2012
**GUIDE TO THE STATE
ATTORNEYS GENERAL**

ORRICK

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Introduction

We trust that you will find Orrick's 2012 Guide
to the State Attorneys General ("Guide") to be a
useful resource as you think about your legal and
governmental strategies. On the following pages,
you will find a photo and information about the 2012
AGs: when they were first elected or appointed, their
political party affiliation, their top issue priority, and
some additional information about their background
and professional experience. We also include a U.S.
map that highlights the AG political landscape with
respect to party affiliation.

AGs are playing an increasingly active and powerful
role in their respective states and at the national
level. Whether it is enforcing their own state laws,
exercising their ever increasing enforcement
authority over many federal laws, launching
multistate investigations, or taking public policy
positions, AGs are expanding their influence
and receiving an unprecedented amount of
media attention.

The November 2011 election did not bring about
significant change to the Attorney General
landscape. Democratic AGs Jack Conway (KY) and Jim
Hood (MS) were elected to a second term. Attorney
General Caldwell, a Republican, was reelected.

Earlier this year, Republican Governor Chris Christie appointed his Chief Counsel and fellow Republican, Jeff Chiesa to replace then current Attorney General Paula Dow, a Democrat. And in response to an announcement by Attorney General John Burns that he would step down, Republican Governor Sean Parnell appointed lifelong Alaskan and trial attorney, Michael Geraghty, also a Republican.

The 2012 election season is gearing up to be one of great excitement and surprises. The AG races will be no different. There will be 11 AG races this coming November--five open seat elections (MT, PA, UT, OR and WA), five incumbents seeking reelection (MO, NC, IN, VT and WV), and 1 AG elected by the state legislature (ME). It should also be noted that current AGs Steve Bullock (MT) and Rob McKenna (WA), a Democrat and Republican respectively, are running for governor of their state. As always, please feel free to contact Lori Kalani at lkalani@orrick.com or at (212) 506-5116 to learn more about Orrick's AG practice.

ALABAMA

www.ago.state.al.us

Luther Strange / ★ / Republican

FIRST ELECTED: November 2, 2010
EXPERIENCE: Attorney
TOP PRIORITY: Fight public corruption
BACKGROUND: Nicknamed "Big Luther," Strange is regarded as one of Alabama's leading lawyers. Throughout his career, he has used his legal skills to promote economic development in all regions of the state. His experience includes negotiating the deal for the $1 billion Hyundai automotive plant in Montgomery and the $80 million Hudson-Alpha Biotech Research Institute in Huntsville. He has pledged to restore Alabamians' trust in government and bring business opportunities and jobs to the state.

ALASKA

www.law.state.ak.us

Michael Geraghty / ★ / Republican

FIRST APPOINTED: January 12, 2012
EXPERIENCE: Trial attorney
TOP PRIORITY: Protect Alaska's state sovereignty
BACKGROUND: Earlier this year, Attorney General Geraghty was appointed by Governor Sean Parnel to replace former Attorney General John Burns. On April 10, 2012, Geraghty's appointment was unanimously confirmed by the Alaska Legislature. A lifelong Alaskan, General Geraghty worked as a trial attorney for DeLisio, Moran, Geraghty & Zobel, P.C. since he graduated from law school in 1978. There, he specialized in complex litigation relating to natural resources, oil and gas, and construction. Since 2007, he has been selected in Best Lawyers in America in the specialties of construction law and personal litigation. In 2011 he was elected to the Fellows of the American Bar Foundation in recognition of his outstanding dedication to the community and profession of law. General Geraghty will take over as the state's top legal advisor in Alaska's involvement in the multistate lawsuit against President Barack Obama's health care legislation, as well as its battle with the federal government over the endangered species designations of beluga whales and polar bears.

ARIZONA

www.azag.gov

Tom Horne / ⭐ / Republican
FIRST ELECTED: November 2, 2010
EXPERIENCE: Superintendent of Public Instruction / State Representative / Attorney
TOP PRIORITY: Defend and secure Arizona's borders
BACKGROUND: As the former Superintendent of Public Instruction, Horne is well-known in Arizona as a result of his many television appearances over the past five years discussing the state's educational system. He will likely bring a different set of priorities to the AG's office than his Democratic predecessor, especially with regard to border control and immigration reform. As a former State Representative and someone who is familiar with the state legislative process, he is expected to work closely with Governor Brewer and the legislature to influence public policy over the next four years.

ARKANSAS

www.arkansasag.gov

Dustin McDaniel / Democrat
FIRST ELECTED: November 7, 2006
EXPERIENCE: Representative, Arkansas State House of Representatives / Attorney / Patrol Officer
TOP PRIORITY: Protect consumers from predatory lenders
BACKGROUND: The youngest AG in the nation and Co-Chair of the Democratic Attorneys General Association, McDaniel has worked effectively with Governor Mike Beebe and the state legislature to achieve successful resolutions to many of Arkansas' decades old problems. As a former police officer and now the state's top law enforcement officer, McDaniel is tough on fighting crime. Attorney General McDaniel has been a tireless consumer advocate who has been successful in recovering millions of dollars for the state by reaching settlements with companies who have engaged in deceptive advertising practices.

CALIFORNIA

www.oag.ca.gov

Kamala Harris / ⭐ / Democrat

FIRST ELECTED: November 2, 2010
EXPERIENCE: District Attorney / Managing Attorney of the Career Criminal Unit / Chief, Community and Neighborhood Division, Office of the San Francisco City Attorney / Deputy District Attorney
TOP PRIORITY: Fix California's revolving-door prison system
BACKGROUND: Kamala Harris made national headlines when she received the coveted endorsement of President Barack Obama. A career prosecutor, she made history when she became the first woman elected to serve as District Attorney in San Francisco, and as the first African American and South Asian American woman in California to hold the office. As District Attorney, she was responsible for the "Back On Track" initiative, a reentry program designed for nonviolent, first-time drug offenders. The state legislature then passed the Back On Track Reentry Act of 2009, which established the program as a model reentry program for California counties. Today, the National District Attorney's Association and U.S. Department of Justice use this program as a model reentry program for prosecutors' offices across the country. During her tenure as District Attorney, she also focused on fighting violent crime and implementing tough gun charging policies.

COLORADO

www.coloradoattorneygeneral.gov

John Suthers / Republican

FIRST ELECTED: Appointed in January 2005, first elected on November 7, 2006
EXPERIENCE: United States Attorney / Executive Director of the Colorado Department of Corrections
TOP PRIORITY: Protect children from Internet predators
BACKGROUND: Attorney General Suthers is a tireless public advocate who has been successful in generating millions of dollars for the state from companies that mislead consumers. He has a strong history of working well with the state legislature. During the 2009 legislative session, each of the legislative proposals from his office were passed into law by the state legislature. Tough but pragmatic, Suthers understands how to strike the right balance between protecting consumers and promoting an economic environment that allows business to be competitive.

CONNECTICUT

www.ct.gov/ag

George Jepsen / ⭐ / Democrat
FIRST ELECTED: November 2, 2010
EXPERIENCE: Attorney / State Senate
Majority Leader / State Representative
TOP PRIORITY: Create a stable
environment where businesses and
consumers can compete on a level
and open playing field
BACKGROUND: George Jepsen has
a 16-year history of involvement in
Connecticut politics as a former State Representative, State
Senator, Democratic State Party Chairman and candidate
for Lieutenant Governor. As Majority Leader of the Senate for
six years, he worked closely with business interests to find
common ground on many issues. He has strong ties to the
legislature and friends on both sides of the political aisle. It is
likely that Jepsen will play an active role with his AG colleagues
around the country.

DELAWARE

www.attorneygeneral.delaware.gov

Beau Biden / Democrat
FIRST ELECTED: November 7, 2006
EXPERIENCE: U.S. Attorney / JAG
TOP PRIORITY: Maintain and enforce
public safety
BACKGROUND: As a career prosecutor,
Attorney General Biden has actively
pursued measures to better protect
children, families and communities
across the state. In 2008, following
his father's (Vice President Joe Biden) acceptance to be on the
Democratic presidential ticket, Beau Biden was deployed to Iraq.
His deployment ended all speculation that he would run to fill his
father's vacant Senate seat in 2010. As AG, Biden spearheaded
the creation of the Delaware Department of Justice Child Predator
Unit to track and prosecute child sex offenders and helped
pass state legislation strengthening Delaware's sex offender
registry statute. He has demonstrated his willingness to engage
with Governor Jack Markell and a bipartisan coalition of state
lawmakers in order to achieve his goals.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA   www.oag.dc.gov/dc/oag

Irvin Nathan / ★ / Democrat
FIRST APPOINTED: December 16, 2010
EXPERIENCE: General Counsel of the
U.S. House of Representatives / Adjunct
Law Professor / U.S. Deputy Attorney
General / Attorney
TOP PRIORITY: Fight crime
BACKGROUND: As General Counsel of the
U.S. House of Representatives, Nathan
earned a reputation for being a tough
and aggressive lawyer. He is perhaps best known for his efforts
to enforce subpoenas against White House Counsel Harriet Miers
and Joshua Bolten. In his previous roles, Nathan spent more than
thirty years as a senior partner in private practice specializing
in white collar criminal defense, and several years as Deputy
Attorney General with the U.S. Department of Justice. As Attorney
General, Nathan is expected to implement an anti-crime strategy
that incorporates community policing, education, and even-
handed enforcement and arrests.

FLORIDA   www.myfloridalegal.com

Pam Bondi / ★ / Republican
FIRST ELECTED: November 2, 2010
EXPERIENCE: Assistant State Attorney /
Felony Bureau Chief
TOP PRIORITY: Crack down on scam artists
and fraud
BACKGROUND: Pam Bondi is a dedicated
public servant who has a reputation for
being fair and non partisan. With 18 years
of experience as a prosecutor, she will
be a conservative leader who will advocate for states' rights and
push back against any overreach by the federal government.
As AG, she will continue to apply pressure on BP to do everything
possible to bring about an efficient and effective claims process
to those individuals, businesses and government entities affected
by the gulf oil spill disaster. As Assistant State Attorney, her open
and inclusive style earned her high marks.

GEORGIA

www.law.ga.gov

Sam Olens / ⭐ / Republican
FIRST ELECTED: November 2, 2010
EXPERIENCE: Immediate past Chairman of the Cobb County Board of Commissioners and Atlanta Regional Commission / Attorney
TOP PRIORITY: Fight President Barack Obama's health care plan
BACKGROUND: Sam Olens has practiced law for more than twenty-five years.
He is the immediate past Chairman of the Cobb County Board of Commissioners, and in that role he balanced the budget every year. In 2004, he was elected Chairman of the Atlanta Regional Commission and in that role rejected the notion of two Georgias and promoted cohesion throughout Georgia. Olens will pursue all legal avenues to fight President Obama's health care plan, advocate for Georgia's water rights, and will fight to ensure immigration laws are enforced.

HAWAII

www.hawaii.gov/ag

David Louie / ⭐ / Democrat
FIRST APPOINTED: December 19, 2010
EXPERIENCE: Trial lawyer
TOP PRIORITY: Assist the Governor, the legislature, and the citizens of Hawaii
BACKGROUND: David Louie has thirty-three years of experience as a trial lawyer. He has broad legal expertise with a focus on personal injury defense, construction defense litigation, and commercial litigation. He has been named one of the Best Lawyers in America in 2011 and also recognized as a Hawaii super lawyer. Louie is a past-president, vice-president, and director of the Hawaii State Bar Association. As Attorney General, Louie will confront issues such as Medicaid and Medicare reimbursement and transitioning to a state-appointed Board of Education.

IDAHO
www.ag.idaho.gov

Lawrence Wasden / Republican
FIRST ELECTED: November 5, 2002
EXPERIENCE: Chief of Staff to the Attorney
General / Deputy Attorney General /
Attorney
TOP PRIORITY: Enforce firm and fair
criminal justice
BACKGROUND: A former Deputy Attorney
General, Lawrence Wasden's strong law
enforcement background serves him well
as AG. During his tenure, General Wasden has represented the
state in over 2,000 criminal appeals, vigorously promoted an open
government, consistently defended the state from attempts by the
federal government to preempt state law and recovered millions
of dollars for consumers. He has received many awards for his
efforts to reduce youth tobacco smoking and curb domestic
violence. Attorney General Wasden has served as a past President
of the National Association of Attorneys General and a past Chair
of the Conference of Western Attorneys General.

ILLINOIS
www.illinoisattorneygeneral.gov

Lisa Madigan / Democrat
FIRST ELECTED: November 5, 2002
EXPERIENCE: State Senator / Assistant
Dean of Wright College / Attorney
TOP PRIORITY: Safeguard women and
children from sexual predators
BACKGROUND: Attorney General Madigan
has garnered national attention for
bringing a high level of activism to the
AG's office. She has testified before
U.S. Congressional committees on consumer issues such as
consumer product safety laws and privacy. Despite her national
recognition, Madigan remains focused on protecting Illinois'
consumers on many fronts, including from scams and deceptive
practices. She has effectively advocated for legislation on behalf
of Illinois' homeowners.

INDIANA
www.in.gov/attorneygeneral

Greg Zoeller / Republican
FIRST ELECTED: November 4, 2008
EXPERIENCE: Chief Deputy to the Attorney General / Assistant to Vice President Dan Quayle / Senior Counsel to the House of Representatives Committee on Government Reform and Oversight
TOP PRIORITY: Exposing Medicaid fraud
BACKGROUND: As a former Chief Deputy to AG Steve Carter, Greg Zoeller is experienced, professional and has an astute understanding about how to manage his office. He has been a successful leader in exposing and prosecuting health care fraud. Earlier this year, he joined the state lawsuit challenging President Obama's health care plan, citing that the law raises serious constitutional questions.

IOWA
www.iowaattorneygeneral.org

Tom Miller / Democrat
FIRST ELECTED: Previously served from 1978-1990 and was elected to the office again on November 8, 1994
EXPERIENCE: Attorney
TOP PRIORITY: Protect consumers from fraud
BACKGROUND: Attorney General Miller has earned a reputation for integrity and high quality legal work. He has a long record of achieving results through cooperation with other state AGs and with local, state and federal officials, regardless of their political affiliation. He has served as a past President of the National Association of Attorneys General. Miller has been successful in achieving multi-state settlements against major tobacco and drug companies, and he is currently leading the 50-state working group investigating home foreclosure fraud.

KANSAS

www.ksag.org

Derek Schmidt / ⭐ / Republican
FIRST ELECTED: November 2, 2010
EXPERIENCE: State Senate Majority Leader / Assistant Kansas Attorney General / General Counsel to U.S. Senator Chuck Hagel
TOP PRIORITY: Advocate for a strong pro-growth, stable legal climate by promoting jobs and investment in the state

BACKGROUND: Derek Schmidt has a reputation as a fair-minded person with experience and perspective. As Senate Majority leader, he earned a reputation for trying to find common ground among diverse viewpoints. While in the Senate, he protected taxpayers by writing the law that created an independent office of inspector general to seek out waste, fraud and abuse in the massive Medicaid program. His ties to the Kansas legislature will likely serve him well as he tries to implement economic initiatives to development and job growth in the state.

KENTUCKY

www.ag.ky.gov

Jack Conway / Democrat
FIRST ELECTED: November 6, 2007
EXPERIENCE: Attorney / Deputy General Counsel and Deputy Cabinet Secretary to Governor Paul Patton
TOP PRIORITY: Crack down on Internet crimes
BACKGROUND: Attorney General Conway was elected to a second term in November 2011. As AG, he remains committed to getting results for the people of Kentucky. During his first term, he focused his efforts on vigorously prosecuting child predators and cracking down on Internet crimes. In June of 2008, Conway created a Cybercrimes Unit to investigate online solicitations of minors, scams and identity theft. In its first year, the Cybercrimes Unit launched 50 child pornography investigations and seized more than 34,000 images and videos. Additionally, he has received recognition for successfully reducing Medicaid fraud.

LOUISIANA

www.ag.louisiana.gov

James "Buddy" Caldwell /
Republican

ELECTED: November 6, 2007
EXPERIENCE: District Attorney
TOP PRIORITY: Fight Medicaid fraud
BACKGROUND: Attorney General Caldwell was elected to a second term in November 2011. In early 2011, he made headlines when he switched political parties to become a Republican. Prior to switching parties, Caldwell was the lone Democrat to sign on to challenge President Obama's health care plan. Regardless of political ideology, General Caldwell has always had a reputation for leading with conviction as opposed to political party ID. As a result of his almost three decades of service as a District Attorney, he maintains close working relationships with Louisiana's law enforcement officials and the U.S. Department of Justice. Caldwell is committed to protecting consumers from unfair and deceptive business practices.

MAINE

www.maine.gov/ag

William Schneider / ⭐ / Republican

FIRST ELECTED: December 2, 2010
EXPERIENCE: U.S. Assistant Attorney / State Representative
TOP PRIORITY: Challenge the federal healthcare bill
BACKGROUND: William Schneider was elected by the new majority Republican state legislature. Shortly after being elected, he announced that he opposes the federal health care law passed earlier this year and will work to have Maine join other states that have filed legal challenges. He has also pledged to stand-up for states' rights and protect the will of the people from an overreaching federal government.

MARYLAND

www.oag.state.md.us

Doug Gansler / Democrat
ELECTED: November 7, 2006
EXPERIENCE: State Attorney / Assistant United States Attorney
TOP PRIORITY: Protect the environment
BACKGROUND: As AG, Doug Gansler has focused on environmental, public safety and consumer issues, and has received national acclaim for focusing on Maryland's environment. He is a former Assistant to the current U.S. Attorney General, Eric Holder, and served as an adviser to the transition for the Obama Administration's Justice Department in 2008. As a federal prosecutor, he prosecuted several high-profile cases, including the Beltway snipers. Gansler has a proven track record of pursuing common sense solutions for consumers, including reducing refueling fees charged by car rental companies and improving the policies of cell phone insurers. Attorney General Gansler serves as the Vice President of the National Association of Attorneys General.

MASSACHUSETTS

www.mass.gov/ago

Martha Coakley / Democrat
ELECTED: November 7, 2006
EXPERIENCE: District Attorney
TOP PRIORITY: Protect consumers from scams and financial fraud
BACKGROUND: Martha Coakley is committed to her job as AG. A lifelong public servant, Coakley has a reputation for bringing people of diverse viewpoints to the table to find effective solutions. Her solid record as AG earned her the endorsement of the *Boston Herald,* a well-known conservative newspaper, in the 2010 election. Some of her most notable achievements include filing a first-in-the-nation lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of the federal Defense of Marriage Act and successfully advocating at the state legislature for a new identity theft law.

MICHIGAN

www.michigan.gov/ag

Bill Schuette / ⭐ / Republican

FIRST ELECTED: November 2, 2010

EXPERIENCE: Michigan Court of Appeals Judge / Attorney U.S. Representative / State Senate / Director Michigan Department of Agriculture

TOP PRIORITY: Fight crime

BACKGROUND: Bill Schuette brings with him a wide variety of professional experience to the AG's office. As a U.S. Congressman, he was an ardent supporter of President Ronald Reagan's revolution that advocated for lower taxes and a strong national defense. As a State Senator, Schuette played a key role in helping to build Michigan's economy, create jobs, reform welfare and pass tough laws to protect families from crime. As an appellate judge, he had a reputation for being tough and a strong defender of the Constitution.

MINNESOTA

www.ag.state.mn.us

Lori Swanson / Democrat

FIRST ELECTED: November 7, 2006

EXPERIENCE: Solicitor General / Deputy Attorney General / Attorney

TOP PRIORITY: Protect consumers from scams and fraud

BACKGROUND: Attorney General Swanson has continued the Minnesota AG office's long tradition of consumer advocacy and watchdog work. Working collaboratively with state lawmakers, Swanson has successfully advocated for the passage of numerous legal reforms, including the enactment of a nationally recognized predatory mortgage lending law and laws to protect children from cyberbullies and online predators. In addition, she has been active in protecting Minnesota's environment.

MISSISSIPPI

www.ago.state.ms.us

Jim Hood / Democrat
FIRST ELECTED: November 4, 2003
EXPERIENCE: Assistant Attorney General / District Attorney
TOP PRIORITY: Crack down on cyber crimes
BACKGROUND: Attorney General Hood was elected to a second term in November 2011. He is an aggressive prosecutor and dedicated public servant who has earned a reputation for being an advocate for Mississippi's consumers. After Hurricane Katrina ravaged the state, he worked to strengthen laws to protect consumers from home repair fraud, price gouging, identity theft and financial scams. Recently, he took the lead in helping victims of the BP oil spill receive proper compensation. Hood founded the nation's leading Cyber Crime Unit and Fusion Center, which serves as the hub from which state, federal and local agencies investigate and prosecute Internet predators who target children.

MISSOURI

www.ago.mo.gov

Chris Koster / Democrat
FIRST ELECTED: November 4, 2008
EXPERIENCE: State Senator / Prosecuting Attorney / Assistant Attorney General
TOP PRIORITY: Defend workers' rights
BACKGROUND: Attorney General Koster has earned a reputation as a tough prosecutor with a record of standing up to corporate interests on behalf of working families. In an age when crimes increasingly occur in cyberspace, Koster focuses on the unique threats that technological advances have posed to children. His strong law enforcement background and four years in the State Senate serve him well as AG. A lifelong supporter of organized labor, Koster is committed to protecting workers' rights, specifically prosecuting prevailing wage violators and employers who hire illegal immigrants as cheap labor. Interestingly, prior to his election as AG, he served in the State Senate as a Republican. Koster currently serves as a Co-Chair of the Democratic Association of Attorneys General.

MONTANA

www.doj.mt.gov

Steve Bullock / Democrat
FIRST ELECTED: November 4, 2008
EXPERIENCE: Attorney / Adjunct Professor of Law / Acting Chief Deputy Attorney General
TOP PRIORITY: Reduce drunk driving and prescription drug abuse
BACKGROUND: Attorney General Bullock has a broad range of experience in private practice, public service, and academia. He has led the effort to thwart drunk driving in his state through enforcement and strengthening of the law. Bullock has been a leader in multi-state efforts to promote compliance with state employment laws, focusing on employers who misclassify workers as independent contractors.

NEBRASKA

www.ago.ne.gov

Jon Bruning / Republican
FIRST ELECTED: November 5, 2002
EXPERIENCE: State Senator / Nebraska Supreme Court Justice / Attorney
TOP PRIORITY: Protect children from sexual predators
BACKGROUND: Attorney General Bruning is committed to ensuring the law applies equally to everyone. Appealing excessively lenient sentences, combined with his steadfast prosecution of elected officials who break the law, has earned him a reputation as "the People's Lawyer." Bruning has played a significant role in helping to stem the tide of methamphetamine use in Nebraska's communities by successfully working to increase penalties for meth traffickers and manufacturers. He has worked with state legislators to crack down on Internet predators and protect children from the dangers posed by the Internet. Having served six years as a State Senator, General Bruning has strong ties with the state legislature. He is the immediate past President of the National Association of Attorneys General.

NEVADA

www.ag.state.nv.us

Catherine Cortez-Masto / Democrat
FIRST ELECTED: November 7, 2006
EXPERIENCE: Assistant County Manager /
Assistant United States Attorney / Chief
of Staff to Governor Bob Miller
TOP PRIORITY: Fight against
mortgage fraud
BACKGROUND: Attorney General
Cortez-Masto's leadership has
earned her a reputation as a tough,
no-nonsense prosecutor. Under her leadership, the AG's office
has strengthened its relationship with local law enforcement
agencies. During the recent economic downturn, her office
has been aggressively investigating and prosecuting those
attempting to take advantage of Nevada's unprecedented
foreclosure crisis. She is an active participant and strong
negotiator, recently reaching a multi-state foreclosure relief
settlement with Countrywide.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

www.doj.nh.gov

Michael Delaney / Democrat
FIRST APPOINTED: August 2009
EXPERIENCE: Legal Counsel to Governor
Lynch / Deputy Attorney General /
Homicide Unit Chief / Assistant Attorney
General / Attorney
TOP PRIORITY: Protect consumers from
financial fraud and scams
BACKGROUND: Attorney General Delaney
spent ten years working in the Office of
Attorney General before being appointed to serve as the state's
top law enforcement officer and chief legal counsel. During his
years as a prosecutor, he focused on white-collar crime and
homicide. He received national attention and praise from the
FBI for his successful prosecution of Robert Tulloch and James
Parker for the murders of Dartmouth college professors Half and
Suzanne Zantop. As the Governor's legal counsel, he played an
instrumental role in helping to craft legislation to protect children
from sexual predators and online exploitation.

NEW JERSEY

www.state.nj.us/oag

Jeffrey Chiesa / ⭐ / Republican
FIRST APPOINTED: December 12, 2011
EXPERIENCE: Chief Counsel to Governor Christie / Executive Director of Governor Christie's Transition Team / Executive Assistant U.S. Attorney / Counsel to the U.S. Attorney / Chief of the Public Protection Unit / private practice attorney
TOP PRIORITY: Curb prescription drug abuse

BACKGROUND: On January 10, 2012, Jeffrey Chiesa was confirmed by the New Jersey Senate to be replace Paula Dow as New Jersey's Attorney General. Prior to being sworn in as AG, Chiesa served as Chief Counsel to Governor Chris Christie from January 2010 through December 2011, when he was nominated to be AG. Prior to his appointment as Chief Counsel, Chiesa served as Executive Director of Governor Christie's Transition Team. He also previously served a partner at the law firm of Wolf & Samson in their litigation group. He worked in the U.S. Attorney's Office in the District of New Jersey from 2002 – 2009 in a number of roles including Executive Assistant U.S. Attorney, Counsel to the U.S. Attorney and as Chief of the Public Protection Unit. Shortly after being confirmed as AG, Chiesa introduced the New Jersey Prescription Monitoring Program (NJPMP), a new drug monitoring program aimed at fighting prescription drug abuse and diversion.

NEW MEXICO

www.nmag.gov

Gary King / Democrat
FIRST ELECTED: November 7, 2006
EXPERIENCE: State Representative / Policy Advisor at U.S. Department of Energy / Attorney
TOP PRIORITY: Crack down on human trafficking
BACKGROUND: Attorney General King is a former State Representative who served in the legislature for 12 years and held the position of Chairman of the Consumer and Public Affairs Committee. As AG, he spearheaded the effort to pass legislation that, for the first time, made it a felony crime in New Mexico to engage in the practice of human trafficking. Additionally, he led an effort by AGs to assist law enforcement in Mexico in their fight against corruption and cartels. King serves as the Chair of the Conference of Western Attorneys General and Co-Chair of the Democratic Attorneys General Association. He is the only AG in the nation who is also a scientist with a Ph.D. in organic chemistry.

NEW YORK

www.ag.ny.gov

Eric Schneiderman / ⭐ / Democrat
FIRST ELECTED: November 2, 2010
EXPERIENCE: State Senator / Attorney
TOP PRIORITY: Fight public corruption
BACKGROUND: Eric Schneiderman has a reputation for sound judgment, legal expertise and political independence. His accomplishments as State Senator include helping pass the most sweeping ethics reforms in a generation, the Clinic Access Bill to protect a woman's right to choose, hate crimes legislation, legislation to increase the minimum wage and a host of environmental and civil rights laws. Schneiderman's top priority will be restoring trust in state government by waging a 24/7 campaign against corruption, waste, fraud and abuse and ensuring that elected officials are held accountable for the use of every tax dollar.

NORTH CAROLINA

www.ncdoj.gov

Roy Cooper / Democrat
FIRST ELECTED: November 7, 2000
EXPERIENCE: State Senator / State Representative / Attorney
TOP PRIORITY: Protect children from online predators and pornography
BACKGROUND: In his third term as AG, Attorney General Cooper's chief objectives include finding ways to detect and prevent financial scams that put people further into debt and hurt businesses, make financial products fair to consumers and help prevent future financial calamities. As AG, he has been on the forefront of the fight against Internet predators and is responsible for leading the national AG task force that developed and implemented an age verification system for online social networking sites. He currently serves as the President of the National Association of Attorneys General.

NORTH DAKOTA

www.ag.state.nd.us

Wayne Stenehjem / Republican
FIRST ELECTED: November 7, 2000
EXPERIENCE: State Senator / State Representative
TOP PRIORITY: Drug enforcement
BACKGROUND: Seasoned in both houses of the legislature for more than 20 years, Attorney General Stenehjem has a broad understanding of state government and the law. Since taking office, he has made drug enforcement a priority, proposing legislation to develop a drug enforcement initiative, which coordinates law enforcement and health and human service agencies, as well as addiction counseling, youth education and stronger penalties for offenders. Specifically, he has worked to enact and enforce legislation to curb methamphetamine, which has resulted in a dramatic reduction in the production and use of meth in North Dakota. Attorney General Stenehjem is the past Chair of the Republican Attorneys General Association.

OHIO

www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov

Mike DeWine / ⭐ / Republican
ELECTED: November 2, 2010
EXPERIENCE: U.S. Senator / Lieutenant Governor / U.S. Representative / State Senator / County Prosecutor
TOP PRIORITY: Fight crime
BACKGROUND: Mike DeWine has an extensive background as a public servant at the state and national level. As Attorney General he will focus on improving Ohio's business climate, supporting local law enforcement, and ending corruption in government. DeWine has promised that on his first day in office he will join the lawsuit against President Obama's health care plan.

OKLAHOMA

www.oag.state.ok.us

Scott Pruitt / ⭐ / Republican
FIRST ELECTED: November 2, 2010
EXPERIENCE: State Senator / Attorney /
Co-owner and managing general partner
of the Oklahoma City Redhawks triple-A
baseball team
TOP PRIORITY: Advance the principles
of liberty, limited government and the
rule of law
BACKGROUND: Scott Pruitt has an
overwhelming passion of the U.S. Constitution and, as AG,
has vowed to proactively defend it on the state and federal
levels. He has pledged to create a Federalism unit in the AG's
office designed to focus on constitutional issues. As Assistant
Republican Floor Leader for four years, he was the leading
spokesperson for workers' compensation reform, lawsuit reform,
greater accountability for government spending and traditional,
faith-based values. As AG, Pruitt will fight for limited government
and liberty and says he will stand unapologetically for the truths
of the Constitution.

OREGON

www.doj.state.or.us

John Kroger / Democrat
FIRST ELECTED: November 4, 2008
EXPERIENCE: Assistant U.S. Attorney /
Law Professor / Marine
TOP PRIORITY: Fight crime
BACKGROUND: Attorney General Kroger
has devoted his entire life to public
service as a United States Marine, federal
prosecutor, public policy expert and
teacher. He is committed to fostering
a more positive business climate in Oregon, which has one of the
highest unemployment rates in the nation. Kroger has instituted
several initiatives, including forming the Attorney General's
Business Advisory Council to develop new ideas for growing
Oregon's economy and streamlining Oregon's technology
transfer process to help create new high-tech businesses.
Kroger is working on a major overhaul of Oregon's drug
treatment and prevention program, as he believes substance
abuse is the root cause of crime.

PENNSYLVANIA

www.attorneygeneral.gov

Linda Kelly / ★ / Party: Unknown, Republican Appointee

FIRST APPOINTED: February 8, 2011

EXPERIENCE: Senior Litigation Counsel / Acting U.S. Attorney / U.S. Attorney for the Western District of Pennsylvania / Assistant District Attorney in Allegheny County

TOP PRIORITY: Fight crime

BACKGROUND: Linda Kelly has been nominated by Governor Tom Corbett—the previous AG—to succeed him to as the state's top law enforcement official. Kelly is a career federal prosecutor who has served numerous roles in the Pittsburgh U.S. Attorney's Office, including Acting U.S. Attorney and most recently as Senior Litigation Counsel. Following the September 11th terrorist attacks, Kelly served as anti-terrorism coordinator and as liaison to other federal, state and local law enforcement agencies in the western part of the state. During a press conference announcing Kelly as his nominee, Governor Corbett stated, "Kelly possesses the experience, judgment and commonsense needed for the job." Pending confirmation by the State Senate, she would be Pennsylvania's second female AG.

RHODE ISLAND

www.riag.ri.gov

Peter Kilmartin / ★ / Democrat

FIRST ELECTED: November 2, 2010

EXPERIENCE: State Representative / Police Officer

TOP PRIORITY: Crack down on financial scams

BACKGROUND: Peter Kilmartin has a strong law enforcement background and more than twenty years in the state legislature. As a State Representative, he helped pass laws to protect children from predators, create a witness protection program and mandate that mortgage companies that seize people's homes pay property taxes. As AG, Kilmartin has vowed to strengthen the economic security of Rhode Islanders by going after scam artists and any others who seek to benefit from dishonest fiscal practices.

SOUTH CAROLINA

www.scattorneygeneral.org

Alan Wilson / ⭐ / Republican
FIRST ELECTED: November 2, 2010
EXPERIENCE: Attorney / Assistant Attorney General / Major in the National Guard
TOP PRIORITY: Fight to block unconstitutional efforts by the federal government
BACKGROUND: Alan Wilson has a distinguished military and prosecutor background. As AG, Wilson has pledged to take the lead in the battle to fight President Obama's health care plan. He is active with the South Carolina National Guard and currently serves as a Judge Advocate General, where he provides legal support for soldiers and prosecutes military crimes.

SOUTH DAKOTA

www.atg/sd/gov

Marty Jackley / Republican
FIRST ELECTED: Appointed by the Governor on September 4, 2009; elected by the voters on November 2, 2010
EXPERIENCE: U.S. Attorney / Special Assistant to the Attorney General / Attorney
TOP PRIORITY: Fight crime and protect children from sexual predators
BACKGROUND: Attorney General Jackley's extensive trial experience in federal and state courts through both criminal and civil litigation serves him well as AG. He has a record of leading an office that protects families and is committed to crime prevention. He has worked closely with the state legislature to strengthen the sex offender registry, and develop a prescription drug monitoring program that emphasizes prevention over prosecution. A strong supporter of limited government, Jackley was one of the first AGs to join the lawsuit against President Obama's health care plan.

TENNESSEE

www.tn.gov/attorneygeneral

Robert E. Cooper, Jr. / Democrat
APPOINTED: Appointed by the Tennessee Supreme Court to serve an eight-year term in October 2006
EXPERIENCE: Legal Counsel to Governor Phil Bredesen / Attorney
TOP PRIORITY: Fight health care fraud and predatory lenders
BACKGROUND: Attorney General Cooper has the dual role of AG and Reporter. In the exercise of his Reporter function, Cooper reports the opinions of the Tennessee Supreme Court and Court of Appeals. As an officer of the state's judicial branch, he was appointed by the Tennessee Supreme Court. As AG, he has led a task force that prosecutes health care provider fraud cases ranging from off-label marketing of drugs, fraudulent billing, and kickbacks to physicians. Cooper has also been very effective in fighting against predatory lenders that target low-income families. Most recently, he joined several members of the state legislature and AT&T in a statewide effort to discourage teens from texting while driving.

TEXAS

www.oag.state.tx.us

Greg Abbott / Republican
FIRST ELECTED: November 5, 2002
EXPERIENCE: Attorney / Justice of the Texas Supreme Court / Law Professor
TOP PRIORITY: Fight crime
BACKGROUND: Attorney General Abbott has made protecting children, families, and values the focus of his administration. He established a Cyber Crimes Unit to arrest criminals who use the Internet to prey upon children and a Fugitive Unit to arrest convicted sex offenders who violate their parole. A staunch advocate of states' rights, he has received national attention by bringing Texas into lawsuits challenging the Environmental Protection Agency, Gulf of Mexico oil drilling bans, and the new national health care law. Abbott also filed a friend of the court brief in support of Arizona's illegal immigration law.

UTAH

www.attorneygeneral.utah.gov

Mark Shurtleff / Republican

FIRST ELECTED: November 7, 2000

EXPERIENCE: Deputy County Attorney / Assistant Attorney General

TOP PRIORITY: Prosecute Internet predators

BACKGROUND: Now serving as the first three-term AG in Utah history, Attorney General Shurtleff is known for being technologically savvy and has received attention for his use of social media to communicate directly with the people of Utah. His Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force has received national recognition for arresting and convicting hundreds of Internet predators and child pornographers. Shurtleff is committed to developing the Identity Theft Reporting and Information System, a website that is a one stop resource for victims to file online complaints.

VERMONT

www.atg.state.vt.us

Bill Sorrell / Democrat

FIRST ELECTED: Originally appointed by Governor Howard Dean in 1997, he has won reelection seven times

EXPERIENCE: Governor Dean's Secretary of Administration / County Deputy State Attorney

TOP PRIORITY: Protect the environment and public health

BACKGROUND: As one of the longest serving AGs, who must run for reelection every two years, Attorney General Sorrell has been described as "a giant killer" for his longstanding willingness to take on powerful interests when the well-being of Vermonters has been at stake. He is a strong advocate for the environment and the agricultural community, and he understands the importance of both issues to the state's economy. Sorrrell is a past President of the National Association of Attorneys General.

VIRGINIA

www.oag.state.va.us

Ken Cuccinelli / Republican
FIRST ELECTED: November 3, 2009
EXPERIENCE: State Senator / Attorney
TOP PRIORITY: Challenge President Obama's health care plan
BACKGROUND: Attorney General Cuccinelli has earned the media's attention and the Tea Party's adoration with his high-profile challenge to President Obama's health care bill. He is currently working with the state legislature in an effort to institute a statute similar to Arizona's immigration reform bill. Known for his hard-line stances on social issues, Cuccinelli issued a legal opinion in the summer of 2010 advising the state to tighten regulation of abortion clinics. As AG, he has also taken a lead role investigating and prosecuting Medicaid fraud and Internet predators.

WASHINGTON

www.atg.wa.gov

Rob McKenna / Republican
FIRST ELECTED: November 2, 2004
EXPERIENCE: Attorney
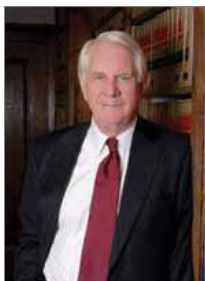TOP PRIORITY: Combat mortgage and foreclosure fraud
BACKGROUND: Attorney General McKenna has successfully defended campaign finance reform, the top-two primary election system, and the state public records law before the U.S. Supreme Court. McKenna's ongoing priorities include making communities in Washington safer by protecting consumers and businesses from identity theft, Internet predators, and cyber crimes. He is committed to promoting integrity in government by defending the state's laws, implementing new performance management initiatives in his office and encouraging open access to government. McKenna currently serves as the current Chair of the Republican Attorneys General Association and will be inducted as the President of the National Association of Attorneys General in June of 2011.

WEST VIRGINIA

www.oag.dc.gov

Darrell McGraw / Democrat
FIRST ELECTED: November 3, 1992
EXPERIENCE: Chief Justice, West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals / Counsel to the State Legislature / Army
TOP PRIORITY: Protect consumers from illegal marketing practices
BACKGROUND: Since being elected Attorney General in 1992, McGraw has vigorously prosecuted violators of the state's consumer protection act and antitrust laws. The McGraw family goes back five generations and is a household name in the state, with his brother being the former West Virginia State Supreme Court Justice and State Senate President. McGraw carries a reputation as a devoted public servant and a humble man, grounded in his roots.

WISCONSIN

www.doj.state.wi.us

J.B. Van Hollen / Republican
FIRST ELECTED: November 7, 2006
EXPERIENCE: United State Attorney / District Attorney
TOP PRIORITY: Fight crime
BACKGROUND: Attorney General Van Hollen has been successful at improving the efficiency of the state's crime labs. When he first entered the AG's office, Van Hollen identified the backlog of forensic DNA evidence at the state crime labs as his administration's number one priority. He has worked to find new efficiencies, create partnerships with agencies and train additional DNA analysts to tackle the problem. Today, under Van Hollen's leadership, the DNA backlog has been eliminated. A fiscal conservative, he has returned more than $1 million to the state treasuries and continues to work to find efficiencies that save the taxpayers' money.

WYOMING

www.attorneygeneral.state.wy.us

Greg Phillips / ⭐ / Democrat
FIRST APPOINTED: November 22, 2010
EXPERIENCE: Federal Prosecutor /
State Senator / Attorney
TOP PRIORITY: Join other states in
challenging the federal healthcare
overhaul bill
BACKGROUND: Republican Governor
elect-Matt Mead appointed Greg Phillips,
a Democrat. As a long time federal
prosecutor and former two-term State Senator, he has broad
legal, legislative and policy experience. Phillips has publicly
stated that he will study the federal healthcare bill and make
a decision as to whether Wyoming will join the other states in
challenging the constitutionality of the bill. As Attorney General,
he will be charged with overseeing Wyoming's legal challenge
to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's rejection of the state's
proposed wolf management plan.

ORRICK