907-465-6740 ACPE.Alaska.gov

**Press Release** 

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S OFFICE** 

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 15, 2020

## SANA EFIRD JOINS COMMISSION AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

JUNEAU – The Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education has selected Sana Efird as the new Executive Director for the Commission. Ms. Efird will also serve as Executive Officer for the Alaska Student Loan Corporation.

Ms. Efird joins the Commission and Corporation with over 25 years of experience in governmental and non-profit financial and leadership roles. She currently serves as the Assistant Commissioner for the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services. She was the former Deputy Commissioner for the Department of Education and Early Development, and Executive Director of Asheville-Buncombe Community College Foundation. Ms. Efird further served as the Deputy Director of Administrative Services for Community and Regional Affairs and spent multiple years as a Budget Analyst with the Alaska Office of Management and Budget.

"Ms. Efird has demonstrated the ability to oversee strategic financial development and planning, along with leading staff and operations. In combination with her commitment to cost-effective management of resources and maintaining quality performance, Ms. Efird is uniquely qualified to guide the Commission and its dedicated staff in service of Alaska's student loan borrowers and Alaska's higher education community," said Les Morse, Chair of the Commission.

Ms. Efird will begin as the Commission's Executive Director on November 16, 2020. Previous Executive Director Stephanie Butler is retiring after almost 25 years of service to the Commission.

## ABOUT THE ALASKA COMMISSION ON POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION:

Funded by the Alaska Student Loan Corporation, ACPE promotes access to and success in education and career training beyond high school.

## THE COMMISSION PROVIDES:

- Education planning tools and resources
- Advocacy and support for postsecondary participation in Alaska
- Financial aid for college and career training
- Education consumer protection through institutional authorization and complaint investigation