



Ellina L. Sims

*Director, AT&T Technology Operations,
Chicago IL and Suburbs*

As Director, AT&T Technology Operations, Ellina Sims has responsibility for ensuring the services for Chicago, IL and surrounding suburbs including the far western suburbs and Northern Indiana. Her team includes nine (9) area managers, seventy-six (76) managers, and more than eleven hundred (1,100) technicians, all focused on ensuring the provision and assurance of AT&T's key products and communications services (high speed internet, Uverse, DSL, data transport) for residents and businesses and addressing infrastructure issues or failures that may occur across the Chicago and surrounding areas footprint.

Born in Laurel, Mississippi, Mrs. Sims began her twenty-six (26) year career with AT&T in Illinois in the Technology and Engineering organization. She then progressed through a series of leadership positions including Member of Technical Staff, Director Provisioning, and Director Network Operations Midwest Region providing product integration testing, network reliability, maintenance and monitoring with assurance services and outage notification, FCC technology and switch system provisioning, 911 Resolution and Assurance, and network installation and maintenance; and as Director Service Management, Global Business Services; interfacing with medium and large business customers to provide support, service management and technical expertise.

Previously, Mrs. Sims was Director, Chief of Staff for the Vice President of the Midwest and Southwest regions supporting all network, Installation, and Maintenance telecommunications services. States included Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin, Ohio, Michigan, Texas, Missouri, Oklahoma, Kansas, and Arkansas.

She has also represented AT&T and led teams in various standards and industry fora including the National Y2K Forum and Network Testing Committee (NTC) subgroup of the FCC with awards and recognition of her leadership on the Year 2000 Readiness Project on AT&T's behalf relative to network readiness, planning, leadership, and communication processes; ensuring that AT&T's networks and internal systems (including computers and desktops) were made Y2K ready; and completing readiness activities in August 1999, a year in advance with a successful transition on January 1, 2000.

Prior to working for AT&T, Mrs. Sims was a technical staff member at AT&T Bell Laboratories responsible for verification product and services testing of the #5ESS Switching System.

Mrs. Sims holds a Master of Science (MS) degree in Computer Science from DePaul University, Chicago, Illinois and a Bachelor of Science (BS) degree in Mathematics with a minor in Computer Science from Jackson State University, Jackson, Mississippi. She graduated with honors and while attending she received several academic awards including the Distinguished College Student Award and Jacob L. Reddix Award and Scholarship, and has membership in the Pi Mu Epsilon Honor Society.

She is currently a member of several Employee Resource Groups (ERG) at AT&T; AT&T Women of Technology, WOA (Women of AT&T), OxyGen (Young Professionals of AT&T), and The NETwork (Black Integrated Communications Professionals). She is also the lead for AT&T American Heart Association Chicago Heartwalk, leading the AT&T Chicago team to exceed all walker and donation goals for the past three (3) years.

Lastly, but not least important, she has been married to her husband, James, for fifteen (15) and they have two daughters, Kara and Erika, both attending college.