



Robert Nelson Biography

Robert Nelson is currently the President of Capital Area Community Services and the Michigan Charitable Gaming Association. He has been a Board member of the Lansing Kiwanis Club and a past Lieutenant Governor of Michigan Kiwanis. He was a member of the Lansing Board of Water and Light from 2015 to 2017. In recent years, he has also volunteered at Ele's Place and the Kendon and Riddle Elementary Schools in Lansing.

Mr. Nelson served as a Commissioner on the Michigan Public Service Commission from 1999 to 2005. Following that, he was of counsel with Fraser Trenilcock until 2011. After that, he was an independent consultant for three years. He was a member of the Michigan ACLU board and President of the Lansing chapter.

Mr. Nelson served as President of the Michigan Electric and Gas Association from December 1987 until his appointment to the MPSC in 1999. From 1979 to 1987, he was Director of the Commission's Office of Regulatory and Consumer Affairs, overseeing the legislative, legal, public affairs and consumer services functions of the Commission. From 1976 to 1979, he served as both Assistant and Deputy Director of Policy at the Commission. From 1974 to 1976, he was an Assistant and, later, Senior Assistant Prosecutor for Ingham County. From 1970 to 1974, he was a trial attorney for the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). Mr. Nelson served on the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners' Consumer Affairs Committee and the Telecommunications Committee, of which he was the chairman. He served on the Advisory Council for the Center for Public Utilities at New Mexico State University.

Mr. Nelson was a member of the North American Numbering Council, an advisory committee to the FCC on numbering issues, and a member of the Universal Services Joint Board. He previously served as chairman of the Administrative Law Section of the Michigan Bar Association. He has also served as Chairman of the East Lansing Cable and Telecommunications Commission.

Mr. Nelson received a B.A. in Political Science from Wayne State University (1968), and a J.D. from the University of Michigan Law School (1970).