



Tony Evers
Governor

Peter W. Barca
Secretary of Revenue

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 27, 2022

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Wisconsin Department of Revenue Secretary Peter Barca held summit with eight former DOR Secretaries

MADISON— Wisconsin Department of Revenue (DOR) Secretary Peter Barca yesterday welcomed eight former Secretaries of Revenue, representing seven different administrations, to the department's headquarters in Madison. The summit of former DOR Secretaries was held as part of a broader series of internal department events to commemorate the 55th anniversary of the formation of the department's Income, Sales and Excise Tax Division as well as the 50th anniversary of the formation of its Audit and Compliance Bureaus.

The secretaries had varied professional backgrounds prior to serving the Department of Revenue and included state legislators, a Madison Alderman, a U.S. Army veteran, a Wisconsin Badger and Chicago Bears football player, math teacher, tax attorney, member of Congress, U.S. State Department Senior Advisor, real estate developer and Wisconsin State Budget Director. Former DOR Secretary Rick Chandler, notably, held the position twice, non-consecutively, under two separate governors.

They discussed the past, present, and future of the department and shared their experiences and challenges, touching on key accomplishments during their respective tenures. These included the addition of personal computers for staff, the launch of the department's website, the implementation of electronic filing, the addition of the Wisconsin Lottery to the department, combined reporting, and the creation of the Division of Research and Analysis, now known as the Research and Policy Division.

Much of the conversation revolved around the increasing importance of technology and its role in increasing efficiency and providing better customer service over the past 50 years. All secretaries commended the staff who worked with them for their professionalism and desire to serve the residents of Wisconsin.

When asked for their thoughts on the future of the department, they agreed it looks bright, stressing the need to remain focused on utilizing technology and data to better protect and serve customers. They also noted that continuing the tradition of investing in staff development and training is critical to continued success.

Participating secretaries:

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|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------------|
| Secretary Peter Barca | Governor Tony Evers | 2019 – present |
| Secretary Rick Chandler | Governor Scott Walker | 2011 – 2019 |
| Secretary Roger Ervin | Governor Jim Doyle | 2007 – 2010 |
| Secretary Michael Morgan | Governor Jim Doyle | 2003 – 2006 |
| Secretary Rick Chandler | Governor Scott McCallum | 2001 – 2003 |

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|------------------------|---------------------------|-------------|
| Secretary Cate Zeuske | Governor Tommy Thompson | 1996 – 2001 |
| Secretary Mark Bugher | Governor Tommy Thompson | 1988 – 1996 |
| Secretary Karen Case | Governor Tommy Thompson | 1987 – 1988 |
| Secretary Mike Ley | Governor Tony Earl | 1983 – 1987 |
| Secretary Dennis Conta | Governor Martin Schreiber | 1977 - 1979 |



Former Department of Revenue Secretaries from left to right: Roger Ervin, Mark Bugher, Karen Case, current Secretary Peter Barca, Cate Zueske (virtually attended), Mike Ley, Dennis Conta, Rick Chandler, Michael Morgan

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