



DR. DELORES DACOSTA

Executive Director

South Carolina Commission for Minority Affairs

Dr. Delores Dacosta is a native of Awendaw, SC. She has more than 40 years in public service which includes 20 years of experience in federal policies and regulations. Dacosta began her federal experience as Legislative Assistant to the late Congressman Arthur Ravenel, Jr, and moved on to become Chief of Staff to former Congressman Henry Brown, Jr. She retired in 2017 as Regional Director to U.S. Senator Tim Scott. Dacosta currently serves as Executive Director of the SC Commission for Minority Affairs.

She holds a Doctorate in Strategic Leadership from the School of Business and Leadership at Regent University where she mastered core competencies in strategic management and leadership. She also holds a Master of Public Administration and a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice. Dacosta is a former Charleston City police officer and a former Charleston County magistrate.

Dacosta has served on several committees including South Carolina Governor McMaster's Accelerate SC's COVID-19 Prevention Taskforce, DHEC's Vaccine Testing and Distribution Taskforce, the SC CARES Act Small & Minority Business Grant Distribution panel and the SC Regulatory Agency for Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment program.

Awards and Certifications

- Recipient of the Women in Philanthropy and Leadership award from Coastal Carolina University, Conway, S.C., (2016)
- Recipient of the Small Business Advocacy Award from the Minority Business Development Agency, Columbia, S.C. (2017)
- Certified Trainer for Dr. Ruby Payne's "Bridges Out of Poverty Process" (2019)
- Certified Trainer in Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, Cornell University (2021)
- Certificate of Completion of the SC Ports Authority Ambassador's program (2023)
- Certificate of Completion, Yale School of Management in Executive Education (2023)
- Certified Leadership Trainer through the John Maxwell Leadership Program (2023)