



#### Officers

Anne P. Baños  
Chair

Nathalie Simon  
Vice Chair

Louis M. Freeman, Jr.  
Secretary

Carlin Conner  
Treasurer

John Landrum  
Assistant Secretary

Vanessa B. Claiborne  
Assistant Treasurer

**Past Chair**  
Steven W. Usdin

**President & CEO**  
Rebecca Mowbray  
Samuel Zemurray Chair in  
Research Leadership

**Board Members**  
Ryan Adkerson  
Ben Billings  
Kheri Billy  
Elizabeth Boh  
Bob Brickman  
Melanie Bronfin  
Mollye M. Demosthenidy  
R. Foster Duncan  
Ben A. Dupuy  
Perry Eastman IV  
Elizabeth Hefler  
Patrick Hernandez  
Mike Katz  
Merritt Lane  
Lauren Mastio  
Ronald P. McClain  
Patty Riddlebarger  
David C. Rieveschl  
Kenneth St. Charles  
Merrick Sloss  
Syrta Steib  
Douglas M. Stokes  
Vera Triplett  
Lamar Villere

**Honorary Board**  
Harry J. Blumenthal, Jr.  
J. Kelly Duncan  
Ludovico Feoli  
Hardy B. Fowler  
Louis M. Freeman  
Richard W. Freeman, Jr.  
Ronald J. French  
Norma Grace  
David Guidry  
Hans B. Jonassen  
Diana M. Lewis  
Mark A. Mayer  
Anne M. Milling  
R. King Milling  
Lynes R. Sloss  
Sterling Scott Willis

**BUREAU OF GOVERNMENTAL  
RESEARCH**  
1055 St. Charles Ave., Suite 200  
New Orleans, LA 70130  
504-525-4152 / [www.bgr.org](http://www.bgr.org)

## **BGR MEDIA RELEASE**

*For Immediate Release – March 31, 2026*

**Contact:** Rebecca Mowbray, *President & CEO*  
[rmowbray@bgr.org](mailto:rmowbray@bgr.org) | (504) 525-4152

## **BGR Expands Public Reach With New Director of Communications & Engagement**

The Bureau of Governmental Research (BGR) has hired Megan McNeill as its Director of Communications & Engagement, expanding the organization’s capacity to connect its independent research with the New Orleans community.

In this role, McNeill leads BGR’s communications strategy, with a focus on broadening the reach of its research and strengthening how the organization’s work and brand are presented to the public. Her efforts support public understanding and civic dialogue across greater New Orleans.

McNeill brings more than 15 years of experience in marketing and communications across nonprofit, higher education, technology, and real estate sectors. Most recently, she served as Brand Strategy Director at The Vault Collective, where she led messaging, rebranding, and strategic communications. Earlier in her career, she was Marketing Director for The Domain Companies, leading marketing and communications for a national real estate portfolio.

“Megan joins BGR at a time when people are asking harder questions about how local government functions and why outcomes look the way they do,” said Rebecca Mowbray, BGR President and CEO. “Her background in strategic communications and public storytelling will help us ensure that our research reaches more people and plays a meaningful role in public understanding and decision making.”

A New Orleans resident for 13 years, McNeill said she was drawn to BGR by the organization’s role in helping residents better understand the systems shaping life in the city.

March 31, 2026

Page 2

“Living in New Orleans means caring and complaining, usually about the same things,” McNeill said. “What drew me to BGR is that the organization can turn frustration into understanding and action. This research helps people see the full picture, and my goal is to make it easier for the community to engage with it and use it.”

McNeill has volunteered with local organizations including Innocence & Justice Louisiana and Second Harvest Food Bank and previously served on the board of the New Orleans Chamber of Commerce. Originally from Rochester, New York, she moved to New Orleans from Boston and has been committed to the city through both her professional work and community involvement.

\* \* \*

*BGR is a private, nonprofit, independent research organization. Since its founding in 1932, it has been dedicated to informed public policymaking and the effective use of public resources in the Greater New Orleans area. For more information, call (504) 525-4152 or visit BGR’s website, [www.bgr.org](http://www.bgr.org).*

*BGR is a proud member of the [Governmental Research Association](#), the national organization for governmental research professionals. The GRA began in 1914, with the realization that effective policymaking requires good information, not just good intention. The GRA is home to independent organizations providing this information — trusted, objective, non-partisan, and practical research and data to local and state leaders.*