

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Concord — December 15, 2011 — The Department of Revenue Administration (DRA)

Commissioner Kevin Clougherty Announces Tax Administrator of the Year Margaret "Missy" Fulton

State Tax Notes, a weekly magazine of the non-profit Tax Analysts, has announced the "Tax Administrator of the Year" is Margaret "Missy" Fulton, assistant commissioner of the New Hampshire Department of Revenue. The publication says Fulton was instrumental in successfully dealing with her department's severe budget cuts. NH DRA faced a sudden reduction in funding through the passage of the State's budget. DRA's budget was cut 30 percent; its staff cut 43 percent. The department lost 39 percent of its audit staff. Also, it lost funding for its entire call center and customer service unit, among many other key positions held by long time DRA employees. "Few leaders in government or the private sector could lead their organizations through such a cataclysmic budget crisis. Yet Fulton is credited by those in and outside New Hampshire with managing a seemingly unmanageable problem" cites State Tax Notes. Fulton is also credited with developing and advancing technology and management initiatives, including building decision analytics into the agency's legacy systems. The department's system and process re-engineering will allow it to work smarter, think differently, and react more effectively. The publication notes that "analytics the DOR is building into its legacy systems will provide for better-informed tax policy discussions across the state. More than one tax official told State Tax Notes that the innovations in New Hampshire will be studied and copied by many other states."

Before joining DRA in 2005, Fulton worked in the legal field in a variety of areas for 19 years. She served as an assistant attorney general for the New Hampshire Department of Justice. Fulton received her undergraduate and law degrees from Suffolk University in Boston. She has been DRA's assistant commissioner since 2005 and was the acting commissioner during the fall of 2008. She is now serving in her second term. She was selected as a 2010 Toll Fellow at the Council of State Governments.

New Hampshire Revenue Commissioner Kevin Clougherty had this to say about Fulton:

Over the past two years, Missy has been instrumental in implementing a number of technology and policy initiatives aimed at streamlining Department of Revenue operations and enhancing the content and transparency of information available to elected officials and the public. Missy's efforts will ensure that the state of New Hampshire's tax programs run reliably and efficiently well into the future. This is particularly important given the economic realities of today. Without question, the initiatives underway would not be successful if it were not for Missy's leadership.

Other top tax administrators include: Bruce Johnson, chair, Utah State Tax Commission; Linda Tanton, deputy comptroller, Maryland; Craig Burns, commissioner, Virginia Department of Taxation; and David Sullivan, administrator, Rhode Island Division of Taxation.