

County Native Appointed To State Health Care Council

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A Conewango Valley native has been appointed by Gov. Andrew Cuomo to a position on a state health care council.

Kathleen Carver Cheney, a partner at Novack Burnbaum Crystal, which is a New York City law firm, has been appointed to serve as a member of the state Public Health and Health Planning Council.

The council is the final decision maker for certificate of need applications for the establishment and change of ownership of hospitals, diagnostic and treatment centers.

The council adopts and amends regulations relating to health care facilities, subject to the approval of the commissioner, and provides an appeals process for matters of professional discipline.

The council is a major player in supporting the transformation of New York's health care delivery system, supporting the integration of new care and payment models.

Other matters of broad public

health importance, such as disaster planning and management of communicable diseases, are also brought before the council.

"I was a graduate of Pine Valley Central School," Cheney said.

"I feel like I received a quality education and received a good background to help me in my future career."

Cheney has been both a nurse and a health care attorney during her career.

She served as a nurse for more than 10 years in various New York City hospitals, receiving her master's in nursing at NYU.

"I wanted a change so I went to NYU law school and have been practicing in health care ever since, especially long-term care," she said.

"I've spent my entire career in health care.

"This is a culmination of a commitment I have to health care.

"I want to make a difference and bring my expertise as a nurse and a lawyer to serve the council."

Cheney said she hasn't been

appointed to any of the council's committees yet, but expects to be added to the establishment committee.

Also, she added that she would like to be on the professional discipline review committee.

"That committee is for doctors and other professionals who had a negative outcome as far as professional conduct and want to appeal to a higher body," she said.

As a Novack Burnbaum Crystal partner, Cheney will continue to represent a range of health care providers with a focus on longterm and post-acute care. Her clients include skilled nursing facilities, adult care facilities, assisted living, home health agencies, hospices, managed long-term care plans and commercial lenders in the areas of acquisitions, regulatory compliance, finance, real estate, fraud and abuse, compliance, Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement, survey and certification, certificate of need, Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act privacy and end-of-life issues.



Conewango Valley native Kathleen Carver Cheney has been appointed to the state Public Health and Health Planning Council. The Pine Valley Central School graduate has been both a nurse and a health care attorney during her career.

Submitted photo