

Law & Industry Daily

Molinari to Lead Google's Lobbying Efforts

Friday, February 24, 2012 · [Leave a Comment \(Edit\)](#)

WASHINGTON, Feb. 24 (LID) – Former U.S. Rep. Susan Molinari (R-NY) will lead Google's policy team for the Americas, the company announced.

Molinari is principal at Susan Molinari Strategies, a lobbying firm she opened in 2010. She succeeds Alan Davidson, who had been at Google's Washington office since its opening in 2005.

Molinari previously worked for Bracewell and Giuliani LLP, and was also chair and CEO of the Washington Group.

As vice president of public policy and government relations for the Americas, the former congresswoman will direct Google's Washington lobbying efforts.

David Drummond, Google's senior vice president of corporate development and chief legal officer, said he is excited Molinari joined the company.

"She's a true trailblazer and her enthusiasm for our technology and its potential to change lives will be a real asset to our team in the Americas," Drummond said in a statement.

Google Inc., arguably, is among Washington's political heavy hitters. The Internet search and technology company spent more than \$3.7 million on lobbying just in the fourth quarter of 2011, disclosures indicate.

Molinari, 53, served three terms in the House of Representatives, from March 1990 to August 1997.

The only Republican in the New York City congressional delegation, Molinari was vice chairwoman of the Republican Conference and Republican Policy Committee.

Molinari succeeded her father, Rep. Guy Molinari, in representing Staten Island. She left Congress to co-anchor "CBS News Saturday Morning."

The well-connected Molinari is married to former Rep. Bill Paxon (R-N.Y.), a lobbyist at the prestigious Washington law firm of Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld.

Before running for Congress, Molinari served two terms in the New York City Council, where she was minority leader.

Molinari joins Google as the Internet company is being widely criticized for sweeping changes to its user privacy policy, beginning March 1.

On Wednesday, a bipartisan group of 37 state attorneys general sent Google Chief Executive Officer Larry Page a letter detailing their concerns.

The new privacy policy, the AGs said, "appears to invade consumer privacy" by automatically sharing personal information across the Google ecosystem, the group said.

The attorneys general said the upcoming privacy policy could make Google users' personal information "vulnerable to attack" by hackers and identity thieves.

The officials requested a meeting with Page "as soon as possible" so work can begin toward a mutually agreeable solution that protects consumer privacy.



Molinari in an appearance on CNN

Molinari holds a master's degree in communications from the State University of New York at Albany.