



David P. Wehner

David P. Wehner Named NYSIF Exec. Dir.

David P. Wehner, NYSIF's new executive director, comes to the Fund with an extensive background in labor and business issues, including a successful tenure over the past 20 months as chairman of the Workers' Compensation Board.

NYSIF Chairman Terence L. Morris and the Board of Commissioners officially announced Mr. Wehner's appointment at the December 7, 2005 NYSIF Board meeting in New York City, effective January 3, 2006.

"Chairman Wehner's broad experience in workers' compensation, as well as labor and business issues, makes him an excellent choice to manage the operations of the State Insurance Fund," Chairman Morris said.

Mr. Wehner fills the vacancy left by the departure of Ken Ross as executive director in September 2005. During the interim, Christopher Barclay, director of Upstate Operations and secretary to the Board of Commissioners, and Douglas Hayden, general attorney, shared acting director duties.

"I also want to commend Acting Co-Directors Chris Barclay and Doug Hayden for the steady job they did while the search was underway for a new executive director," Chairman Morris stated.

Nominated by Governor George E. Pataki, Mr. Wehner was sworn in as chairman of the Workers' Compensation Board on March 9, 2004. Under his leadership, the WCB continued to expand its mission in serving New York's injured workers and their employers.

"I am honored to have been chosen by the [NYSIF] board to be executive director of the State Insurance Fund," Mr. Wehner said. "I have thoroughly enjoyed my time as chairman of the Workers' Compensation Board, and look forward to using my knowledge to continue the State Insurance Fund's success. I thank Governor Pataki for his support and confidence in me."

During his time at the WCB, Mr. Wehner launched a series of regional educational conferences presented around the state. The seminars promoted the board's improved processes and advances to e-case, health management and claims adjudication. More than 500 individuals attended the conferences, with overwhelming positive feedback.

Under Mr. Wehner's direction, the WCB resolved all pending issues for 312,902 new and pre-existing claims in 2004, marking the fourth consecutive year of 300,000 or more resolutions.

In September 2005, Mr. Wehner also initiated a review of the WCB's outdated medical guidelines, bringing together 15 health providers to make recommendations to refine, clarify and update the board's uniform guidelines.

Recently named to the board of directors of the American Society of Workers' Compensation Professionals (AMCOMP), Mr. Wehner was recognized by the Society of New York Workers' Compensation Bar Association for invaluable service rendered by the WCB in May 2005.

Mr. Wehner served previously as executive deputy commissioner of the New York State Department of Labor for more than three years. Prior to that, he served more than three-and-a-half years as deputy commissioner for Administration and Public Affairs. He also served as chief special assistant to the commissioner of Labor and director of Communications.

A former member of the board of directors of the National Association of State Workforce Agencies (NASWA), Mr. Wehner is also a past president of the National Association of Government Labor Officials (NAGLO). He previously served as state media director for United States Senator Alfonse M. D'Amato, where he worked for 10 years in both his Washington, D.C. and Albany offices.

A native of Rochester, New York, Mr. Wehner holds bachelor's and master's degrees in communications from the State University of New York at Albany. Active in youth sports, he and his wife, Diane, have three children.