

## Personnel File - Friday, Jan. 27, 2023

*Who's On the Move?*

State House News Service

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... Karyn Polito took her most substantial step since completing her eight-year tenure as lieutenant governor, joining a local health plan's advisory council ... A former state rep returned to the State House as an aide and another returned to work for the auditor ... The Healey administration's education secretariat has a new undersecretary and chief of staff ... The influential Mass. High Tech Council tapped a longtime Gov. Charlie Baker aide to lead its policy and government work ... There are three new board members at the Pioneer Institute ... The Congressional Hispanic Conference named its co-chairs ... Here's the latest Personnel File ...



POLITO

Three weeks after she became a private citizen once again, former Lt. Gov. **KARYN POLITO** joined the advisory council at Firefly Health, which describes itself as a female-led health plan and "virtual-first care innovator." Polito will bring extensive experience in health care policy to the role, including the administration's efforts to implement a behavioral health reform "roadmap." Firefly Health also pointed to Polito's work to help Massachusetts navigate the COVID-19 pandemic and her "extensive network throughout the state" as key factors. "Firefly Health shares my passion for improving healthcare, access, quality and affordability and I am excited to work with an organization that meets people where they are as we adapt to life post pandemic," Polito said in a statement. "As I continue my service beyond my time as Lieutenant Governor, I look forward to strengthening my existing relationships with exceptional leaders who are invested in their

communities and forging new partnerships with innovators like the Firefly team who are working to address key issues here in Massachusetts and in places across the country."

Former Rep. **WILL CROCKER** is back roaming the halls of the State House, this time as Rep. Paul Frost of Auburn's newest legislative aide. A Barnstable Republican, Crocker was defeated by Democrat Kip Diggs in a three-way general election in 2020. He told the News Service that he joined Frost's staff on Jan. 23 after a couple years working for the state Office of Business Development. He was the office's southeast regional director, according to his LinkedIn profile, connecting "businesses and municipalities with a variety of programs to foster job retention, job expansion, and capital investment."



CROCKER



GOUVEIA

Former Rep. **TAMI GOUVEIA** is returning to Beacon Hill, this time as the director of health and human services audits for Auditor Diana DiZoglio. The two-term Democrat was one of the more progressive voices in the House, was one just two Democrats not to support Ron Mariano for speaker in January 2021, and openly called for more transparency in the House and within the joint committees. She opted against seeking reelection last year and instead ran to be the Democratic nominee for lieutenant governor, finishing third in the statewide primary. Before entering politics, she was a public health project manager and executive director of Tobacco Free Massachusetts. Gouveia holds a doctorate degree in public health from Boston University. In her farewell remarks in the House, Gouveia said her "biggest takeaway is that we could be doing a lot more for all of our residents."

**KATE DONAGHEY** has joined Education Secretary Patrick Tutwiler's staff as undersecretary of education and chief of staff. Donaghey worked for more than six years, ending in 2019, as a government relations specialist for the Massachusetts Teachers Association. Since then, she worked at Melwood Global for 20 months and most recently at LearnLaunch, as its executive director. Earlier in her career, she worked for former Sens. Richard Moore and Joan Menard and for Rep. Patricia Haddad in 2006 and 2007 when she co-chaired the Education Committee. "Katie has always been a driven caring dedicated young woman. She served as student rep on SOMERSET school committee when I served. She will be great (oh yeah and she's from SOMERSET)," tweeted Haddad.



DONAGHEY



MAHONEY

With the 2023-2024 legislative session and Gov. Maura Healey's first term newly underway, the Massachusetts High Technology Council turned to longtime Baker administration veteran **ELIZABETH MAHONEY** to lead its policy agenda. Mahoney joined the influential business organization as vice president of policy and government affairs after spending all eight years of Gov. Charlie Baker's tenure as a top aide. She served as research director on Baker's first unsuccessful campaign in 2010, then as policy director on his winning 2014 campaign. While Baker was in the corner office, Mahoney worked as deputy chief of staff and policy director, capped off with a stint as a senior advisor. A Harvard College graduate, Mahoney worked on several campaigns before Baker's, including Mitt Romney's 2008 presidential bid. MHTC will task Mahoney with advocating for policy steps it believes are necessary to keep Massachusetts competitive. "I am looking forward to being part of this impactful, focused advocacy team, and excited to contribute to and further the Council's mission of maintaining the economic competitiveness of Massachusetts," she said in a statement.

Pioneer Institute announced the three newest members of its board of directors Thursday: **MICHAEL BROWN, DREW DAVIS** and **CHRISTOPHER di BONAVENTURA**. Brown "has made, or managed, multiple investments spanning the enterprise software, financial services, and technology-enabled business services markets" since joining

Battery Ventures in 1998, Pioneer said. He also sits on the board of the National Venture Capital Association, having served as its chair for the 2021-2022 term. Davis is president and managing partner of Chestnut Realty Management in Springfield, roles in which he "is responsible for the underwriting and financing of new transactions for the firm's investment strategies," the institute said. And di Bonaventura retired from Fidelity Investments in 2020 as executive vice president. He has previous experience in executive positions at Morgan Stanley and Citigroup. "Michael, Drew and Chris will bring insights on strategy and a passion for progress in our four priority policy areas," said Jim Stergios, executive director of the institute, referring to K-12 education, life sciences, civics and "democracy-building," and economic opportunity.

The Congressional Hispanic Conference on Thursday announced Congressman **MARIO DIAZ-BALART** of Florida and Congressman **TONY GONZALES** of Texas as its co-chairs for the 118th Congress. The CHC "seeks to emphasize both national and international issues that have a significant impact on the Hispanic community in the United States. In addition, the Conference represents the diversity of thought that exists in the Hispanic community." Other members of the caucus are from California, Florida, New York, Oregon, Arizona, Texas, West Virginia, Puerto Rico and Guam.

-- Got a new chief of staff, executive director, campaign manager, press secretary, spokesperson, or otherwise important new person in your office or organization? Losing a valued worker to a new career opportunity? The News Service welcomes all personnel announcements, which will be aggregated for periodic publication, at [personnel@statehousenews.com](mailto:personnel@statehousenews.com).

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