

news

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Governor-Elect Eliot Spitzer names Homeland Security Chief

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Christine Anderson

canderson@spitzer2006.com

917-981-2725

TRANSITION OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR-ELECT AND LT.
GOVERNOR-ELECT

Appoints Long Island Senator to Top Administration Position

Albany, N.Y. (December 26, 2006) -- Governor-Elect Eliot Spitzer today announced the appointment of Senator Michael Balboni to be Deputy Secretary for Public Safety, the senior security and law enforcement official in his new administration.

"There is no one better prepared to serve the state in this capacity than Michael Balboni," said Governor-Elect Spitzer. "Since September 11th, he has been at the forefront of the state's homeland security and disaster preparedness efforts. He understands what has been done to date and he knows what the state must do going forward. I am honored that he has agreed to join the administration in a senior position and lead this important effort."

As Deputy Secretary for Public Safety, Balboni will have day-to-day responsibility for managing homeland security affairs, emergency preparedness and response, and law enforcement.

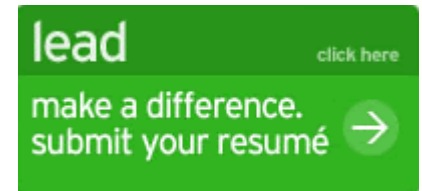
Balboni, an 18-year veteran of both houses of the state legislature, has extensive experience in security and law enforcement matters. He is currently the Chair of the Senate Committee on Veterans, Homeland Security and Military Affairs. He was the author of the state's Anti-Terrorism Law of 2001 that mandates severe penalties for those who commit terror acts, make terror threats, or render assistance to terrorists. He also authored a 2002 law that helps protect the state's water supply from terror attacks. In 2005, he authored the Chemical Plant Security Act, the first of its kind in the nation.

In 2004, Balboni was appointed to serve on a national task force reviewing allocation of federal money for homeland security measures. In 2005, he was named Senior Fellow at the Homeland Security Policy Institute at George Washington University. In addition, he co-chaired the National Conference of State Legislatures Executive Task Force on Homeland Security.

Balboni, a graduate of St. John's University Law School, was elected to the New York State Assembly in 1989. He was elected to the State Senate in

We propose to raise aloft a standard to which all honest men can repair, and under which all can fight, no matter what their past political differences...

Theodore Roosevelt, 1912



1997. He represents Nassau County.

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