquist	St. Paul	December 30, 1915
J. A. O. Preus	Minneapolis	January 5, 1921
Theodore Christianson	Dawson	January 6, 1925
Floyd B. Olson	Minneapolis	January 6, 1931
Hjalmar Petersen	Askov	August 24, 1936
Elmer A. Benson	Appleton	January 4, 1937
Harold E. Stassen	South St. Paul	January 2, 1939
Edward J. Thye	Northfield	April 27, 1943
Luther W. Youngdahl	Minneapolis	January 8, 1947
C. Elmer Anderson	Brainerd	September 27, 1951
Orville L. Freeman	Minneapolis	January 5, 1955
Elmer L. Andersen	St. Paul	January 2, 1961
Karl F. Rolvaag	St. Paul	March 25, 1963
Harold LeVander	South St. Paul	January 2, 1967
Wendell R. Anderson	St. Paul	January 4, 1971
Rudy Perpich	Hibbing	December 29, 1976
Al Quie	Dennison	January 4, 1979
Rudy Perpich	Hibbing	January 3, 1983
Arne Carlson	Shoreview	January 7, 1991
Jesse Ventura	Maple Grove	January 4, 1999
Tim Pawlenty	Eagan	January 6, 2003
Mark Dayton	St. Paul	January 3, 2011
Tim Walz	Mankato	January 7, 2019

## LIEUTENANT GOVERNORS

Name	Post Office	Assumed office
William Holcombe	Stillwater	May 24, 1858
Ignatius Donnelly	Nininger	January 2, 1860
Henry A. Swift	St. Peter	March 3, 1863
Charles D. Sherwood	Prescott	January 11, 1864
Thomas H. Armstrong	High Forest	January 8, 1866
William H. Yale	Winona	January 7, 1870
Alphonso Barto	Sauk Centre	January 9, 1874
James B. Wakefield	Blue Earth	January 7, 1876
C. A. Gilman	St. Cloud	January 10, 1880
A. E. Rice	Willmar	January 4, 1887
G. S. Ives	St. Peter	January 5, 1891
D. M. Clough	Minneapolis	January 3, 1893
Frank A. Day	Fairmont	January 31, 1895
John L. Gibbs	Geneva	January 5, 1897
Lyndon A. Smith	Montevideo	January 3, 1899
Ray W. Jones	Minneapolis	January 5, 1903
Adolph O. Eberhart	Mankato	January 5, 1907
E. E. Smith	Minneapolis	June 25, 1910
S. Y. Gordon	Browns Valley	January 3, 1911
J. A. A. Burnquist	St. Paul	January 7, 1913
Geo. H. Sullivan	Stillwater	October 28, 1916
Thos. Frankson	St. Paul	January 2, 1917
Louis L. Collins	Minneapolis	January 4, 1921
W. I. Nolan	Minneapolis	January 6, 1925
Chas. E. Adams	Duluth	June 25, 1929
Henry Arens	Jordan	January 6, 1931
K. K. Solberg	Clarkfield	January 3, 1933
Hjalmar Petersen	Askov	January 8, 1935
Gottfrid Lindsten	Minneapolis	January 5, 1937
C. Elmer Anderson	Brainerd	January 2, 1939
Edward J. Thye	Northfield	January 4, 1943
Archie H. Miller	Hopkins	April 27, 1943
C. Elmer Anderson	Brainerd	January 2, 1945
Ancher Nelsen	Hutchinson	January 5, 1953
Donald O. Wright	Minneapolis	September 3, 1954
Karl F. Rolvaag	Rochester	January 3, 1955
A. M. Keith	Rochester	January 8, 1963
James B. Goetz	Winona	January 2, 1967
Rudy Perpich	Hibbing	January 4, 1971
Alec G. Olson	Spicer	December 29, 1976
Lou Wangberg	Bemidji	January 4, 1979
Marlene Johnson	St. Paul	January 3, 1983
Joanell Dyrstad	Red Wing	January 7, 1991
Joanne E. Benson	St. Cloud	January 3, 1995
Mae Schunk	Inver Grove Heights	January 4, 1999
Carol Molnau	Lafayette	January 6, 2003
Yvonne Prettner Solon	Duluth	January 3, 2011
Tina Smith	Minneapolis	January 5, 2015
Peggy Flanagan		January 7, 2019

## ATTORNEYS GENERAL

Name	Post Office	Assumed office
Charles H. Berry	Mankato	May 24, 1858
Gordon E. Cole	Faribault	January 4, 1860
William Colvill	Lake City	January 8, 1866
F. R. E. Cornell	Minneapolis	January 10, 1868
George P. Wilson	Winona	January 9, 1874
Charles M. Start	Rochester	January 10, 1880
W. J. Hahn	Minneapolis	March 11, 1881
Moses E. Clapp	Fergus Falls	January 5, 1887
H. W. Childs	Wadena	January 2, 1893
W. B. Douglas	Moorhead	January 2, 1899
W. J. Donahower	St. Paul	April 1, 1904
Edward T. Young	Appleton	January 2, 1905
George T. Simpson	Winona	January 4, 1909
Lyndon A. Smith	Montevideo	January 1, 1912
Clifford L. Hilton	Fergus Falls	March 9, 1918
Albert F. Pratt	Anoka	December 21, 1927
G. A. Youngquist	Crookston	February 2, 1928
Henry N. Benson	St. Peter	November 20, 1929
Harry H. Peterson	St. Paul	January 3, 1933
William S. Ervin	Minneapolis	December 15, 1936
J. A. A. Burnquist	Minneapolis	January 2, 1939
Miles Lord	Minneapolis	January 3, 1955
Walter F. Mondale	Minneapolis	May 4, 1960
Robert W. Mattson	Minneapolis	December 30, 1964
Douglas M. Head	Minneapolis	January 2, 1967
Warren Spannaus	Minneapolis	January 4, 1971
Hubert H. Humphrey III	New Hope	January 3, 1983
Mike Hatch	Burnsville	January 4, 1999
Lori Swanson	Eagan	January 2, 2007
Keith Ellison	Minneapolis	January 7, 2019

## STATE AUDITORS

Name	Post Office	Assumed office
W. F. Dunbar	Caledonia	May 24, 1858
Charles McIlrath	St. Paul	January 1, 1861
O. P. Whitcomb	Rochester	January 13, 1873
W. W. Braden	Preston	January 10, 1882
Adolph Biermann	Rochester	January 5, 1891
Robert C. Dunn	Princeton	January 7, 1895
Samuel G. Iverson	Rushford	January 5, 1903
J. A. O. Preus	Minneapolis	January 5, 1915
Ray P. Chase	Anoka	January 5, 1921
Stafford King	St. Paul	January 6, 1931
William J. O'Brien	Mendota Heights	March 7, 1969
Rolland F. Hatfield	St. Paul	January 4, 1971
Robert W. Mattson	St. Paul	January 6, 1975
Arne H. Carlson	Roseville	January 4, 1979
Mark Dayton	Minneapolis	January 7, 1991
Judith H. Dutcher	Minnetonka	January 3, 1995
Patricia Anderson	Eagan	January 6, 2003
Rebecca Otto	Marine on St. Croix	January 2, 2007
Julie Blaha		January 7, 2019

## SECRETARIES OF STATE

Name	Post Office	Assumed office
Francis Baasen	New Ulm	May 24, 1858
James H. Baker	Mankato	January 2, 1860
David Blakeley	St. Paul	November 17, 1862
Henry C. Rogers	St. Paul	January 8, 1868
Hans Mattson	Minneapolis	January 7, 1870
S. P. Jennison	Red Wing	January 5, 1872
John S. Irgens	Austin	January 7, 1876
Fred Von Baumbach	Alexandria	January 10, 1880
Hans Mattson	Minneapolis	January 4, 1887
Frederick P. Brown	Blue Earth	January 5, 1891
Albert Berg	Center City	January 7, 1895
Peter E. Hanson	Litchfield	January 7, 1901
Julius A. Schmahl	Redwood Falls	January 7, 1907
Mike Holm	Roseau	January 4, 1921
H. H. Chesterman	St. Paul	July 7, 1952
Virginia Holm	St. Paul	September 16, 1952
Joseph L. Donovan	Duluth	January 3, 1955
Arlen I. Erdahl	Blue Earth	January 4, 1971
Joan Anderson Growe	Minneapolis	January 6, 1975
Mary Kiffmeyer	Big Lake	January 4, 1999
Mark Ritchie	Minneapolis	January 2, 2007
Steve Simon	Hopkins	January 5, 2015