

## 2021 FPSC COMMISSIONERS



*(Pictured left to right)* Commissioner La Rosa, Commissioner Graham, Chairman Clark, Commissioner Fay, and Commissioner Passidomo.

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### **Chairman Clark's Last Meeting As Chair**

Commissioner Art Graham, the senior Commissioner and former PSC Chairman, presented outgoing Chairman Gary Clark with a plaque in recognition and appreciation of his two-year chairmanship. All Commissioners participated in the presentation during the last Commission Conference of 2021.

After a reminder that the COVID-19 pandemic hit in Clark's second month as Chairman, Commissioner Graham said, "All of us appreciate how you handled the many challenges arising with the pandemic and your patience in setting up the necessary technological advances needed to conduct virtual hearings and teleconferencing meetings. You did a phenomenal job of making it work."

He added, "There was a reason you were Chairman when you were. You helped keep the agency running during this recent pandemic."

Teasing Chairman Clark, Commissioner Graham said, "As 'former Chairman,' you're now a part of the 'has-been' group, so your weekly calls from the executive director will stop, your aide's phone won't ring, and people won't come by as much . . . ."

Chairman Clark gave brief remarks, offering three observations as he steps back into the role of "Commissioner." First, he said the PSC was able to handle the pandemic and work through three major rate cases to make sure consumers were heard. He also said the PSC will continue to ensure that "voices are heard." Second, he admitted "We have a lot more work to do," referencing the subjects of pre-paid billing options for electric utilities and utility storm resistance and protection plans. He referenced the 2021 Texas winter storm event and the steps being taken to avoid another catastrophe, advising, "Resource planning is a critical function." Third, he talked about the complex electric grid and how utilities' investments will need to be decided as to the divergent demands of their customers.

He concluded by saying, "It's been an honor to lead the organization and work with such a distinguished group of people. I was able to accomplish what I did by being surrounded by intelligent and wonderful people, and I thank you for your support. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to lead these last two years."