

Colleagues,

I am writing to share several changes to our Administrative Services leadership team. Sadly, tomorrow will be Amara Block’s last day as State Procurement Officer leading our Materiel Division. Amara is leaving DAS to open a brew pub with her husband called [The Frontier Frau](#) in Cozad. I’m extremely grateful for Amara’s leadership within DAS and Materiel Division for the past three years. Among Amara’s key contributions have been the implementation of critical administrative, operational, and legal reforms to the State’s procurement practices. Those efforts culminated in the enactment of [LB461](#), the State Procurement Act, [signed into law by Governor Pillen](#) earlier this year.

Replacing Amara as State Procurement Officer and leading Materiel Division will be Adam Kauffman. Adam has been serving as DAS General Counsel and the State’s Risk Manager. An experienced attorney, Adam has been working side by side Amara and our State Procurement team on our recent reform efforts and is well positioned to continue and sustain those recent successes. Adam’s promotion to State Procurement Officer creates a vacancy at Risk Management, which will be filled on an interim basis by Dan Birdsall, our Employee Relations Division administrator. Adam will retain the duties of general counsel in the short term until a replacement can be announced.

I invite you to extend warm wishes and congratulations to these leaders on their new opportunities.

Regards,

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