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# THIS WEEK IN TRENTON

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**January 19, 2010**

## **Governor Christie: “Change Has Arrived”**

Chris Christie was sworn in as New Jersey’s 55<sup>th</sup> Governor and Kim Guadagno was sworn in as the state’s first Lieutenant Governor at a ceremony at Trenton’s War Memorial this afternoon. In an inaugural address lasting a little over 30 minutes, Christie said that he is prepared to change the way business is conducted in Trenton. He promised bi-partisanship with the Democratically-controlled legislature, while at the same time reiterating his intentions to cut spending and decrease the size of government while lowering taxes.

Christie said he would sign executive orders today to make budgeting and finances more transparent. He has previously said that his first executive orders would be to reduce state regulations that business owners complain hinder growth.

He thanked former Gov. Jon Corzine for his “decade of service to the nation and to the people of New Jersey” and for his “focus on the health of our children,” which Corzine said he hoped would be his legacy in his final state of the state address. And, saying he is "supremely confident" they can work together, he asked Assembly Speaker Sheila Oliver and Senate President Stephen Sweeney to join him for a handshake at the podium.

## **Christie Names Additional Staff**

Governor Christie named several additional members of his senior staff. In addition to Chief of Staff Rich Bagger, Chief Counsel Jeff Chiesa, Deputy Chief of Staff for Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs Bill Stepien and Deputy Chief Counsel Kevin O’Dowd, all of whom were named to their positions last month, Governor Christie last week named the following senior staff members:

Maria Comella, Deputy Chief of Staff for Communications  
Wayne Hasenbalg, Deputy Chief of Staff for Policy and Planning  
Lou Goetting, Cabinet Secretary  
Rosemary Iannacone, Director of Operations  
Michele Brown, Appointments Counsel  
Deborah Gramiccioni, Director of the Authorities Unit

## **Norcross Sworn in as 5<sup>th</sup> District Senator**

Assemblyman Donald Norcross was sworn in to the Senate this morning after winning a special election convention for State Senator in the fifth district on Saturday, as expected and without opposition. Norcross will succeed Dana Redd, who resigned on January 1 to become the Mayor of Camden. Gilbert "Whip" Wilson, a Camden City Councilman, was the unanimous choice of Democrats to fill Norcross' Assembly seat.