

Vision: To be the Healthiest State in the Nation

John H. Armstrong, MD, FACS State Surgeon General & Secretary

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FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH ANNOUNCES NEW LEADERSHIP

TALLAHASSEE — Today, State Surgeon General and Secretary of Health Dr. John Armstrong announced the appointment of Kim Barnhill, MS, MPH, DOH Chief of Staff, as Deputy Secretary for County Health Systems (previously known as the Deputy Secretary for Statewide Services) for the Florida Department of Health (DOH). Jennifer Tschetter, DOH General Counsel, has been appointed as DOH Chief of Staff. Both appointments take effect February 27.

"We have tremendous talent in the Florida Department of Health, with public health professionals who epitomize the best of public service," said Dr. Armstrong. "Kim Barnhill, as a former county health department administrator, has the ideal skillset to support the county health departments in meeting the health needs of Florida's families and visitors, while Jennifer Tschetter brings significant managerial expertise, honed within the state and county health offices, to promote best organizational practices."

Armstrong continued, "I am also pleased that Deputy General Counsel Danny Hernandez has accepted appointment as Interim General Counsel. I want to thank Paul Myers, MS, Administrator for the Florida Department of Health in Alachua County, for his leadership as Interim Deputy Secretary for Statewide Services during the last five months."

Barnhill has served as Chief of Staff with the Department of Health for the past two and a half years. Before this, she spent more than a decade as the Administrator for the Madison and Jefferson County Health Departments. She has also served as Director of Statewide Services and Director of Volunteer Services for the department.

Tschetter has served as a lawyer in the Department of Health since 2008. After starting with the agency as a Chief Legal Counsel for 11 county health departments, she served as Deputy General Counsel for County Health Departments and in June 2012 was appointed General Counsel. Prior to her work with the agency, Tschetter spent several years in private practice with Hopping, Green & Sams, P.A. representing clients on a broad range of issues.

Hernandez has been with the department for four years, most recently as Deputy General Counsel for Prosecution Services. Prior to that he spent several years in the private sector as an attorney for Carlton Fields, P.A., where he provided a broad range of legal services. He previously was Assistant General Counsel in the Department from 2001-2004 following his four years of service in the United States Marine Corps.

The department works to protect, promote and improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county and community efforts.

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