



*The Voice of Montgomery County Business*

# NEWS RELEASE

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## **Georgette “Gigi” Godwin Named Chamber President & CEO, Announces Her Leadership Team**

ROCKVILLE, MD – Today, Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce Board Chairman Lester Coffey announced that the Executive Committee of the Chamber has entered into a formal contract with Georgette “Gigi” Godwin to serve as President and CEO of the organization. Godwin is the choice of the Board of Directors to replace Rich Parsons, who left the Chamber last September. “We are pleased to formally announce Gigi as our new President and CEO,” Coffey said. “She has done a remarkable job in this interim period, and we are confident that she will continue to take the organization to new heights.”

“I’m honored to have the Board’s confidence to lead this organization.” Godwin said. “Our Board and staff work closely as a team to advocate on behalf of our membership.” Godwin joined the Chamber in 2003, and previously served as Vice-President of Public Affairs before being tapped last fall to serve as Interim President and CEO and then being selected for the full time job. She has lived in Montgomery County, with her husband Jeff and three children for over 20 years, and serves in many other prominent positions in the community, including as a member of the Montgomery College Board of Trustees, the Board of Directors of Imagination Stage, and the Board of Directors of the Montgomery County Business Roundtable for Education (MCBRE).

Godwin also announced the selection of her leadership team within the Chamber staff. Barbara Ashe, who previously served as Vice-President for Business Development will take on an expanded management and strategic role as Executive Vice-President. “Barbara’s extensive business development experience and community network provide the Chamber’s Board and membership with a great asset in finding new ways to expand their opportunities,” Godwin said.

Godwin also announced that Lisa Fadden has been promoted to the position of Vice-President of Public Affairs. Fadden, who joined the Chamber in 2005 has served as Public Affairs and Communications Coordinator since that time. She will now be responsible for strategic management and execution of the organization’s advocacy agenda which includes both State Legislative and County Council priorities. “Lisa has both the strong grasp of the state and local policy issues as well as the great working relationship with our elected officials that it takes to be an effective advocate for our members,” Godwin said.

*The Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce represents over 700 employers with nearly 150,000 employees in Montgomery County. Our mission is to help our members succeed in business and create a more vibrant, prosperous, and connected community in Montgomery County.*

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