

Michellene Davis Esq. Bio

Michellene Davis, Esq., is Senior Vice President for Policy Development and Government Affairs for Barnabas Health. Barnabas Health is NJ's largest healthcare system with over two million patient encounters and nearly 5000 doctors it is also the state's second largest private employer with over 18,000 employees. In her current role, Ms. Davis helps to direct the strategic policy decisions of the system and enhances the system's position with state and federal elected officials and agencies. Prior to joining Barnabas Health, Ms. Davis served as Chief Policy Counsel to a former New Jersey Governor.

As the Governor's Chief Policy Counsel, the first African American to serve in this position, Ms. Davis provided oversight of the development and implementation of the Governor's policy initiatives. She served as Senior Special Counsel from 2008-2009, advising on issues ranging from education to urban redevelopment and from crime prevention to judicial and prosecutorial appointments resulting in New Jersey's record number of judges of color.

The first African American State Treasurer, Michellene was responsible for administrating a state budget of over 30 billion dollars, a department of over 6,500 people and a state pension investment portfolio of \$70 billion. In this position, Ms. Davis established the New Jersey Department of the Treasury's Office of Supplier Diversity and Division of Minority and Women owned businesses.

In years prior, Michellene served as the youngest director of the New Jersey Lottery and as a Senior Policy Advisor in the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services. She is a lawyer and trial litigator, by training and is an Honors graduate of Seton Hall University and holds a Juris Doctorate from Seton Hall University School of Law.

Davis is also active in her civic community and has been a member of the NAACP, the Urban League, the Garden State Bar and has served as chair of its Legislative Affairs Committee, the Association of Black Women Lawyers, the New Jersey State Bar Association, and, is currently on the Corporate Advisory Board of the Boys and Girls Clubs of New Jersey, the Advisory Board of Playworks, Inc., the Board of Trustees of Essex County College, the Women's Political Caucus of New Jersey, the Board of Directors of the Caucus New Jersey Educational Trust; the Board of Visitors of Sacred Heart University and, the Board of the New Jersey Legislative Black Caucus. Michellene also serves as a mentor to young girls through her affiliation with the Esther Project and the New Jersey Educational Opportunity Fund and other organizations throughout New Jersey.

Listed as one of the most influential people in New Jersey politics, Davis has received numerous recognition awards and was a 2011 recipient of the Shirley Chisholm Health Award by New Jersey Speaker Shelia Oliver, the 2011 New Jersey Primary Care Association Women's Health Care Week Award, the YWMCA 2011 Living Legends Award, the 2010 Babyland Family Services, Inc., Martha Palmer Chaneyfield Award, the 2009 National Council of Negro Women Bethune Recognition Award, the Garden State Bar Association 2009 Roger M. Yancey Award, The Network Journal "Forty under 40 Award", the 2008 Association of Black Women Lawyers Young Lawyer of the Year Award and, the 2006 New Jersey State Bar Association/Garden State Bar Association Professional Lawyer of the Year Award among others.