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INSIDER 100 POLICYMAKERS

outlook to justify his co-called Path to Progress, which prioritizes more demand from public sector workers and continued reliance on a corporate tax instead of an expanded millionaire's tax.

Even after the resolution of the FY2020 budget in June and Sweeney's victory, the state had the appearance of jagged, hardened camps, with no end immediately in sight, as the governor re-entrenched on the millionaire's tax, his financial cohort reinforced by legal muscle in that other developing, budget-concurrent storyline related to Economic Development Authority (EDA) tax incentives. Sweeney, for his part, remained bitterly opposed, as his political ally, South Jersey Power Broker George Norcross III, lawyered up in a formidable flanking action.

To the most cynical it was hood against hood, or – if you prefer – Napoleon v. Wellington, with Norcross playing von Blucher, and the governor obviously hoping the budget wasn't his Waterloo but simply, as originally conceived, a chess match, weighted to favor the player whose most powerful option was not an object of off-color boss-land derision but the key to family-friendly victory.

As in the past two years, on the pages that follow, you'll find the names of those 100 Garden State Insider brains who will have to figure out how to piece together a blueprint to keep the place afloat. The list assembles names listed not because they signify the broadest shoulders, biggest egos or loudest voices, but simply because of the rigorous quality of their public policy minds. The list in the main omits judges and those currently serving in public office. A few of the following people may serve as local electeds, but we have taken pains to select those individuals noted for the work they do outside elected office as they seek to expand the capacities of our collective policy square.

Max Pizarro

Max Pizarro

Editor, InsiderNJ





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- NJBIA has been calling for comprehensive tax and regulatory reform to fix our structural budget deficits.
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- NJBIA looks forward to seeing the promised recommendations of our policymakers to avoid future taxes at this critical time.

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1 MARK MAGYAR

The Harding-based former reporter remains the most purely policy-oriented person in the state, the brainy inner sanctum ally of Senate President Steve Sweeney (D-3) and the best numbers-grounded policy person in Sweeney's orbit, a key consigliere on Path to Progress and the FY2020 Budget, which Sweeney won.



2 GURBIR GREWAL

The New Jersey Attorney General has his hands full fighting the Trump administration on the legal front. But he's also the lead prosecutor on a case involving allegations of malfeasance in the state Economic Development Authority (EDA) and a subsequent criminal referral from the Governor's Task EDA Force. In a word, a player.





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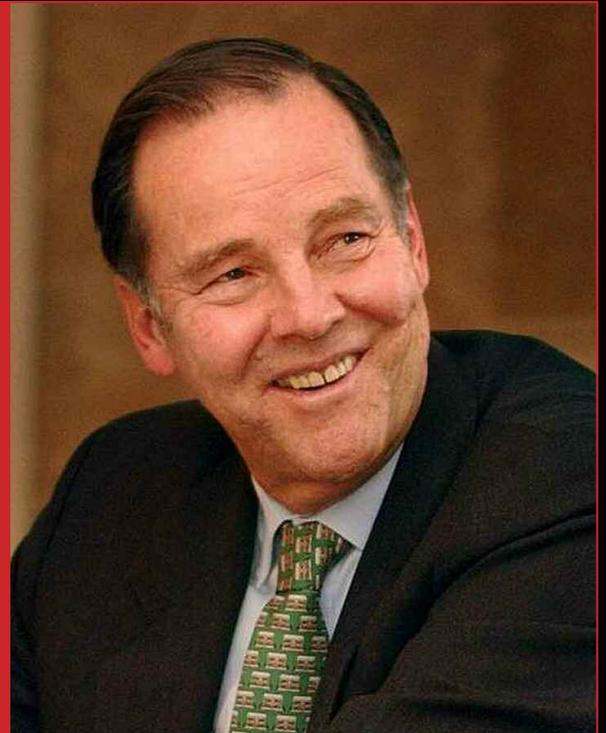
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3 TOM KEAN

The former Republican Governor not only has a grounded knowledge of government based on service as speaker of the general assembly and two terms as the state's chief executive, but is also a national security expert, having bulked his considerable resume as chairman of the 911 Commission. Significantly, in the specific ongoing debate about tax incentives, Kean, in a show of cross-the-aisle executive brotherhood, on NJTV pointedly questioned the maintenance of the EDA during the Christie years – a key Murphy gripe.



4 KATE McDONNELL

In a divided time, she straddles both worlds in a unique way. That makes her particularly powerful right now. Prior to going to the front office as Deputy Chief Counsel, she served as General Counsel to the Assembly Majority Office, and as Associate General Counsel in the Majority Office, where she worked in a variety of policy areas.



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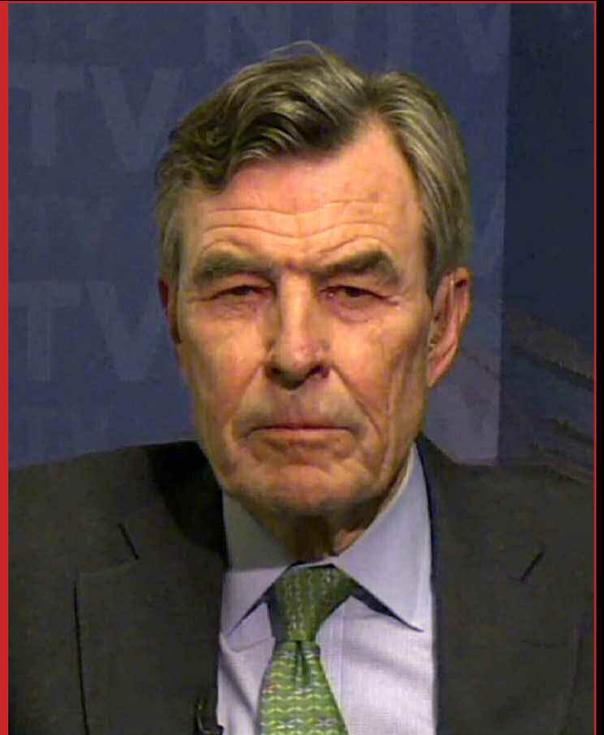
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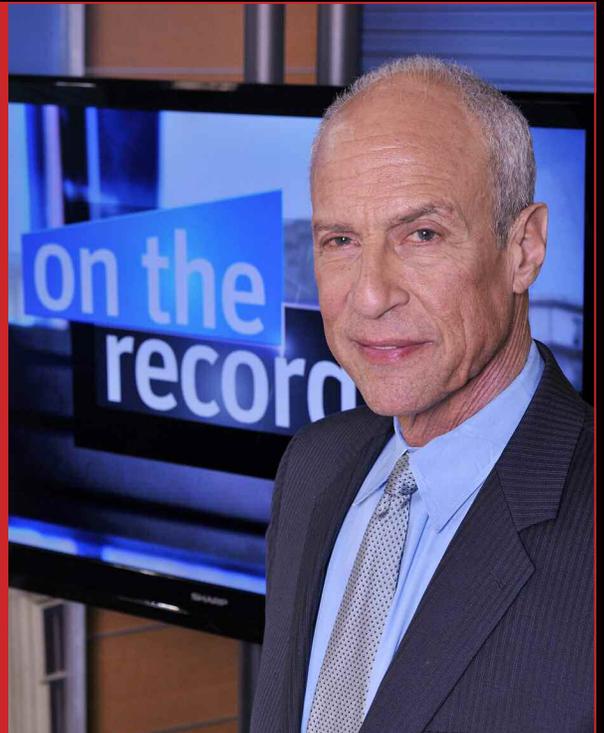
5 GORDON MACINNES

Now a senior distinguished fellow at the New Jersey Policy Perspective, MacInnes served as the organization's president from 2012 to 2018. A former state senator and key ally of Governor Murphy, his expertise include state finances, sound investments in economic assets, education and immigration. At the height of the budget debacle, the Governor chose MacInnes (and his NJPP successor Brandon McKoy, see below) with whom to stand when he made his most impassioned case for a millionaire's tax.



6 MIKE ARON

The senior chief political correspondent at NJTV News is a walking encyclopedia of New Jersey policy, complete with contextualized footnotes. The Spock-like Aron never loses his cool or emotes on the issues, making him all the more vital to have around right now. He fulfills a faded task. He reports the news – and invariably transmits more of substance in his pieces than one can find anywhere else.



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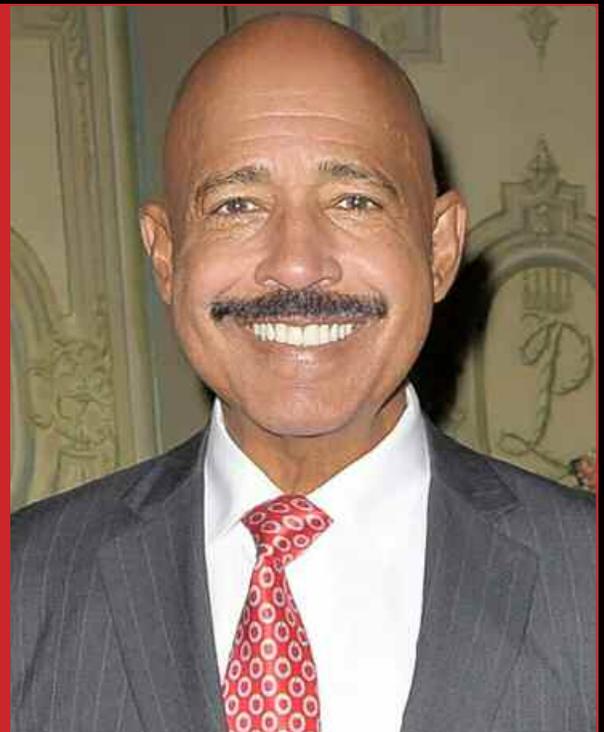
7 BILL CASTNER

Governor Phil Murphy brought in the political attorney to work on guns, his chosen expertise, but he's really one of the most knowledgeable insiders around, the void-filler of sorts, since the death of Jamie Fox. He also fascinates because at one time he was the master bomb builder for Team Norcross. Now he's in the Murphy cockpit pitted against his old pals in the biggest New Jersey political fight of the millennium.



8 TED WELLS

When Governor Phil Murphy needed a heavy hitter to come in and stare down the legal team of George Norcross III, he tapped Wells, one of the state's leading criminal lawyers, who picked up the win in the first significant courtroom collision between the two sides when Judge Mary Jacobson ruled against Norcross' efforts to stop the governor's task force.





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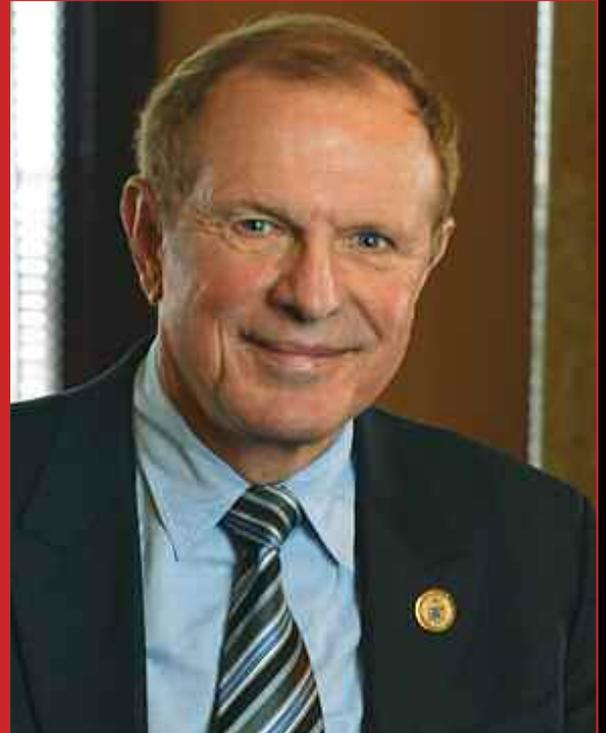
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9 RAY LESNIAK

The former state Senator from the 20th District remains as influential as ever, helping the Lesniak Institute for American Leadership. There's not a major policy issue Lesniak hasn't put his fingerprints on, including the abolition of capital punishment, internet gaming and marriage equality. A key contributor to Sweeney's Path to Progress report, he has the added incentive to buck Murphy as a guy who lost a gubernatorial primary against him.



10 KEVIN DRENNAN

The Executive Director at the New Jersey Senate Democrats has a habit that sets him apart from most in New Jersey politics. He actually reads. It gives him an edge on most of the rest of the state's players, who – like miniature Trumps intent on their own transcendent narratives – are always eager to make the argument that they are the smartest (or greatest!) people who ever lived. The intellectually hyperactive and pragmatic Drennan has the advantage of historical reference, which makes his assessments less solipsistic and more constructive.



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11 ANALILIA MEJIA

The former Executive Director of Working Families NJ went national to undertake a new job as National Political Director of the Bernie Sanders Presidential Campaign. Before that, the Elizabeth-based Mejia was a fierce champion of Murphy's policies, helped ramrod the pathway to a \$15 minimum wage, and handed off an organization to a successor (see below) committed to finishing what she started.



12 GEORGE HELMY

When he hired on this year, the chief of staff to Governor Phil Murphy immediately made a favorable impression at the statehouse. He actually calls back. But it's not just that the former state director for U.S. Senator Cory Booker is on the other end of a phone. He knows government. At all levels. He started his tenure by trying to navigate the demolished bridge between the front office and South Jersey, a treacherous course at best. He also represents the crown jewel of a trend that accelerated this year as the gulf between Murphy and Norcross deepened: the sandbagging of Booker and Menendez people in the Governor's Office to (hopefully, for the governor's sake) give the appearance of senatorial heft at the governor's back, even as Booker and Menendez co-signed an NJ.com editorial praising Camden Rising, and Booker incurred the ire of progressives when Norcross threw him a fundraising bash.



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13 MICHELE SIEKERKA

The President of the New Jersey Business and Industry Association serves the state's private sector employee and business base and continues to occupy a forward oppositional position on issues like the \$15 minimum wage.



14 SKIP CIMINO

The Executive Director of the Assembly Majority Office, and Speaker Craig Coughlin's (D-19) key trains-on-time overseer, has the advantage of having served as a Democratic lawmaker. Having served at all levels of government, Cimino was also a partner at the Kaufman Zita group and the as President and CEO of Robert Wood Johnson (RWJ) University Hospital in Hamilton.



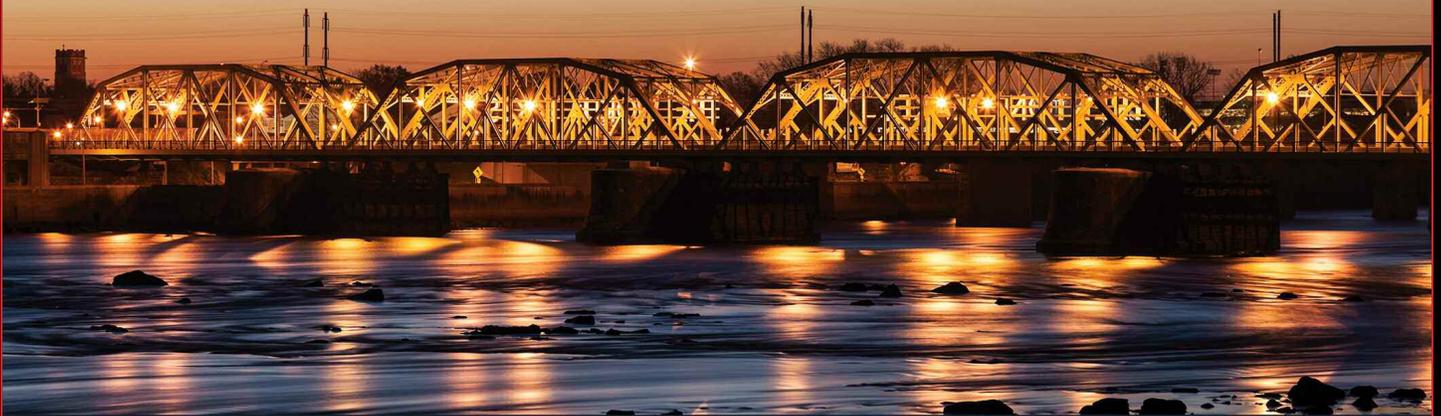
15 JIM WALDEN

The former Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of New York helms Governor Phil Murphy's Task Force examining the administering of tax incentives at the state Economic Development Authority (EDA). Prosecutions on Walden's resume include those brought under the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act.



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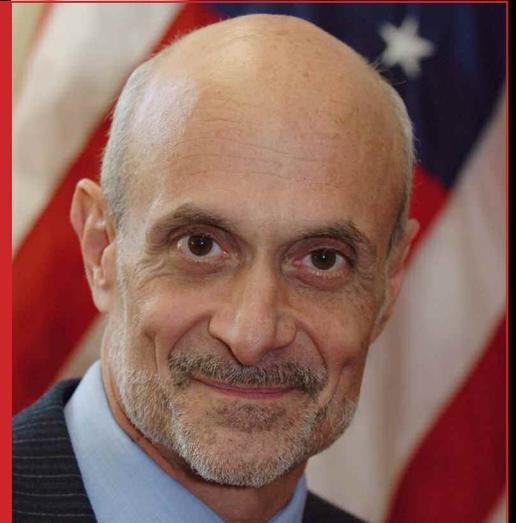
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16 MICHAEL CHERTOFF

The Tom Horn deadeye of the opposition, Chertoff – a former Secretary of Homeland Security - responded to the distress call by a jammed-up GN3 to serve as his attorney with the shiniest resume on the South Jersey Power Broker's legal all-star team. Heft.



17 JENNIFER TAYLOR

The lead Democratic aide for the Assembly Appropriations Committee, Taylor is the go-to person for all budget-related issues. One of those people who runs circles around the front office's less skilled staff.



18 MICKEY QUINN

The Deputy Executive Director at the Assembly Majority Office, Quinn is the ultimate head-counting machine in the New Jersey General Assembly. Like Taylor, another mechanically minded veteran whose loyalty to Coughlin (and Assembly Majority Leader Lou Greenwald) frequently makes the game harder for Murphyites.





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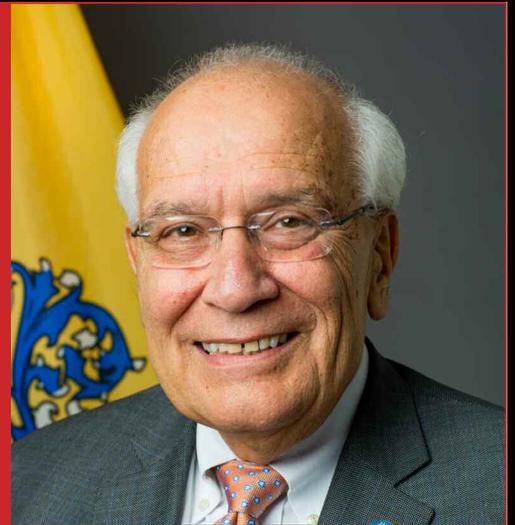
19 SUE ALTMAN

The Camden-based Executive Director of New Jersey Working Families quickly distinguished herself as a vocal and aggressive activist primarily concerned with the alleged misuse of tax incentives to benefit politically connected corporate development in her home city.



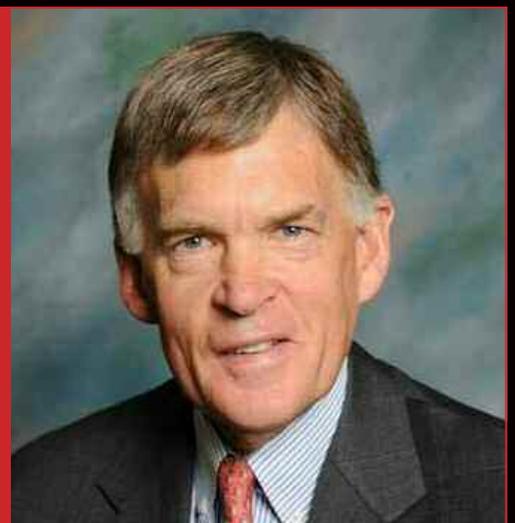
20 JOE FIORDALISO

You hear it all the time. Complaints about the youth and inexperience of Governor Phil Murphy's political inner sanctum. But his key ally, Board of Public Utilities President Fiordaliso, gives the governor a dose of gravitas and substance over style.



21 TOM BRACKEN

When it comes to relating business to public policy, there is no one better schooled than the President and CEO of the New Jersey Chamber of Commerce. When he speaks, he's pure gravitas alongside the tax-raising, minimum wage-increasing liberal governor.





**Ed Potosnak,
Executive Director**

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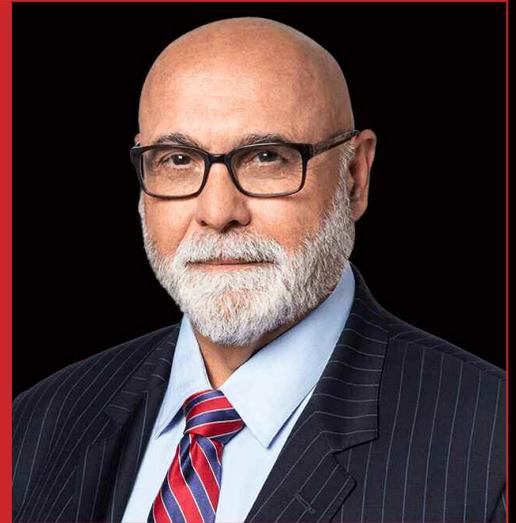
22 LIZ MUOIO

Plucked from the halls of Trenton, the former Democratic Assemblywoman from Mercer County occupies a central role in the drama as the state Treasurer, Governor Murphy's main numbers cruncher and interface with intransigent former colleagues turned ornery instruments of opposition.



23 ANGELO GENOVA

The principal at Genova Burns is the state's leading expert – and courtroom intimidator – on election law. Close to Essex County Executive Joe DiVincenzo and U.S. Rep. Bill Pascrell (D-9), he's the establishment's go-to guy on campaigns and elections jam-ups.



24 MARTIN ROBINS

Founding director of the Alan M. Voorhees Transportation Center and Deputy Executive Director of NJ Transit, Robins is New Jersey's foremost transportation expert, and in a critical position as the state transitions (after the Christie years to prioritize public transportation funding).



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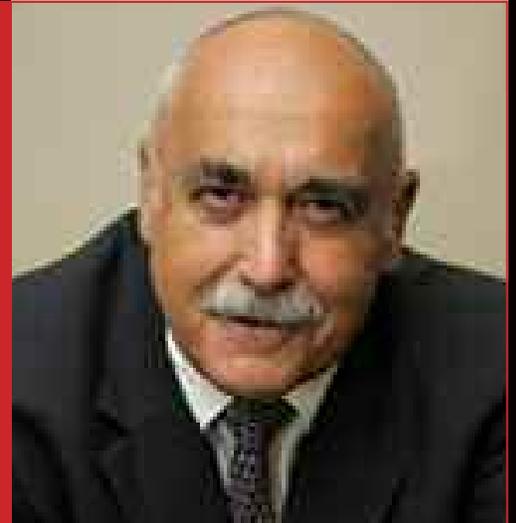


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25 RAPHAEL CAPRIO

Executive Director of Rutgers University's Bloustein Local Government Research Center, Dr. Caprio carries out research and teaching in the area of local and state budgeting and finance, financial management, public sector management and labor law. He served as chair on the subcommittee of Sweeney's much touted Path to Progress.



26 JEFF BRINDLE

No one played as critical a role to the passage of this year's dark money bill than the Executive Director of the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission. We're fortunate at InsiderNJ to have as a regular columnist.



27 JIM FLORIO

One of the sharpest policy minds in the state, the former Democratic Governor known for raising taxes inevitably becomes a cautionary part of the conversation in a legislative election year, while also inserting himself into the debate as an advocate for Camden Rising.



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28 JEFF TITTEL

The Executive Director of the New Jersey Chapter of the Sierra Club possesses the most substantive understanding of that fragile intersection of the environment and government. Intellectually independent, Tittel has a home in neither Murphy nor Sweeney world, which makes him a particularly effective public advocate.



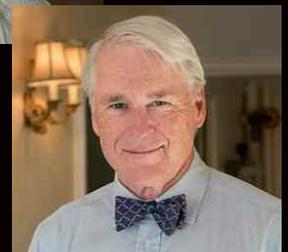
29 PARIMAL GARG

Deputy Chief Counsel to the Governor, Garg plays a critical role in the policy stances of the Governor's Office, and has been engaged in particular in the area of marijuana legalization. He's an intimidating intellect, particularly in a (mostly) intellectual wasteland like Trenton.



30 JORDAN GLATT AND NICK PLATT

The pair of government-grounded former mayors – respectively from Summit and Harding - serve as Governor Murphy's shared services czars. There's some overlap there, with Sweeney world, and lawmakers in the senate president's caucus who prioritize consolidation, among them state Senator Vin Gopal (D-11).





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31 PATRICK BRENNAN

Senior Fiscal Analyst at New Jersey Office of Legislative Services, Brennan is a transportation policy and planning expert. His main area of expertise includes state government, research, policy analysis, labor market analysis, fiscal analysis, demographic and statistical research. In a word: bright.



32 JOHN REITMEYER

His knowledge of the budget is so detailed, that in the words of PolitiFax's Nick Acocella, the NJ Spotlight Reporter – formerly of the Bergen Record – ought to be treasurer. If there is a most persistent chronicler of ideas in New Jersey, it is Reitmeyer.



33 MATT PLATKIN

Dented somewhat by the Katie Brennan-Al Alvarez mess, Governor Phil Murphy's Chief Counsel is probably young enough to turn it around, that is if he sticks around. Word is he's already on his way out of town. But if not, he's arguably the man most loyal to Murphy.





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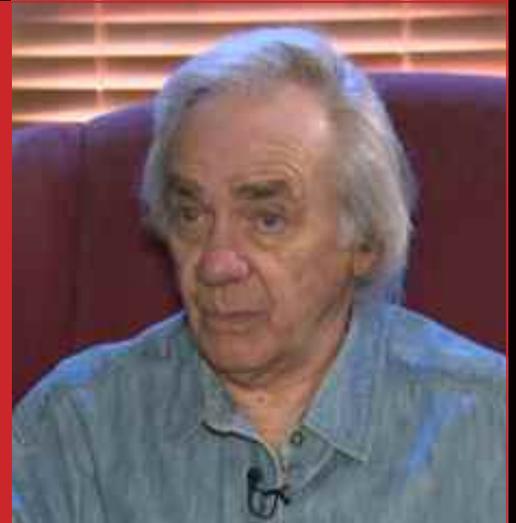
Richard W. Roper

Theodore V. Wells, Jr., Esq. (Trustee *Emeritus*)



34 CARL GOLDEN

A Senior Contributing Analyst with the Hughes Center for Public Policy at Stockton University, Golden worked as Governor Kean's press secretary in the 1980's and remains – with his InsiderNJ columns – one of the smartest people in the state's collective room.



35 ERIC SHUFFLER

A public policy expert, the principal at River Crossing Strategies served as a member of Murphy's transition team and as a senior adviser for strategic communications. He's that veteran policy hand you're looking for; the all-purpose rodeo contestant come crunch-time.



36 DIANE GUTIERREZ SCACCETTI

The Commissioner of the Department of Transportation has been one of Governor Murphy's most visible cabinet members, as she literally tries to get NJ Transit back on track after half a decade of underfunding by former Governor Chris Christie.





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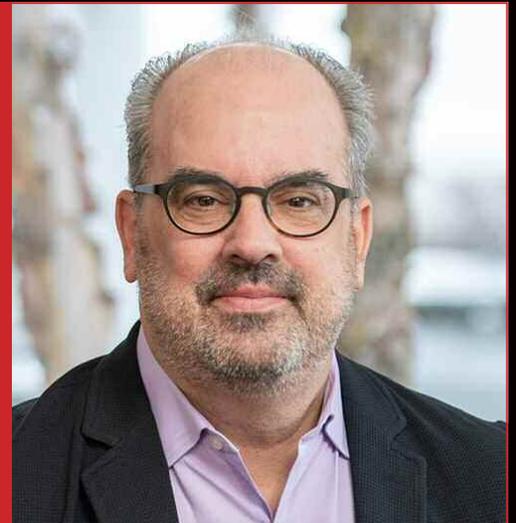
37 AARON BINDER

The Deputy Executive Director of the Assembly Majority Office possesses a deep knowledge of state financial issues. He's at ground zero of the war, a political mash-up masquerading as a financial policy debate.



38 BILL PASCRELL III

A lobbyist at Princeton Public Affairs, Pascrell has a better bead than almost anyone on the state's gaming industry. Caught in the Murphy v. Sweeney mess when the Passaic County Freeholder Board chucked him as county counsel, he sports a war bonnet under his suit and tie – a powerful North Jersey ally for the Sweeney forces.



39 BRANDON MCKOY

President and chief executive of the progressive New Jersey Policy Perspective (NJPP), McKoy was one of Governor Murphy's top allies in the statewide debate for a millionaire's tax. He's the face – and the mind – of the young progressive generation.





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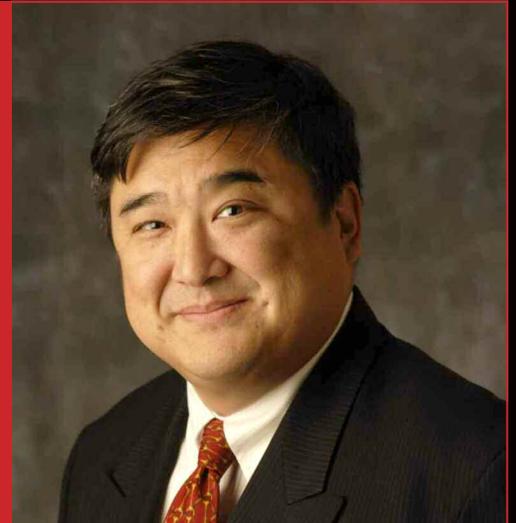
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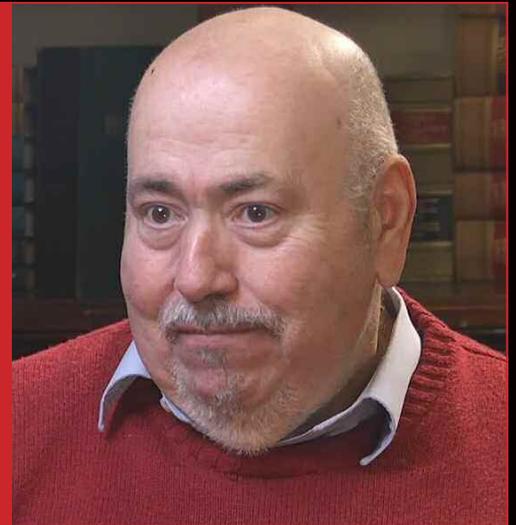
40 RONALD CHEN

The former First Public Advocate of New Jersey is a former Dean and Co-Dean of Rutgers University Law School, now serving on Governor Murphy's EDA Task Force.



41 JOE DORIA

The Bayonne-based former Speaker of the General Assembly – and former head of the Department of Community Affairs – remains one of the smartest public policy people in the state. A resource for anyone lucky enough to have a conversation with him, he's Hudson County's resident real-world intellect.



42 RYAN HAYGOOD

A leading civil rights attorney, Haywood serves as President and CEO of the New Jersey Institute of Social Justice. Prime time? While working at the Legal Defense Fund for the NAACP, Haygood defended a core provision of the Voting Rights Act before the United States Supreme Court.



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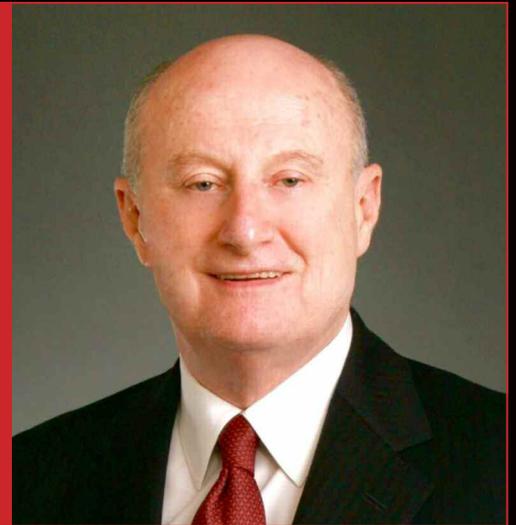
43 STACI BERGER

The CEO and President of the Housing and Community Development Network of NJ, Berger in June showed her commitment to the progressive wing of her party when she went up against the local machine and snared a seat on the Piscataway Democratic Committee.



44 MIKE CRITCHLEY

The defense attorney is like the Steven Seagal character in *Fire Down Below* when the befuddled local lawman says, “People get hurt and you’re always around.” Yes, Critchley is always around: for the Bridget Kelly defense in Bridgegate, as part of the panel that quizzed Murphy Administration officials as part of the Katie Brennan inquiry, and on Norcross’ all-star cast of lawyers defending him in the EDA scandal.



45 HETTY ROSENSTEIN

The New Jersey Director of the Communications Workers of America is one of the state’s most knowledgeable experts on labor, pensions and benefits issues. A key ally of Governor Murphy, she’s also an outspoken critic of Sweeney and his Path to Progress report.





46 ^{AJ} SABATH

The Commissioner of Labor in the administration of Governor Dick Codey is a top lobbyist at Advocacy & Management Group, LLC. With – naturally – expertise in labor issues.



47 NOREEN GIBLIN

Formerly chief counsel at the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities, Giblin this year went to the front office to start a new job as Governor Phil Murphy's cabinet secretary. She's that point person who coordinates the governor's agenda among all the various departments.



48 TIM SULLIVAN

The Chief Executive Officer of the New Jersey Economic Development Authority (NJEDA), Sullivan – along with newly enthroned chairman Kevin Quinn – stands at the helm of the single most scrutinized authority, in the middle of a civil war between Murphy and Norcross. Opposed early by Building Trades Labor bigwigs, he will continue to have to call on the last measure of his expertise to remain standing.



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49 KENYATTA STEWART

Newark's Corporation Counsel weighed a run for mayor of Paterson last year before deciding to remain focused on the law. He's one of those on-the-ground-guys who simultaneously offers ivory tower intellectual objectivity.



50 MICHAEL J. DARCY

The Executive Director of the League of Municipalities since 2015, Darcy presides over the largest annual municipal conference in the United States in Atlantic City. He's the guy who's so substantive that when an InsiderNJ columnist wrote a piece about bad behavior at the League, Darcy wanted to know what the hell he was talking about. He's that wired into the substance of what he's doing.



51 LORI BUCKELEW

The New Jersey State League of Municipalities deploys legislative analyst Buckelew, a registered municipal clerk and certified municipal registrar, on all hard nut policy cases. Like Darcy (above) she's one of those people in the state actually doing something constructive.





52 ADAM GORDON

The Associate Director at Fair Share Housing Center is the NJ expert on low income housing and statewide fair share allocation. You don't think it's a problem? Studies show New Jersey lacks – among other things – affordable rental housing.



53 KAREN KOMINSKY

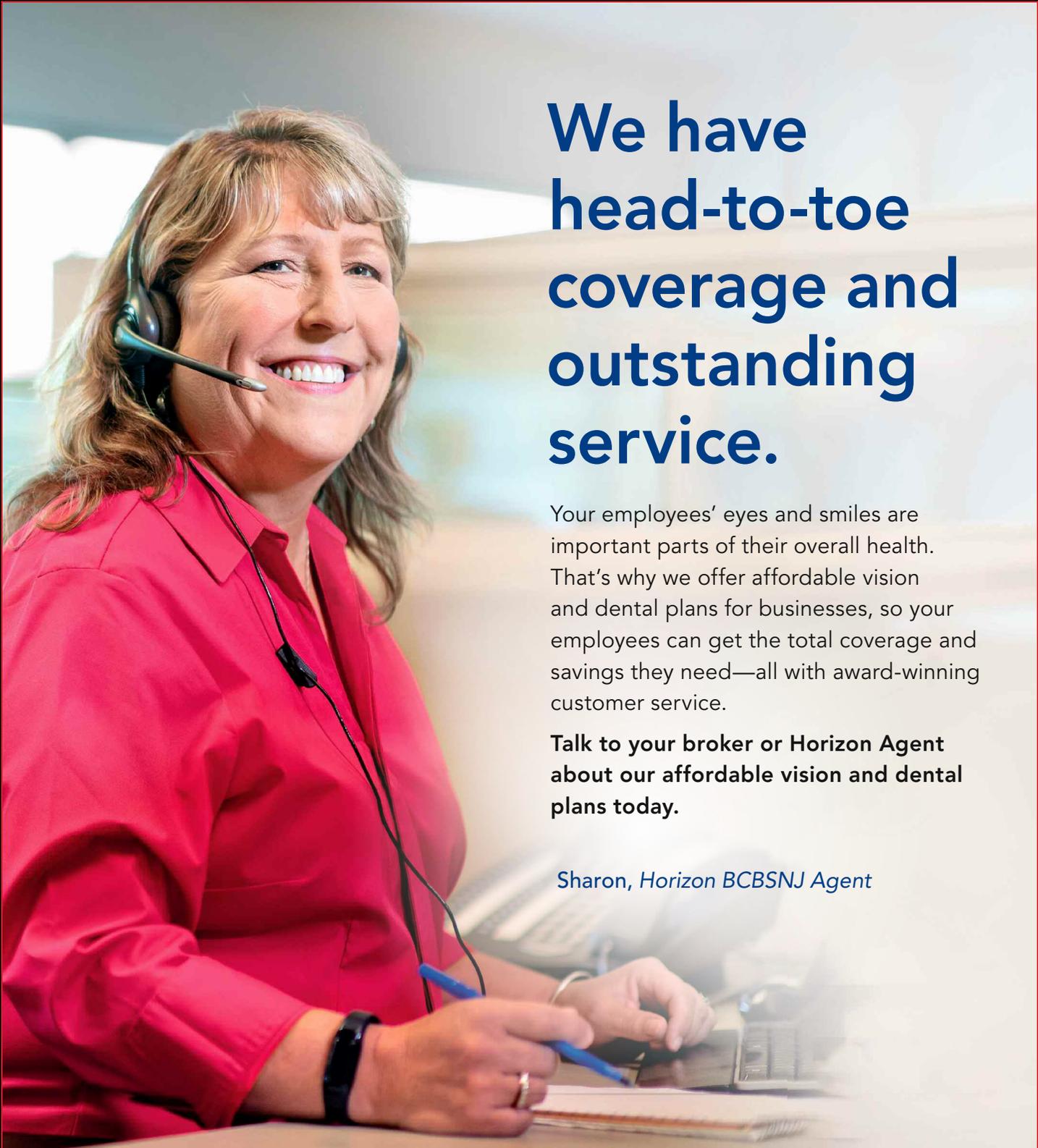
The CLB government affairs pro and attorney served in the McGreevey and Codey administrations. She possesses policy expertise across a broad range, including the environment, energy and scientific research. A veteran presence who knows where the bodies are buried.



54 KHALIFAH L. SHABAZZ

The distinguished Paterson Corp Counsel was awarded Lt. Governor Sheila Oliver's Shirley Chisolm Award for Legal Advocacy in 2014. A go-to resource in a city on the move under the leadership of Mayor Andre Sayegh.





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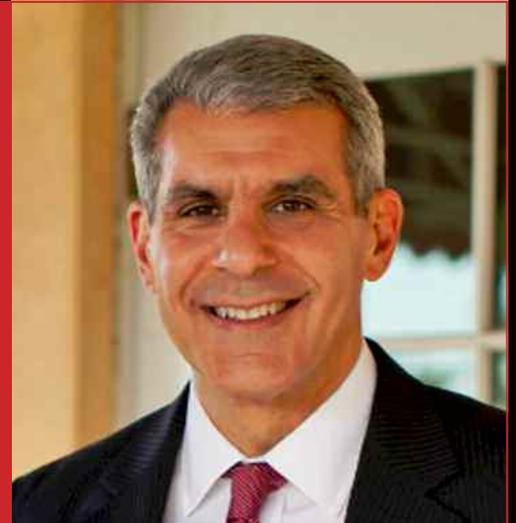


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55 JOE KYRILLOS

Ever since his retirement in 2017, the former Republican senator from Monmouth County – disillusioned by former pal Christie and irritated by Donald Trump – has fulfilled the role of seaside elder statesman. A go-to.



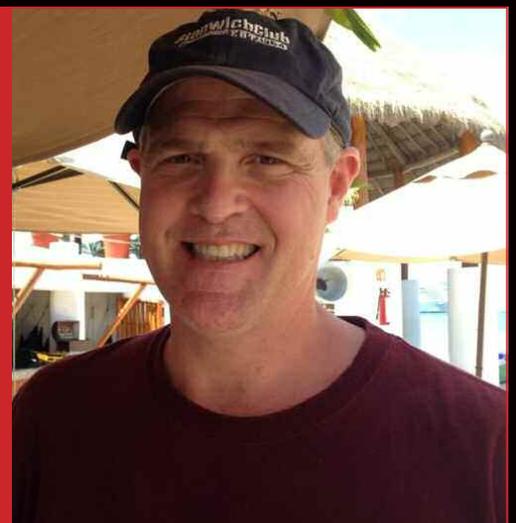
56 JARROD GRASSO

Chief Executive Officer for New Jersey Realtors, Grasso spent nine years as the organization's head Trenton lobbyist. He's a welcome presence here: an advocate for business conduct that is successful and – get this, New Jersey – ethical.



57 KEVIN KELLEHER

The New Jersey Education Association (NJEA) director of research and member of the State Health Benefits Committee is one of New Jersey's foremost tough questions and answers policy advocates.





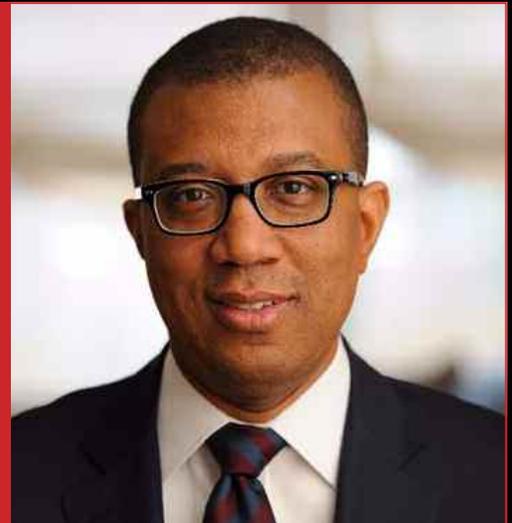
58 TAI COOPER

With two decades of experience in government at the federal and local level, the veteran of the Baraka Administration and Office of the late Senator Lautenberg served as Governor Murphy's Deputy Chief Policy Adviser before heading to the NJEDA as the Managing Director of Policy, Planning, Research and Advocacy, working on incentives and Opportunity Zones.



59 JIM JOHNSON

In his role as Special Counsel to the Governor on all things Atlantic City, the 100,000-vote guy from the 2017 Democratic Primary put together the administration's Atlantic City report, which prioritized a timeline for the city to hire additional employees.

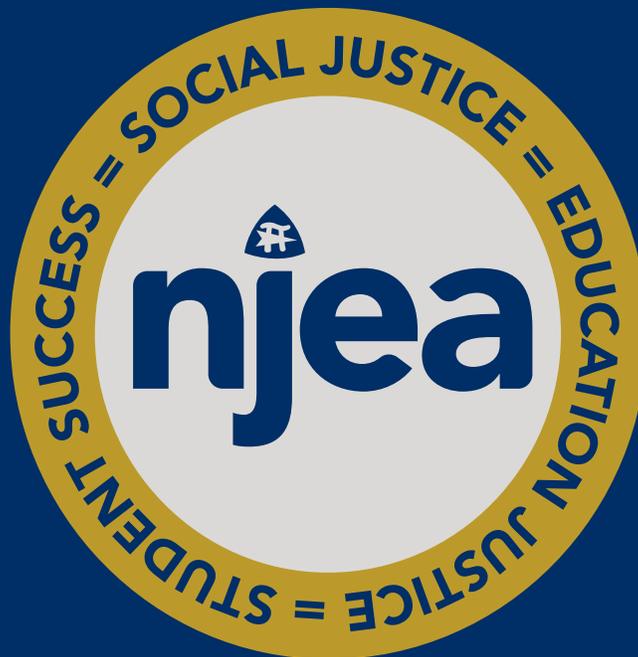


60 KATHLEEN FRANGIONE

Murphy's Chief Policy Adviser previously served as Senior Policy Advisor on the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee under then-Senator John Kerry, acting as lead staffer on climate change issues.



The New Jersey Education Association
congratulates Kevin Kelleher
on being recognized for his exceptional
public policy contributions.



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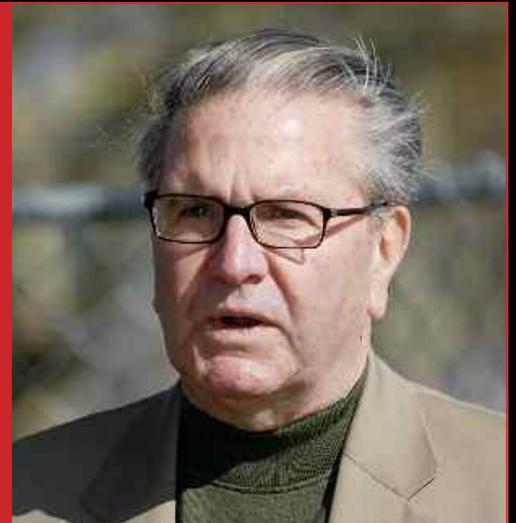
61 MICHELLENE DAVIS

The Executive Vice President of Corporate Affairs for Barnabas Health served as chief policy counsel to then-Governor Jon Corzine. The veteran leader at Barnabas oversees the areas of Policy Development and Governmental and External Affairs, Healthy Living and Community and Employee Wellness and Engagement, and Global Health.



62 BERNIE KENNY

The Hoboken-based former Senator from the 33rd District is a veritable Doria-like font of state issues, particularly on the legal end of the equation.



63 JOE HAYDEN

Top Defense Attorney Hayden supplied heft for Coughlin on the Select Committee on Investigation in the Brennan matter. We're also privileged to have him as our legal adviser at InsiderNJ.



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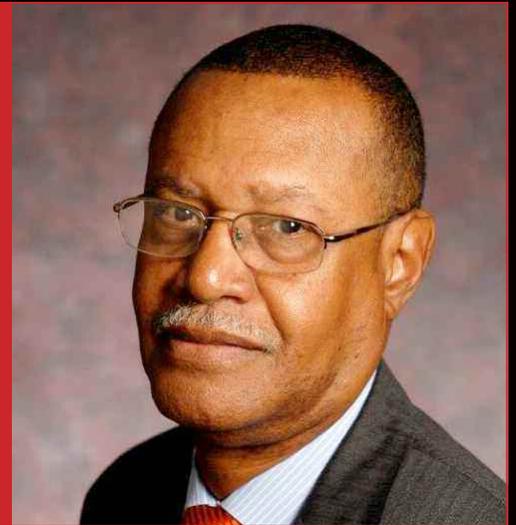
64 LAMONT REPOLLET

Starting out as principal of Carteret High School, Repollet worked his way up through the system to become Commissioner of Education in the Murphy Administration, and inevitably found himself on the receiving end of South Jersey's resistance to Murphy's free community college proposal and school funding policy.



65 RICHARD ROPER

The Public Policy Executive, President of the Roper Group, served as director of the Office of Newark Metropolitan Studies for the City of Newark, as special assistant to the U.S. Department of Commerce Secretary in the Carter Administration.



66 DENNIS E. GONZALEZ

A Republican removed from the Murphy-Sweeney wars, the Executive Officer at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services is that federal—level policy guy with real chops on the healthcare front.





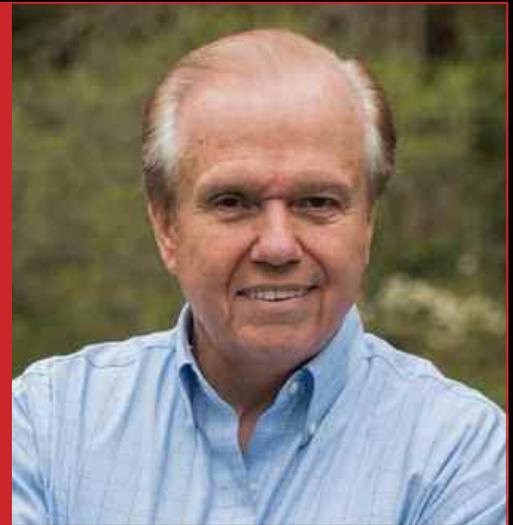
67 STEVEN ROSE

The President of Passaic Valley Community College has been the governor's real-world point person on community college funding through two budget cycles.



68 NORM ROBERTSON

The Passaic County-based former Republican Senator is the elder statesman leaned on by those ravaged members of his party still left in the north. In these embattled times, he's that keen, cold eye on the subject, and we're lucky to have him as a member of our InsiderNJ Advisory Board.



69 ED POTOSNAK

The Executive Director of the League of Conservation Voters, Potosnak has shown himself more willing than Tittel to back the governor up on key policy fronts.



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The Women's Political Caucus of New Jersey (WPCNJ), founded in 1972, is a chapter of the National Women's Political Caucus and is the authoritative voice for women in New Jersey politics. WPCNJ is a *multi-partisan* organization dedicated to increasing the number of women in elected and appointed positions in government, protecting reproductive freedom, and promoting equal rights for women.

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70 GINA GENOVESE

The former Mayor of the Long Hill (and unsuccessful 2017 independent candidate for governor) is one of the state's experts on government consolidation and shared services. She's an intellectually stimulating resource for anyone looking to get out of the Murphy v. Sweeney wilderness.



71 ADAM KAUFMAN AND TRISH ZITA

Partners in the Kaufman Zita Group, Zita first served as research for the New Jersey General Assembly and focused on legislation and policy development in several major issues areas, including health, insurance, education, and social services. That's where she met veteran hand Kaufman, schooled in politics and government by Doria.



72 DENA MOTTOLA JABORSKA

The veteran Associate Director of New Jersey Citizen Action has one of the deepest knowledge bases in Trenton. Great on pay equity and pensions and benefits issues. There are other activists who just got to the dance who think they've been relevant for years, while Mottola has battle scars that transcend the Trump era.





73 CECILIA ZALKIND

The President and CEO of Advocates for Children of NJ is one of the state's foremost experts in child welfare, early care and education and health care.



74 SONIA DELGADO

The Princeton Public Affairs team player has expertise in public sector legislative and regulatory issues, particularly in the area of healthcare.



75 DAVID BROGAN

The Executive Director of the New Jersey Apartment Association has continued to build up the influence of the organization, which was recently honored by the national arm for growing its PAC.



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ROUND WORLD



76 STEPHANIE ALBANESE

The Legislative Director for Senator Joe Vitale – chair of the Senate Health Committee – can out-think and out-hustle anyone on the out-of-network and medical marijuana policy fronts. One of the best prepared policy minds in the state.



77 ROB ASARO ANGELO

Murphy’s Commissioner of Labor has the advantage of standing at ground zero of the governor’s signature accomplishment: the five-year pathway to a \$15 minimum wage.



78 RICHARD KEEVEY

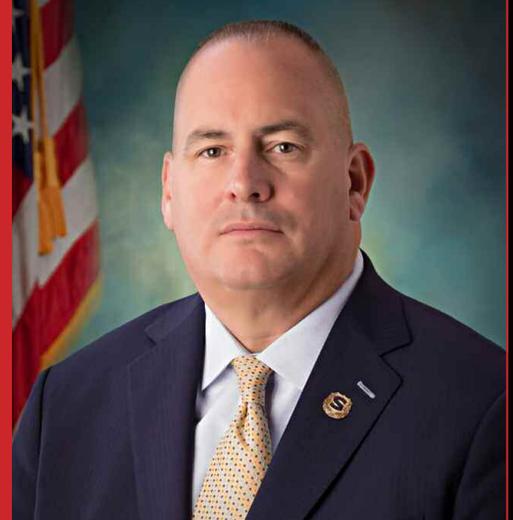
The veteran Professor of the Rutgers University Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy and Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs provided invaluable input to Senate President Sweeney’s Path to Progress Report.





79 PAT COLLIGAN

The NJ State Police Benevolent Association President is an in-the-trenches trained expert on public pensions and benefits.



80 AMY MANSUE

President for the Southern Region of RWJ Barnabas Health.



81 PAUL JOSEPHSON

The Duane Morris Attorney is an expert on transportation and casino issues – and cannabis. Close to Murphy.

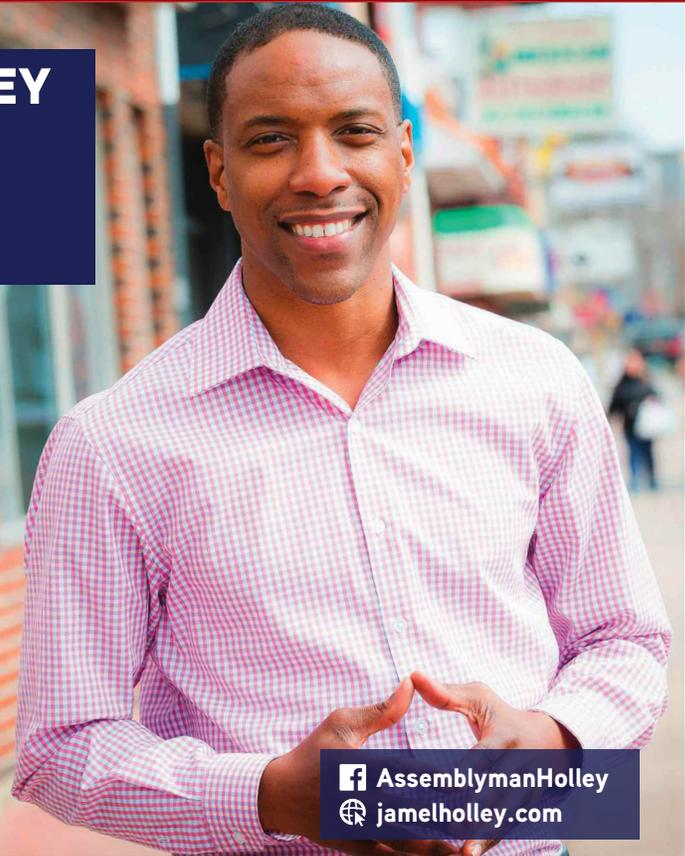


ASSEMBLYMAN JAMEL HOLLEY CONGRATULATES EVERYONE ON INSIDERNJ'S 2019 POLICY MAKERS LIST!



New Jersey is blessed to have so many experienced, creative and dedicated policy minds working to make our state better every day. As legislators, it's imperative that we embrace innovative policy solutions to improve our communities, so thank you to the men and women who make it possible.

-Jamel Holley



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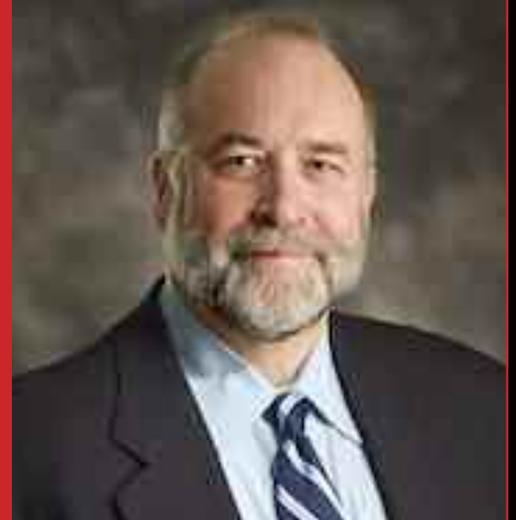
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82 CARL VAN HORN

Distinguished Professor of Public Policy at Rutgers University's Edward J. Bloustein's School, Van Horn clears the field on workforce, human resources, and employment policy issues.



83 DEBBIE MANS

The former head of the NY/NJ Baykeeper moved up as the Deputy Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection, right behind Commissioner Catherine McCabe, and possesses environmental policy chops, legislative skills, and organization credibility.



84 DAVID BANDER

The often bow-tied policy office Executive Director at the Department of Labor and Workforce Development – former chief of staff to Senator Linda Greenstein – offers the whole package of policy and political expertise. One of the brightest minds in the state.





85 GRACE STROM POWER

It's difficult to summon a name more wired into energy policy than the Mercer-based Power, chief of staff for the Board of Public Utilities.



86 AMOL SINHA

The Executive Director of the ACLU-NJ, Sinha touts a background in journalism and law and is regarded by his peers as a constitutional rights expert.



87 MARK PFEIFFER

Another Subcommittee Chair who helped author Sweeney's Path to Progress Report, Pfeiffer works at Rutgers University's Bloustein Local Government Research Center.





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88 ARLENE QUINONES PEREZ

A longstanding veteran player, she is also one of the state's most powerful attorneys. Formerly of the Carpenters Union, the Hunterdon County Democratic Committee Chair this year made full partner at the prestigious DeCotiis Law Firm.



89 PATRICIA CAMPOS MEDINA, PH.D.

The longtime Democratic Party leader, armed with a Ph.D. in Political Science from Rutgers-Newark, is an expert on labor and Hispanic issues and deep-crevices driver for more Latino representation and a close ally of Perth Amboy Mayor Wilda Diaz, the state's only Latina mayor. She's also the co-chair of the Bernie Sanders campaign in NJ.



90 SARA PENA

The LUPE Fund staple serves as Director of the Hispanic Policy Research Center. Respected.





91 UPENDRA CHIVUKULA

An engineer by trade, the former Assemblyman from Franklin Twp. sits on the Board of Public Utilities and combines a rare knowledge base on issues relating to science and Technology.



92 THEA SHERIDAN

The director of research for the Assembly GOP has the pulse of every committee and advises members on research and policy matters.



93 ZACH McCUE

A respected federal policy expert in the office of U.S. Senator Cory Booker (D-NJ), even more important now that his boss is seeking the 2020 Democratic presidential nomination.



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94 TOMMY CONNORS & CODY MCLAUGHLIN

With Connors as the legislative liaison and McLaughlin as a board member, the NJ Outdoor Alliance once had a strong ally in Governor Christie, and haven't shied away from standing up to Governor Murphy on issues affecting the world of sportsmen and hunters. Maintaining ties with legislators around the state, it was at their annual Wild Game Dinner that Governor Christie turned heads with a blistering condemnation of his successor.



95 LIZA ACEVEDO

A newer face in the world of the Statehouse, having been hired last year as Speaker Coughlin's deputy communications director, Acevedo has policy chops on economic and minority rights.



96 BRIAN QUIGLEY

General counsel for the Assembly Majority Office, Quigley staffs the Assembly Judiciary Committee and was selected as a NJ Law Journal 2019 Professional Excellence Awardee and a driving internal force in the Assembly's recently enacted anti-discrimination and anti-harassment policy.





97



SARAH BLUHM

Formerly Vice President for Energy & Environment for the NJBIA, the highly wired-in Bluhm serves as Business Ombudsman at the New Jersey State Board of Public Utilities.

98



SHAWN LaTOURETTE

Chief of Staff at New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). The environmental lawyer and policy wonk is that hands-on contact person for the high impact state agency.



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99 MIKE LILLEY



On the opposing side of the NJEA, the Princeton grad and former head of Better Education For Kids started the self-funded Sunlight Policy Center, which has released a steady stream of cited reports and studies that have turned heads at the Statehouse.

100 JONATHAN SCHARFF



An expert numbers cruncher at Kivvit, Scharff has developed policy to guide advocacy with the TTF, tech innovation, gaming expansion, economic development incentives, and the energy master plan. Scharff got his start as a policy researcher for the respected NJ Chamber of Commerce.



Congratulations to Insider 100: Policymakers!

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