

Teammates,

During the last eight years under the leadership of Governor Ricketts, the Department of Administrative Services has worked hard to grow Nebraska by creating opportunity through more effective, more efficient, and customer-focused state government. As we work to transition to new leadership under Governor-elect Pillen in the new year, I wanted to take time to recognize some of the successes and achievements we've accomplished during Governor Ricketts' administration.

Our teammates at DAS have:

- Supported the State, our sister agencies, and our teammates [throughout the COVID-19 pandemic](#).
- Helped instill a [culture of continuous improvement](#) throughout state government through the Center of Operational Excellence.
- Created the [Procurement Concierge Program](#) focused on creating more opportunities for women-owned, minority-owned, and small businesses to partner with the State.
- Worked to support Governor Ricketts' efforts at making Nebraska the most [veteran and military-friendly state](#) in the country.
- Made state government a [family-friendly employer](#), and specifically a premier workplace for moms.
- Implemented our [State Building Division Real Estate Strategy](#) with the goal of maximizing state-owned office space, co-locating teams and people doing similar work, and creating one-stop-shops for our customers.
- Reached agreements on a number of labor contracts aimed at supporting our teammates as they serve Nebraskans, including [historic agreements with NAPE and FOP](#).

These are just a few examples of the incredible accomplishments of our DAS teammates. Thank you to all of our teammates for your work towards serving the people of Nebraska!

Also, in December we held our second annual [Center of Operational Excellence Summit](#) where Governor Ricketts, Governor-elect Pillen, and process improvement professionals from throughout state government and across the country came together to discuss operational excellence best practices. Thank you to COE Director Matthew Singh and his team for organizing and implementing another successful Summit!

While we have accomplished a lot during Governor Ricketts' time in office, I'm excited to see what the future holds under Governor-elect Pillen's guidance. At the COE Summit, Governor-elect Pillen discussed how all of us are teammates working towards the same goal of creating a better Nebraska for the future. We have an incredible team here at DAS and I look forward to working with you all to see what we can accomplish in 2023.

Regards,

**Jason Jackson**

Director, Department of Administrative Services