

Mechelle Thomas

Vice President and Chief Compliance Officer

Mechelle Thomas is the vice president and chief compliance officer at NERC. Ms. Thomas established NERC's Internal Audit and Corporate Risk Management Department in 2012. In this role, she was responsible for the design, implementation, oversight, and refinement of the NERC's risk management and internal control framework. Ms. Thomas and her team performed corporate audits and were instrumental on many NERC internal initiatives and projects, including data privacy and protection, internal control monitoring activities, and IT security. Ms. Thomas also worked closely with Regional Entities and the Compliance and Certification Committee on various risk and audit activities.

Ms. Thomas joined NERC from Ernst & Young, where she served as a senior manager of Risk Advisory for 10 years in Atlanta and New York City. She worked with clients across various sectors, including power and utilities, on internal audit and controls, process transformation, risk management, and compliance matters. Prior to Ernst & Young, Ms. Thomas served as the vice president and commerce and control officer at Credit Suisse First Boston in New York City where she was responsible for managing internal audit readiness by identifying business risks and process deficiencies as well as leading transformation efforts. She was also an associate director in CIGNA's Corporate Audit department and Special Investigations Unit and a supervising senior auditor at KPMG in Philadelphia.

Ms. Thomas earned her bachelor's degree in Accounting from Temple University and is a Certified Public Accountant.