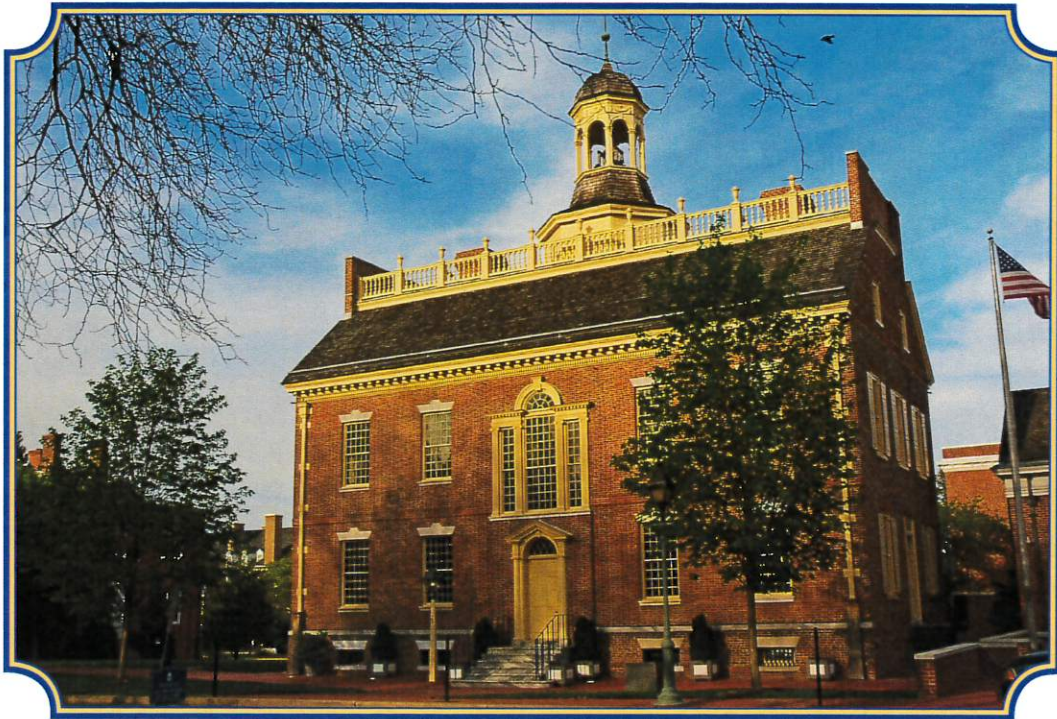
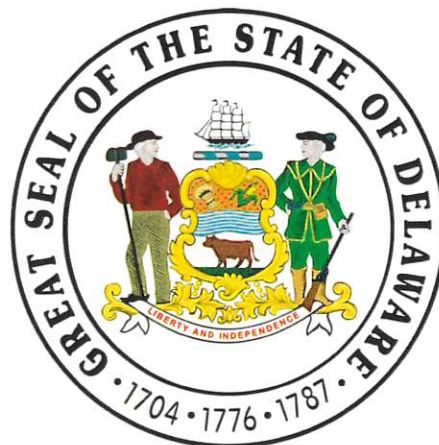


THE INAUGURATION OF THE HONORABLE BETHANY HALL-LONG TO THE OFFICE OF GOVERNOR OF DELAWARE

The Old State House, The Green, Dover, Delaware



*Tuesday, January 7, 2025
1:00 p.m.*



PROGRAM

THE INAUGURATION OF THE HONORABLE
BETHANY HALL—LONG, PH.D, RN, FAAN,
AS THE 75TH GOVERNOR OF DELAWARE

<i>Prelude</i>	<i>The Odessa Orchestra</i>
<i>Greeting</i>	<i>James Collins</i>
<i>Presentation of Colors</i>	<i>Delaware National Guard</i>
<i>National Anthem</i>	<i>Dr. Tracy McNair</i>
<i>Pledge of Allegiance</i>	<i>The Bailey Family</i>
<i>Retirement of Colors</i>	
<i>Invocation</i>	<i>Rev. Rita Paige</i>
<i>God Bless America</i>	<i>Grace Otley</i>
<i>Administration of the Oath of Office to Bethany Hall-Long</i>	<i>President Judge Jan Jurden</i>
<i>Inaugural Address</i>	<i>Governor Bethany Hall-Long</i>
<i>Musical Selection</i>	
<i>Scripture Reading</i>	<i>Rabbi Michael Beals</i>
<i>Benediction</i>	<i>Rev. Carol Boggerty</i>



Bethany Hall-Long is being inaugurated as Governor of Delaware after a distinguished career of public service in which she has served in the House of Representatives (2002-2008), the State Senate (2008-2017) and Lieutenant Governor (2017-Present). As such, she is Delaware's second female governor (and our second Sussex County woman governor), as well as America's first "Nurse Governor." During her years as a member of the House and Senate, she sponsored or co-sponsored more than 1,100 bills. During this time she also became known for innovation and for sponsoring several "firsts" in America. These included the nation's first overdose system of care, the first stroke system of care, and the first creative arts economic study. She also was a leader in bringing telehealth to Delaware and in championing STEM and entrepreneurship.

To a significant degree, her work as a state legislator stemmed from her distinguished career in the realm of healthcare. Dr. Hall-Long has an accomplished career professionally as a university professor in undergraduate and graduate programs in nursing, urban affairs and women's studies. She is a nationally recognized research scientist and is a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing. In Delaware alone, she taught more than 10,000 nurses and led Delaware's medical response team for more than a decade with the University of Delaware and the Delaware Division of Public Health.

In her eight years as Delaware's lieutenant governor, Bethany achieved national recognition. She was the first Delaware lieutenant governor to chair the National Lieutenant Governors Association. She restarted the Democratic Lieutenant Governors Association. She also serves as honorary co-chair of the Million Women Mentors with Iowa Governor Reynolds, and received

the National Lieutenant Governors Association Innovation Award. She also received the national “Americans for the Arts” Award.

Bethany was also known as the “Undercover Lt. Governor” for her work with vulnerable populations of the unhoused, veterans, people with mental health challenges, and the distribution of Narcan to help save the lives of people suffering from drug overdoses. As co-chair of Delaware’s Pandemic Advisory Council during the COVID Pandemic, she oversaw the administration of COVID shots, and similar projects. She led the fight against COVID in the community and personally vaccinated some four thousand Delawareans over a five-month period.

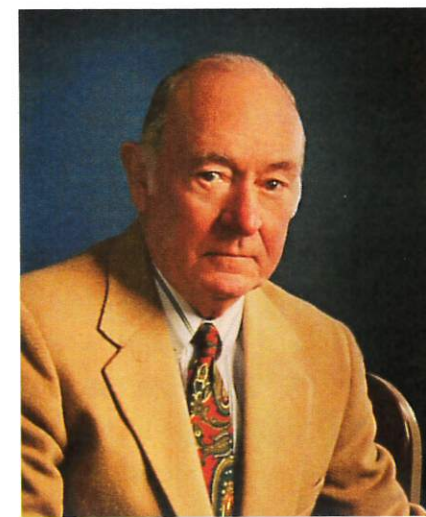
She was born and raised on her family farm near Dagsboro in Sussex County. She was educated in the local public schools of the Indian River School District, graduating from Indian River High School. She went on to earn degrees from Jefferson University (BSN), the Medical University of South Carolina (MSN) and George Mason University (PhD).

Delaware Lieutenant Governors who have transitioned to Governor

Since the adoption of the Delaware State Constitution of 1897 (our fourth since the first one in 1776), there have been four occasions in which serving governors have had to leave office a few weeks before the end of their terms to be sworn in to other public offices to which they had been elected. In each case, the serving lieutenant governor has been sworn in to serve as governor for a period of some two weeks until the person elected to the office of governor in the recent election is duly inaugurated as Governor on the third Tuesday of January, the day named as the last day of the previous governor’s term. Article III, Section 20 of the state constitution lays out the provisions for filling a vacancy in the office of governor and it is in compliance with these provisions that today’s swearing in of Lieutenant Governor Hall-Long to be governor until the third Tuesday of January, 2025 takes place.

The inauguration as governor of Lt. Governor Hall-Long is the fourth instance in which these provisions have been used. The first was in January 1961, when then serving governor, J. Caleb Boggs, resigned the governor’s office early to be sworn in to the United States Senate, to which he had been elected in the general election of 1960. In that case he was replaced by his lieutenant governor, David Penrose Buckson, who served as “acting governor” for 18 days. Governor Buckson, a graduate of the University of Delaware Class of 1941, had served as a U.S. Army artillery officer, ending the war as a major. After the war he attended law school and was admitted to the Delaware Bar. He was elected to the office of lieutenant governor in 1956. Following his time as governor, Buckson was elected Attorney General of Delaware in 1962, serving two terms in that office. He was nominated to a Family Court judgeship by Governor Sherman W. Tribbitt in 1975, serving thereon until his retirement. Governor Buckson’s son, Eric Buckson, is now serving as a Delaware State Senator from Kent County.

The second lieutenant governor to transition to the office of governor upon the resignation of his predecessor was Dale Edward Wolf, who was sworn in as governor upon the resignation of Governor Michael N. Castle on December 31, 1992, to be sworn in as Delaware’s Member of Congress. Governor Wolf, a native of Kearney, Nebraska, also served in the U.S. Army during



Gov. David P. Buckson



Gov. Dale Wolf



Gov. Ruth Ann Minner

World War II as a First Lieutenant in Field Artillery. He was awarded a Bronze Star and Purple Heart for his service during the Battle of Okinawa. As a result of injuries suffered in that battle, he spent the following eight months in a military hospital in Galesburg, Illinois.

Following his return to civilian life in 1946, Dale Wolf earned a Ph.D. in Agriculture from Rutgers University in 1949. In 1951, he took a position with the agricultural research division of E.I. du Pont de Nemours and Company. In later years, he became chairman of the board of DuPont’s pharmaceutical business and group vice-president of its agriculture division. Retiring from DuPont in 1987, he accepted a cabinet appointment from Governor Castle as director of the Delaware Development Office. As the election of 1988 approached, Wolf was Castle’s choice for Lieutenant Governor. He won the election and was therefore serving as lieutenant governor upon Governor Castle’s resignation in 1992 to serve in Congress. He served from December 31, 1992 until January 19, 1993, when newly-elected Governor Thomas R. Carper became governor.

The third person to fill the role of “Acting Governor” and the first woman to serve in that capacity was Ruth Ann Minner, who had previously served as a member of the House of Representatives and a Delaware State Senator. She had started her role as a per diem clerk in the House of Representatives and then as a full-time secretary for Governor Sherman W. Tribbitt. Then Senator Minner ran for the office of lieutenant governor in the 1992 election while then State Treasurer Carper ran for governor. Both were elected and went on to serve two terms in their respective offices.

In the 2000 election, Governor Carper ran for the U.S. Senate and Lieutenant Governor Minner ran for Governor. Again, both were elected. Because Governor Carper had to resign the office of governor early to take his seat in the U.S. Senate, then Governor-Elect Minner was given an opportunity to begin her new job 13 days early. U.S. Senator-Elect Carper resigned the office of governor on January 3, 2001. She served as acting governor until being inaugurated as governor on January 16, 2001. In later conversations, Governor Minner always said, “there was nothing ‘acting’ about me. I had all the powers of any other governor of Delaware.” She was right, of course. Her 13 days as acting governor before serving two full terms as governor made her, in addition to being Delaware’s first female governor, our longest-serving governor.

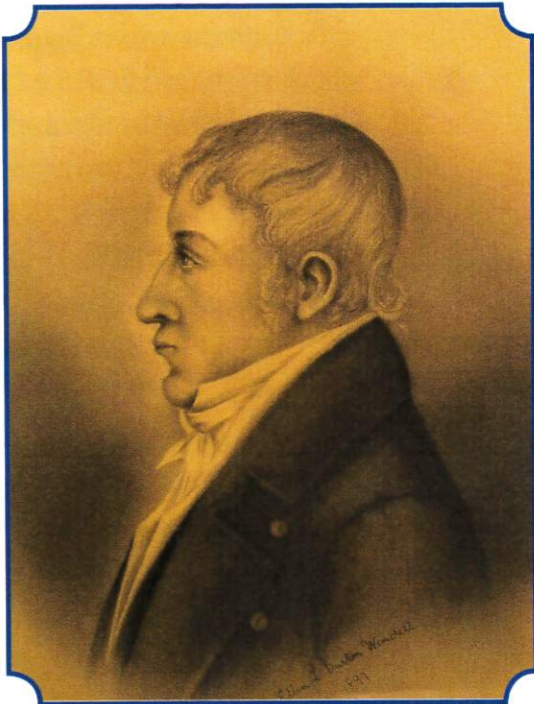
Thus, Lieutenant Governor Hall-Long becomes our fourth lieutenant governor to transition to the office of governor as Governor John C. Carney, Jr., resigns to be sworn in as Mayor of Wilmington. She will serve for 14 days, until Governor-Elect Matthew S. Meyer is inaugurated as Governor of Delaware on January 21, 2025.

Lt. Gov. Bethany Hall-Long comes from a long and distinguished line of Delaware public servants, among them her ancestor, Delaware's 16th chief executive, Revolutionary War Colonel and later Delaware Governor David Hall (1752-1817)

IT IS SAID THE FIRST OF THE HALLS IN THIS COUNTRY WAS one of the settlers at Plymouth in 1620. Governor David Hall's grandfather, Nathaniel, known as the "Indian Fighter," came to Delaware from Connecticut in 1700. Nathaniel's son, David, married Mary Kollock and there were at least three sons: Peter, who later became a lawyer; Joseph, a surgeon who served in the Revolution and whose son, Henry Fisher Hall, M. D., married Hester, daughter of Caleb and Betsey Rodney in 1823; and David, who was born in Lewes on January 4, 1752. Hall's father was a prominent farmer around Lewes and served as a justice of the peace and a member of the Assembly of the Lower Three Counties Upon Delaware from 1753 on and off until the Revolution. In the Election of 1800, Hall's Democrat-Republican Party, which had been struggling against Delaware's dominant Federalists, again tried hard to win but failed once more. There was, however, a promise of better days ahead because New Castle County's Democrat-Republican base was growing.

During the next election an effort was made by the Democrat-Republicans to persuade John Dickinson to run again for governor. When that failed, Democrats did the next best thing by nominating David Hall to run again. He was a veteran and a member of the prestigious Revolutionary War officer's organization, The Order of Cincinnati. His opponent would be his fellow Sussex Countian and fellow veteran, Nathaniel Mitchell of Laurel. Hall's Presbyterianism and his party's attack on Mitchell as "a professed Deist, an open scoffer at, and reviler of the Christian religion" did much to hit Mitchell where it hurt. Mitchell, an Episcopalian, was contemptuous of Methodism, a fact that did not escape his enemies in a land where Methodists had made great gains during the Revolution and in the years since.

It was an extremely close election. Hall slaughtered Mitchell in New Castle County, 1465-682; he lost to him in Kent, 1020-1080; and was himself slaughtered in their own county of Sussex,



*Colonel/Governor
David Hall of Lewes*

990-1695. Hall's 68 percent of the vote in New Castle County was barely enough to offset Mitchell's 63% of the vote in Sussex. He served as governor during the 26th through the 28th General Assemblies, from January 19, 1802, until January 15, 1805, The state's first Democrat-Republican governor, a Sussex Countian, a lawyer, a Revolutionary War hero and a Presbyterian, he was 50 years old when he became governor.

Because of a constitutional provision which banned the immediate reelection of a governor, Hall was forced to step down. Leaving office, he resumed his practice of law with his son, who was admitted to the bar in 1809. The next year was a bad one for Hall because he lost both his son and his wife. He ran unsuccessfully in 1812 for the U.S. House. In 1813, he was named Associate Justice of the Sussex County Court of Common Pleas. Governor Hall's last hurrah seemed to be living through the British bombardment of his home town that same year. Doubtless, it brought back old war memories of some 35 years before.

Another David Hall serves his state: Bethany's great-grandfather David C. Hall of Bethany Beach, served as State Representative from 1916 to 1918 in Delaware's 99th General Assembly

Bethany's great-grandfather, David C. Hall of Bethany Beach (1879-1947), served as a member of the Delaware House of Representatives during the 99th General Assembly from 1916 to 1918, during World War I. Single terms were then largely standard procedure. Mr. Hall was a Democrat at a time when Democrats were in the majority in the House. A fellow southeastern Sussex Countian, John G. Townsend, Jr., of Selbyville, a Republican, was governor at the time, serving from 1917 to 1921.

Mr. Hall was a farmer by profession. His *Wilmington News Journal* obituary of November 29, 1947, noted that he was a pioneer in the Delmarva poultry industry and "he was the first farmer in lower Delaware to actively engage in producing broilers and was well known in poultry organizations." He was also an elder of the Ocean View Church of Christ, of which he had been a member for 37 years. He was survived by his wife, Katie, and by three daughters and a son, Bethany's grandfather, John Hall.

Like many of our Sussex County forebears, Mr. Hall owned a considerable amount of field and forest which is now prime development land in the coastal area. Also like many of those forebears, the Hall family sold most, if not all, of that land for a mere fraction of its present-day value. Ah, if only they had been able to foresee the future, many of us would be on easy street today.

*On this special day for our beloved friend,
Bethany Hall-Long, we honor her for her
long and distinguished service to our state,
and that of her family before her. May
she enjoy many more honors and
accomplishments to come.*

