

WEST VIRGINIA
Department of



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KAREN VILLANUEVA-MATKOVICH TO SERVE AS GENERAL COUNSEL FOR THE WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN RESOURCES

West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources Cabinet Secretary Karen Bowling today announced the appointment of Karen Villanueva-Matkovich as General Counsel for the Department, effective August 16, 2013.

“Karen’s vast experience and knowledge of both legal and health care matters compliments our team of dedicated individuals,” Cabinet Secretary Bowling said. “Karen has a history of public service, and I’m confident she will continue to serve the people well in this new capacity.”

Villanueva-Matkovich most recently served as a State Tax Division attorney with a focus on litigation and privacy tax law matters. Previously, she provided legal consultation to the pharmaceutical and biotech industry regarding regulatory and strategic issues in the areas of biomedicine, biotechnology, and more. Her past legal experience includes working as an Assistant Public Defender in the Beckley Public Defender’s Office.

A member of the West Virginia State Bar, Villanueva-Matkovich is a certified trained mediator, and has also earned her certificate in bioterrorism. Her community service includes previously serving as a member of the State AIDS Advisory Committee and the West Virginia Healthy Peoples 2010 Objectives. In 2004, the West Virginia Bureau of Public Health recognized her for Outstanding Service and Dedication to AIDS Awareness and HIV/AIDS Prevention.

A 1990 graduate of Pennsylvania State University, Villanueva-Matkovich later earned her Doctor of Jurisprudence from Rutgers University School of Law. She studied chemistry and medicine at Marshall University. Villanueva-Matkovich most recently earned a M.S. in Biotechnology with a concentration in regulatory affairs from John Hopkins University’s Zanvyl Krieger School of Arts and Sciences in 2009.

Karen is married to Mark Matkovich. They reside in Hurricane, W.Va.

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