
THIS WEEK IN TRENTON



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December 16, 2009

Christie Taps Guadagno to Serve as Secretary of State

Governor-Elect Chris Christie continued rolling out his Cabinet this afternoon, announcing that Lieutenant Governor-Elect Kim Guadagno will also serve as Secretary of State.

In addition to handling the traditional portfolio of the secretary of state -- overseeing arts, tourism and cultural programs, as well as the Division of Elections -- Guadagno will also have broad economic development responsibilities. She will head the "New Jersey Partnership for Action," a new umbrella organization that will assist businesses looking to move to or expand in New Jersey.

The lieutenant governor does not have any defined responsibilities, other than stepping in when the governor is out of state or unable to serve. The law detailing the new lieutenant governor position allows for the person to hold an additional position within the administration, with the exception of attorney general.

Codey Announces Advance Hearing on Dow Nomination

Senate President Richard J. Codey and Senate Judiciary Chairman Paul A. Sarlo today announced that the Senate Judiciary Committee will hold a hearing on the nomination of Paula Dow for State Attorney General in advance of her formal nomination by Governor-elect Chris Christie. The advance hearing, scheduled for January 6, will enable the Senate to expedite her nomination so that she can assume office as quickly as possible after the transition takes place.