



The Michigan Defense Center Announces New Executive Director

Vicki Selva Named New Executive Director of the Michigan Defense Center

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Since 2014, Vicki Selva has been the Deputy Director of the State of Michigan's defense office tasked with protecting and growing the defense industry, missions and assets. The Michigan Defense Center was created by the Michigan Legislature to focus on assisting companies to grow their portfolios into national security sectors. During her tenure, the Michigan Defense Center mission has grown to also include strategic planning for the state, providing coordination and collaboration with local, national and international organizations and companies, mission and business attraction and growth in emerging technological sectors of the defense market.

Vicki succeeds outgoing Executive Director Sean Carlson who is leaving the MDC for a new role as Oakland County Deputy Executive responsible for Economic Development, Information Technology, and Management and Budget. Mr. Carlson said of Vicki, "In her role as Deputy Director, Vicki has been a leader in reshaping the State's efforts to protect and grow assets and industry in federal contracting sectors of the economy and has been integral to all of the programs and efforts of the MDC. I am very happy that Vicki has agreed to take the helm and continue the great work we began together."

Some of Ms. Selva's accomplishments at the Michigan Defense Center include:

- Architect and management of the State of Michigan's Protect & Grow Initiative; the state's defense strategic plan.
- Co-developed and helped implement the Proposal Writing Services Grant, a program to assist Michigan companies to begin federal contracting.
- Developed the state's internal and external strategic communications for the defense sector
- Assisted in developing and managing \$9M+ of statewide projects.
- Directed partnerships and community development, Congressional and Michigan Legislative Relations, community outreach and coordination; collaboration with stakeholders, industry, academia and government leaders.

"Through our work, Michigan leaders have begun to recognize the great economic, community development and patriotic potential that investing in the defense sector affords. I am honored to be asked to continue my work on behalf of the state of Michigan to realize this potential."

Prior to joining the Michigan Defense Center, Vicki Selva was a recognized small business owner and community leader before investing nearly a decade of service as Director to U.S. Senator and Armed Services Chairman, Carl Levin. During her tenure at the U.S. Senate, Vicki Selva built important

relationships and connections with Michigan's business and defense Communities while managing the state's defense and industry portfolio as well as policy and action recommendations and leadership during BRAC 2005 that led to a net win in Michigan.

For over 25 years, Ms. Selva has worked closely with National and global companies, hundreds of small Michigan businesses, as well as local, state and federal government officials leading to millions of dollars in business growth, grant and appropriation awards, contracts and successful partnerships.

Vicki is a Director on the National Defense Industry Association Board of Directors and has been appointed Michigan Representative to the NDIA National Policy Committee. Vicki serves as the Michigan Defense Exposition (MDEX 2020) Chair. She is a Mentor with the Women in Defense (WID) Association and is a member of the Association of U.S. Army (AUSA).

Vicki Selva has been awarded the Macomb County Partnership Award, the NDIA Volunteer of the Year Award and is recipient of the 2017 Crain's sponsored Women in Defense Horizon Innovation Award.

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