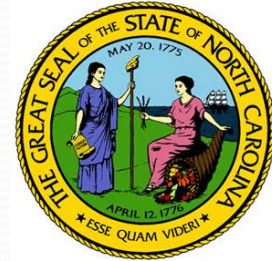


These slides accompanied the Office of Strategic Partnerships' *State Government 101: Navigating the Executive Branch* session with philanthropy held on May 27, 2021. As such, some context may be lost if viewing the slides without the benefit of the discussion.

# NC Office of State Budget & Management



Michael Arnold,  
Deputy Director / Chief Operating Officer

## State Government 101: Navigating the Executive Branch



# State Government Structure

- Structured in accordance with state law (governed by state constitutions and state statutes).
- NC, like other state governments share the same structural model as the federal system, with three branches of government:

Legislative, Executive, & Judicial

# Powers - National Government

- Print money (bills and coins)
- Declare war
- Establish an army and navy
- Enter into treaties with foreign governments
- Regulate commerce between states and international trade
- Establish post offices and issue postage
- Make laws necessary to enforce the Constitution

# Powers - State Governments

- Establish local governments
- Issue licenses (driver, hunting, marriage, etc.)
- Regulate intrastate (within the state) commerce
- Conduct elections
- Ratify amendments to the U.S. Constitution
- Provide for public health and safety
- Exercise powers neither delegated to the national government or prohibited from the states by the U.S. Constitution (For example, setting legal drinking and smoking ages.)

# Powers Shared...National and State Government

- Setting up courts
- Creating and collecting taxes
- Building highways
- Borrowing money
- Making and enforcing laws
- Chartering banks and corporations
- Spending money for the betterment of the general welfare

# NC State Constitution

<http://www.secretary.state.nc.us/pubsweb/library.aspx>

- The state constitution governs the structure and function of the North Carolina government.
- It is the highest legal document for the state and subjugates North Carolina law.
- Like all state constitutions in the United States, this constitution is subject to federal judicial review.
- Any provision of the state constitution can be nullified if it conflicts with federal law and the United States Constitution.

# State Government - Executive

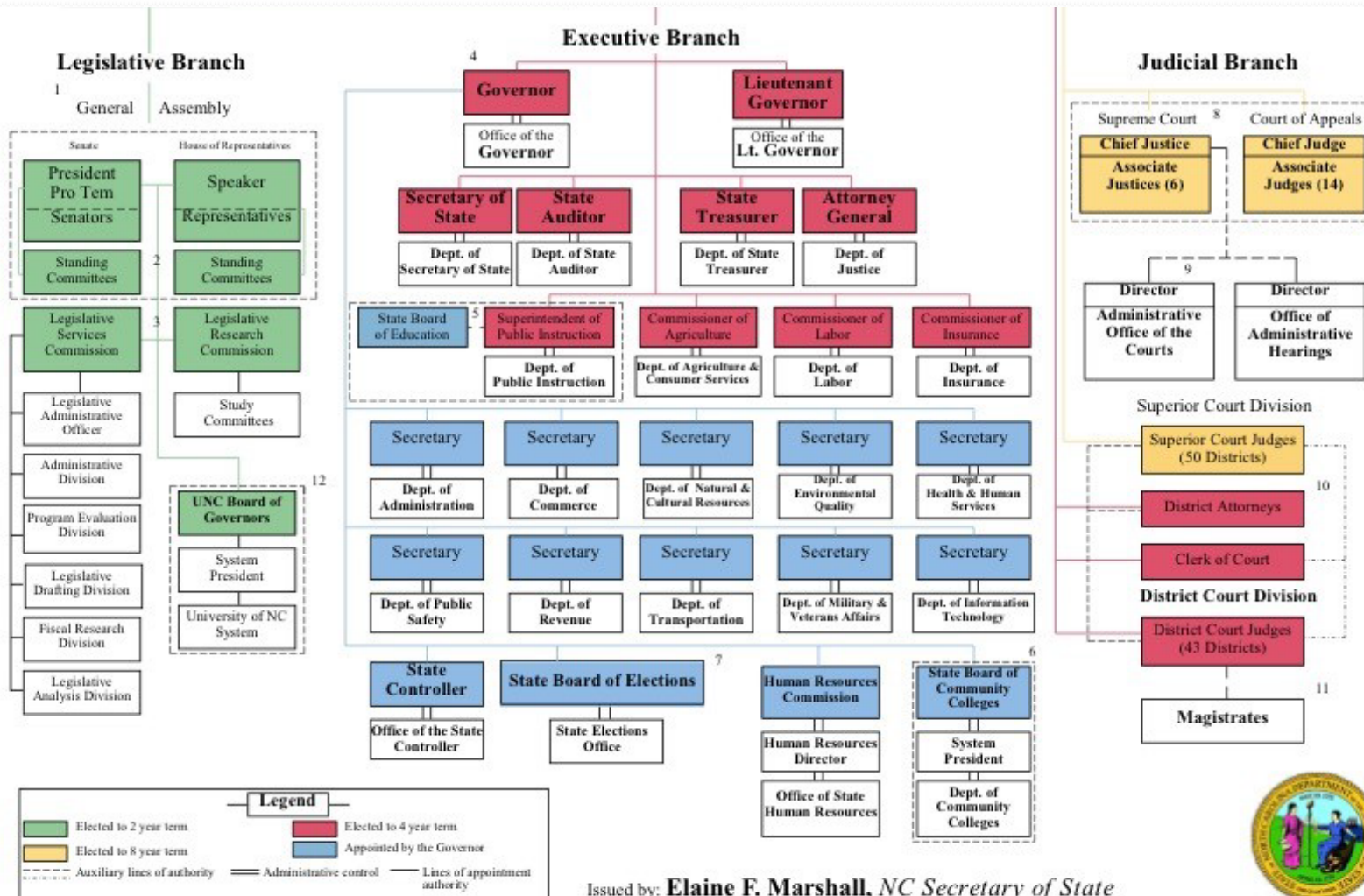
- Each state government is free to organize its executive departments and agencies in any way it likes. This has resulted in substantial diversity among the states in how they organize and run state government.
- Most state governments use the term “Department” or “Agency” as the standard highest-level component of the executive branch, in that the “Secretary of a Department” is normally considered to be a member of the Governor's cabinet and serves as the main interface between the Governor and all agencies in his or her assigned portfolio.



# State Government - Executive

- An Executive “Department/Agency” in turn usually consists of several divisions, offices, programs and/or sub-agencies.
- Executive branch state government may also include various boards, commissions, councils, corporations, offices, or authorities, which may either be subordinate to an existing department or division, or independent altogether.

# 2021 NC State Government Organization

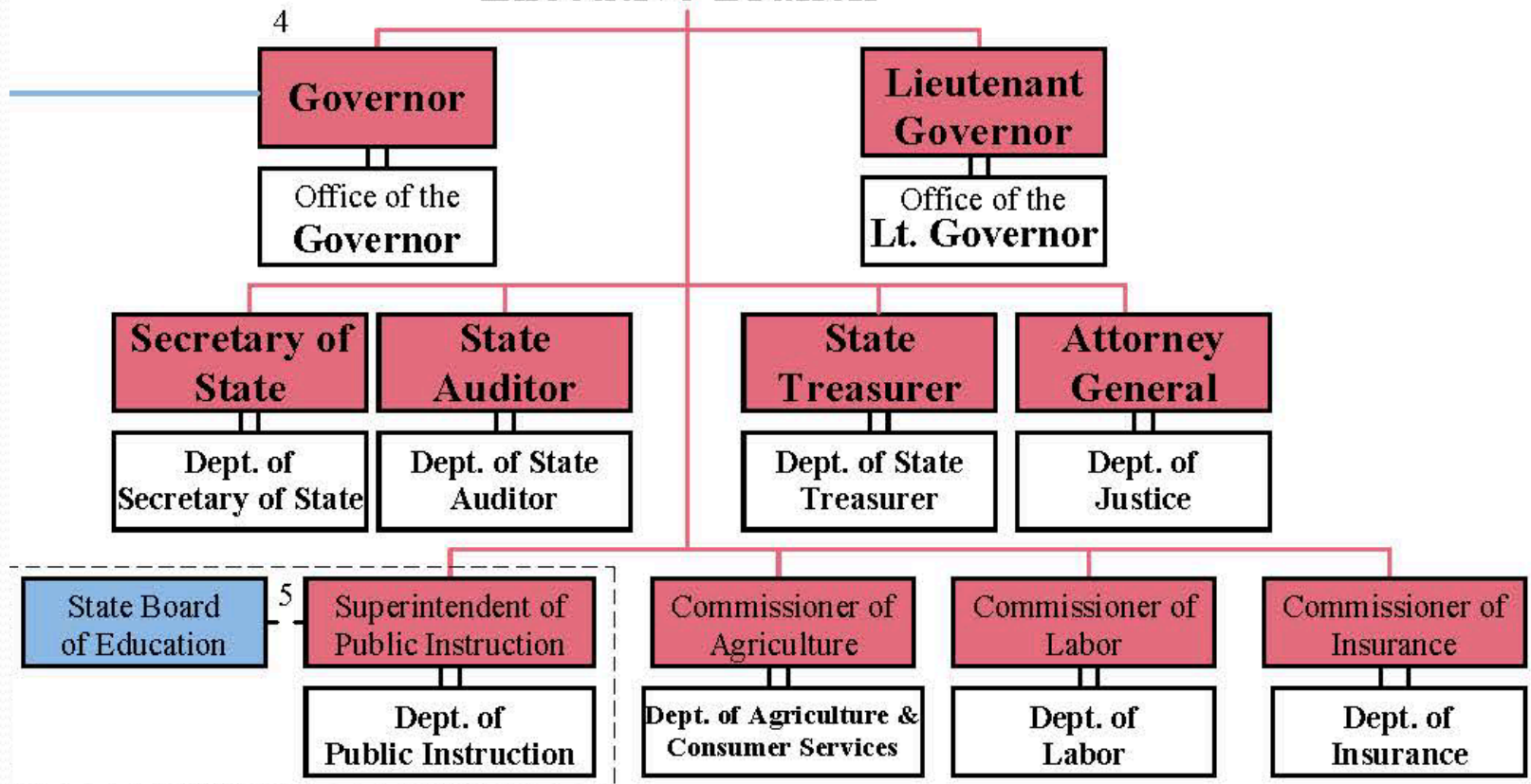


Issued by: **Elaine F. Marshall**, NC Secretary of State

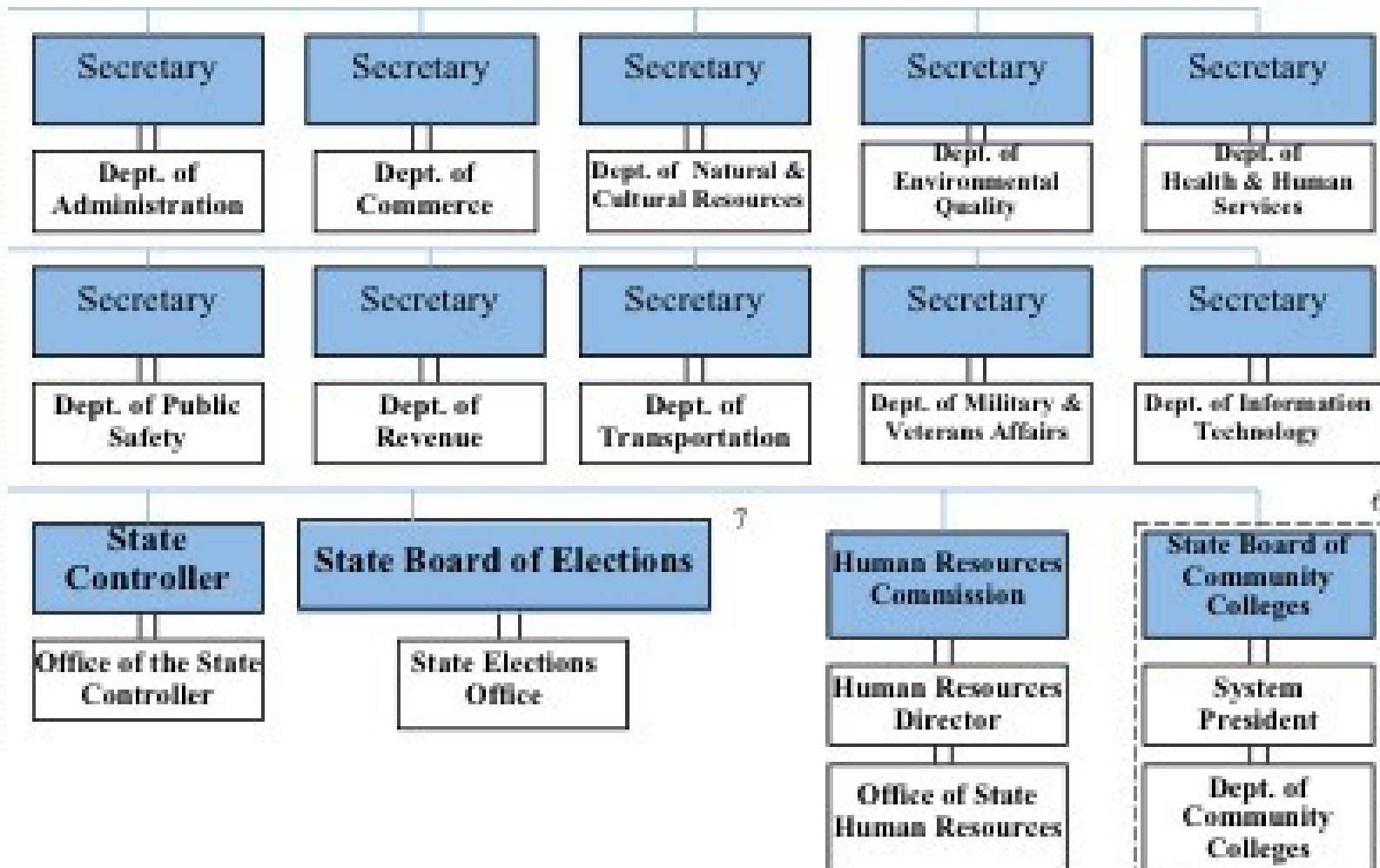


# Council of State

## Executive Branch



# Governor's Cabinet



# NC State Government – Boards & Commissions

- North Carolina has over 400 B&Cs that help set policy or regulate and govern certain sectors of the state.
- These B&Cs are often authorized to issue licenses, assess fees, or pass regulatory standards for the particular sector they govern.
- In many cases, these B&Cs are administered by professional staff who report to a politically appointed board.
- Generally, appointments are often divided among the Governor and the General Assembly.



# Questions and Answers?