



# PACIFIC NORTHWEST DEFENSE COALITION

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## Pacific Northwest Defense Coalition Announces New CEO

Portland, Oregon -March 5, 2018- The Pacific Northwest Defense Coalition (PNDC) Board of Directors has appointed Sarah Garrison as the organization's next Chief Executive Officer effective March 19, 2018.

"Ms. Garrison has a strong background in economic and business development, working with agencies, organizations, businesses, and individuals engaged in strategic economic development efforts," said PNDC Board Chair, Judy Johnson.

Most recently, Garrison was the Director of Government Affairs for Comcast. Prior to her role with Comcast, she was the Economic Development Manager for the City of Hillsboro, where her work focused on public policy development and legislative advocacy. Garrison has successfully worked with both public and private sector clients and has extensive experience cultivating business partnerships and maintaining relationships. "As an accomplished economic development professional, Ms. Garrison will quickly assess the landscape, identify issues and objectives, and then create an action plan with measurable goals and outcomes. I'm looking forward to a bright future for PNDC, its members, and staff with Ms. Garrison's leadership," remarked Johnson.

Garrison holds a Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) from the University of Georgia.

The selection of Garrison caps a search process facilitated by **Acumen Executive and Talent Search**, an Oregon based global executive search firm. A large initial prospect pool was narrowed by stages to a group who interviewed with the PNDC board's succession committee, comprised of Jon de Asis, Jay Schmidt, Barry Hendrix, and Will Macia. "Ms. Garrison emerged as the clear, unanimous choice of the PNDC Search Committee," noted Johnson.

### **About the Pacific Northwest Defense Coalition:**

The **Pacific Northwest Defense Coalition** is the association of over 280 Northwest defense and security businesses. Since 2005, PNDC has strengthened our members' business growth, our region's economy, and our nation's security through training, one-on-one counseling, business-to-business networking, marketing, and advocacy.

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