

# Amanda Lefton

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(b) (6)

## Energy and Environment Experience

### FIRST ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR ENERGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT | GOVERNOR ANDREW CUOMO | FEBRUARY 2019-PRESENT

- Manage a portfolio of 12 New York State energy and environment-related agencies with over 10,000 employees including: hands on project management, policy development, and day-to-day operations.
- Advise senior staff and Governor Cuomo on a diverse suite of issues while managing commissioners to ensure their agencies meet key objectives and project milestones.
- Oversee development, outreach, negotiations and implementation for critical energy and environmental policies and programs including: the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act, large scale renewable energy deployment, environmental funding in the State Budget, conservation of critical lands and waters, and addressing emerging contaminants in communities.
- Meet with key stakeholders on behalf of Governor Cuomo, and liaise with the state legislature and municipal governments on legislative, budgetary and local issues.
- Collaborate with the Governor's communications team on rapid response, crisis management and announcing key initiatives.

### DEPUTY POLICY DIRECTOR/CLIMATE MITIGATION LEAD | THE NATURE CONSERVANCY IN NY | OCTOBER 2011-FEBRUARY 2019

- Managed climate mitigation strategy on behalf of the New York Division.
- Developed policy priorities and strategies for advancing them including climate mitigation and resilience, ocean conservation, forest protection, resulting in successful passage and enactment of major environmental policies in New York. .
- Led successful campaigns to secure public funding to further the organization's conservation priorities, including shaping large-scale investments in water quality and record investments in the Environmental Protection Fund.
- Built and maintained coalitions with external partners, including non-traditional allies, to advance The Nature Conservancy's agenda.
- Co-led, along with the Executive Director, the New York Division's effort to become a more diverse, equitable and inclusive organization.

## Additional Experience

### DIRECTOR, ALBANY DISTRICT | ROCHESTER REGIONAL JOINT BOARD OF WORKERS UNITED | AUGUST 2009-SEPTEMBER 2011

- Led the Albany District of the Rochester Regional Joint Board of Workers United, a region spanning from the Hudson Valley to Plattsburgh and from Albany to Binghamton with nearly 1,800 members.
- Served as the primary external contact between the Union, elected officials and the community at large in the Capital Region.
- Negotiated multiple contracts on behalf of the Union's membership with large international corporations.
- Managed the Albany District staff and created a comprehensive plan to advance the Union's priorities, including organizing campaigns and political engagement.

### LEGISLATIVE ASSOCIATE | NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY | MARCH 2008-AUGUST 2009

- Promoted Assemblymember Kevin Cahill's legislative priorities and the interests of the people he represents.
- Advocated for the passage of major energy reforms, including "Green Jobs, Green New York" and net-metering.
- Drafted legislation and memoranda.
- Developed and organized media strategies and press conferences in coordination with the communications team.

### POLITICAL ORGANIZER | NEW YORK STATE SENATE | OCTOBER 2007-MARCH 2008

- Led multiple political and community campaigns.
- Developed strategies and solutions with stakeholders on local issues that presented challenges for the region.

## Education

BACHELOR OF ARTS | (b) (6) | UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY