



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**PHA CONTRACTS GANS, GANS AND ASSOCIATES
FOR CEO REPLACEMENT SEARCH**

PEORIA, IL—On Monday evening, the Peoria Housing Authority’s (PHA) Board of Commissioners unanimously approved a resolution authorizing a contract with Gans, Gans, & Associates (GGA) for the Executive Search Services for the Recruitment and Placement of the Chief Executive Officer. The Executive Search Committee (ESC), chaired by Commissioner Jim Fassino, selected GGA through a competitive solicitation process in which GGA was the highest ranking firm.

Said Fassino, “Simone Gans and her firm bring the experience, expertise, and enthusiasm the Executive Search Committee is looking for to assist us with the search to fill this critically important position.” The ESC members are Commissioner Fassino, Anne Fox (American Red Cross, retired), Commissioner Thea Robinson, John Stenson (Chief of Police, retired) and Commissioner Ken Zika.

Gans, Gans & Associates is an executive search, human resources, and information technology, management and consulting firm founded in Chicago in 1986. Today, their headquarters is in Plant City, Florida. GGA’s multi-cultural consulting team addresses a broad spectrum of their clients’ human resources, information technology, and management needs. They have extensive experience in public housing executive search placement. The team will be headed by GGA’s CEO, Simone Gans Barefield.

The contract is in the amount of \$25,000.00 and the PHA—through the Central Office Cost Center (COCC)—will also cover pre-approved marketing expenses and travel at cost. This contract is considered an unplanned expense and was not included in the 2015 budget; therefore, the award required board approval.

In April 2015, long-time CEO Brenda Coates announced her retirement as the PHA’s top administrator. Ms. Coates has served the housing authority for 27 non-consecutive years, including nine as the Deputy Director and nine as the Chief Executive Officer. Her term will end on January 31, 2016.

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