



Commissioner Brad Avakian
Bureau of Labor & Industries

Press Release

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Labor Commissioner Appoints New Deputy, Division Administrator

Former Deputy Labor and Industries Commissioner has retired

PORTLAND - Oregon Labor and Industries Commissioner Brad Avakian, chief of the state's Bureau of Labor and Industries, has elevated two long-time employees of the Wage and Hour Division to higher posts in the agency. The recent retirement of the agency's Deputy Commissioner, Doug McKean, gave Avakian the opportunity to name a new Deputy, now-former Wage and Hour Division (WHD) Administrator Christie Hammond, and to promote WHD Compliance Manager Gerhard Taeubel to the Administrator position.

"Doug has been an exemplary public servant for many years, and has certainly earned the happy retirement that I and all the staff at BOLI wish for him," said Avakian. "While the loss of Doug's expertise will be difficult for the agency, we are very fortunate to have someone as talented as Christie Hammond, who has spent her career working up through the ranks here at BOLI, willing to step up and help lead the agency."

Doug McKean served more than 20 years at BOLI, including as a WHD Compliance Specialist, Case Presenter, Administrative Law Judge and Deputy Commissioner. Prior to his appointment as Deputy in 2007, McKean served as an attorney in the Office of Legislative Counsel, drafting much of the legislation BOLI is charged with enforcing. Hammond is a 36-year veteran of the agency, beginning as a clerical specialist with the Apprenticeship and Training Division and performing with distinction at every level of the WHD. As Administrator of the WHD, Hammond has been the state's top enforcement official for ensuring that fair wages are paid to the working Oregonians who have earned them.

"Ensuring equal pay for equal work is a reality in Oregon, and expanding access to career and technical education in public schools that leads to living wage jobs—I'm thrilled to be a part of these major policy efforts," Hammond said. "BOLI's role in protecting the workplace rights and civil rights of all Oregonians is critical to the overall health of our economy, and becoming more important all the time."

Both Hammond and Taeubel are working in their new roles now.

Visit www.oregon.gov/BOLI for more information about all of BOLI's work to protect workers' rights and support local employers in Oregon.

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The mission of the Bureau of Labor and Industries is to protect employment rights, advance employment opportunities, and protect access to housing and public accommodations free from discrimination.