2014
Distinguished

Speaker

QUENTIN MESSER, JR.

Assistant Secretary
Louisiana Economic Development



Quentin L. Messer, Jr. is Assistant Secretary for Louisiana Economic Development (LED.) Quentin manages initiatives and programs related to business intelligence, community competitiveness, small business services and state economic competitiveness. In his capacity, as a member of the agency's executive management team, Quentin is President of the Louisiana Economic Development Corporation (LEDC), Secretary Stephen M. Moret's designate to the Research Park Corporation board, where he is the Board Treasurer and Chairperson, Audit Committee, and the agency's representative on ratings agency calls related to the State's General Obligation and other indebtedness.

Prior to his appointment as Assistant Secretary, Quentin served as LED's Director, State Economic Competitiveness and led a small team responsible for (i) spearheading LED's product development work focused on making Louisiana more attractive for businesses, large and small (e.g., developing incentive programs, policy recommendation for streamlining business regulation); and (ii) strategic planning and business plan development for the agency.

A native of Jacksonville, FL, Quentin is a former corporate transactions attorney, charter school operating executive, and strategy consultant with the Boston Consulting Group, Quentin is excited daily by the opportunity to work on better leveraging Louisiana's human capital and geological assets to transform the life trajectories of more Louisianans.

Outside of work, Quentin is a CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate for Children), member of two public charter school boards, as well as the boards of Adult Literacy Advocates of Greater Baton Rouge and the Environment Health Council of Louisiana. He enjoys spectator sports (especially fantasy football), reading about and discussing politics, live music, and historical non-fiction.

The father of two daughters, including a Lance Corporal in the U.S. Marines, and a son, Quentin, is married to Kenya LeNoir Messer, Ed.D, Director of Parents Outreach and Development at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. He holds an AB, Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs from Princeton University and JD/MBA from Columbia University's Law and Business Schools, respectively.