



# The Office Of State Treasurer Shawn T. Wooden

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## News

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### **TREASURER WOODEN NAMES SIX TO KEY STAFF POSITIONS** *HIRES DEMONSTRATE COMMITMENT TO QUALIFICATIONS, EXPERIENCE, ETHICS*

(HARTFORD, CT) - State Treasurer Shawn T. Wooden has filled six key positions in his administration that demonstrate his commitment to hiring highly-qualified candidates with diverse backgrounds and professional experience.

“Having oversight of more than \$60 billion in state assets is an enormous responsibility, both for me and for every member of my staff,” Wooden said. “I am building a team with deep and varied experiences in both the public and private sector because the complex issues facing the state and the Treasurer’s office demand no less. Just as importantly, these women and men share my commitment to upholding the highest ethical principles in every facet of our wide-ranging work for the people of Connecticut.”

The six staff members, which include four women and three people of color, are:

#### **Linda R. Savitsky, Deputy Treasurer**

Savitsky most recently was principal of LRS Consulting Services, which advises local and regional governments within Connecticut and Massachusetts. She previously was Director of Municipal Finance Services for the state Office of Policy and Management, and served as President of the Government Finance Officers Association of the U.S. and Canada. She formerly was CEO of the National Association of State Retirement Administrators, and also was Assistant Executive Director for Finance and Operations of the Capitol Region Education Council.

#### **John Ruben Flores, General Counsel**

Flores worked in the financial services industry in various legal positions over the past 35 years, most recently as General Counsel and Vice President of Boston Mutual Life Insurance Company. He previously worked at the Phoenix Companies, Inc. of Hartford as head of litigation and chief compliance officer, as well as Connecticut Mutual Life Insurance Company. He also served for 10 years on the pension oversight board in Newington, and is a member of the Connecticut Hispanic Bar Association.

#### **Sarah Sanders, Assistant Treasurer for Debt Management**

Sanders returns to the position she held with the Treasury from 2007 to 2017, when her responsibilities included structuring Connecticut bond financings and managing an outstanding debt portfolio of \$24 billion under several financing programs. Prior to that she was a debt management

specialist at the Treasury from 1997 to 2007. Most recently, she was Director of Finance at Rhode Island Housing in Providence, where she was a senior manager assisting single-family, multi-family and leased housing business units.

**Barbara Housen, Deputy General Counsel and Chief Compliance Officer**

Housen has more than 25 years of experience with Connecticut state regulatory agencies, concentrating on ethics, compliance and government affairs. She most recently served as the founding General Counsel at the Office of State Ethics, where for 12 years she led the legal division and served as chief counsel to the nine-member Citizen’s Ethics Advisory Board. She was also responsible for overseeing the Ethics and Compliance Educational and Training Program for over 50,000 state employees and approximately 2,000 lobbyists. She is a member of the George W. Crawford Black Bar Association.

**Jennifer Putetti, Assistant Counsel and Legislative Liaison**

Most recently, Putetti was Chief of Staff for Lt. Governor Nancy Wyman. She managed daily operations of the office, advised the Lt. Governor on various policy issues, and served as liaison to the Office of the Governor, legislators, advocates, and state agencies. She previously worked for the Office of Policy and Management as a Legislative and Administrative Advisor, helping develop the administration’s position on legislation, reviewing agency regulations and legislative proposals, and drafting legislation and policy memos.

**Aundré Bumgardner, Outreach Coordinator**

Aundré is a former State Representative for Groton and New London who in 2014 at the age of 20 was the youngest member ever to be elected to the Connecticut General Assembly. As a legislator, he served on the Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee. He currently serves on the Groton Town Council, where he has focused his efforts on economic development issues. His work for the Treasurer will include constituent services, community engagement and assisting in legislative affairs.

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