

*Luwanda W. Jenkins, Special Secretary*  
*Governor's Office of Minority Affairs*  
**Biographical Profile**

Appointed in 2007 by Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley as Special Secretary of the Governor's Office of Minority Affairs, Luwanda W. Jenkins is responsible for policy and oversight of the State's Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) Program. Recognized as a national leader, Maryland's MBE Program goal of 25% continues to generate annual increases in contracts awarded and paid to minority business enterprises. As Special Secretary, Ms. Jenkins is responsible for coordinating MBE Program accountability activities with over 60 State Agencies while working with Maryland's business community to expand opportunities for minority and women-owned firms. She has over 20 years of experience in the field of management including, community relations, marketing, and minority business program development with both public and private sector organizations.

A committed advocate and volunteer, Ms. Jenkins has served on the boards of several business and community organizations including, Associated Black Charities, Maryland-District of Columbia Minority Supplier Development Council, and the YWCA of Central Maryland. She has received numerous awards, including the Governor's Distinguished Service Award, Maryland's Top 100 MBE-Minority Business Advocate Award, *The Daily Record Newspaper's* Most Influential Marylanders Award, and Maryland's Top 100 Women Awards. She is a graduate of the Greater Baltimore Committee's Leadership and the University of Maryland's Howard Pete Rawlings Leadership Programs. She received her bachelor's degree in mass communications from Towson State University, and a master's degree in administrative science from The Johns Hopkins University.

Ms. Jenkins is a native of Baltimore, Maryland and currently resides in Baltimore County with her husband and their two teenage children.