



Serena McIlwain was confirmed as the Maryland Department of the Environment's 11th Secretary in March 2023. Prior to this appointment, she served as Under Secretary of California's Environmental Protection Agency. A native of the Washington, D.C., metro area, McIlwain also worked for the federal government as a senior executive for numerous executive branch agencies, including the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as Assistant Regional Administrator for Region 9 in San Francisco, California. McIlwain's priorities are addressing environmental justice, fighting climate change, building organizational excellence, and protecting the Chesapeake Bay.