



## New Jersey Board of Public Utilities

### NEWS RELEASE

**For Immediate Release:**  
December 21, 2011

**Contact:**  
Greg Reinert  
609-777-3305

### Governor Christie's pick for President of the N.J. Board of Public Utilities Sworn-in

**Trenton, N.J.** - Governor Chris Christie's pick to lead the N.J. Board of Public Utilities (BPU) as its next President was sworn-in today. New Jersey Supreme Court Chief Justice Stuart Rabner administered the oath of office to Robert M. Hanna, Esq., who as President of the BPU serves as a member of the Governor's Cabinet. The BPU has jurisdiction over the rates and facilities of electric, gas, water and wastewater, telephone and cable television companies and works to ensure that consumers have access to safe, reliable, and efficient services at reasonable costs. In addition, the BPU is working to foster innovation, competition and consumer choice in the energy and telecommunications markets.

Hanna is serving the unexpired term of former BPU President Lee A. Solomon, who stepped down for a judicial appointment to the N.J. Superior Court in Camden. The New Jersey Senate confirmed Governor Christie's nomination of Hanna on Dec. 15, 2011.

Prior to his appointment, Hanna served as Director of the Division of Law within the New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety. As Director, Hanna was responsible for overseeing a division with more than 500 attorneys and for the supervision of all Division of Law matters. Hanna supervised a division that includes eight practice groups, headed by Assistant Attorneys General, which in turn consist of 31 sections to which most of the Division's attorneys are assigned. The Director of the Law Division acts as the sole legal advisor for all officers, departments, boards, bodies, commissions and instrumentalities of State government.

Prior to joining the Office of the N.J. Attorney General in January 2010, Hanna was a director in the Newark-based law firm of Gibbons P.C., where he began working in May 2006. In private practice, he represented clients in a wide variety of complex white-collar criminal matters, civil matters and attorney-ethics matters. He also has served as a court-appointed receiver.

Previously, Hanna joined the Civil Division of the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of New Jersey in May 1990. There he handled a wide array of affirmative and defensive civil matters, including appeals, on behalf of the federal government. His affirmative civil matters included, among

others, a successful civil RICO (Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations) action to rid Local 54 of the Hotel Employees and Restaurant Employees Union in Atlantic City of organized crime influence. Hanna's civil matters included defending the U.S. Attorney, federal judges and other federal officials in civil rights actions, litigating significant Freedom of Information Act cases, and opposing the municipality of Secaucus's attempt to halt a major federal rail transportation project.

In 1997, Hanna joined the Frauds Division at the U.S. Attorney's Office, later serving in a variety of roles, including Chief of the Securities - Health Care Fraud Unit and Criminal Health Care Fraud Coordinator. Among his many white-collar criminal cases, Hanna was lead prosecutor in suits regarding the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ) and major pharmaceutical concern Bristol-Myers Squibb. As a federal prosecutor, Hanna also tried complex, lengthy securities and health care fraud criminal cases.

Hanna graduated from Manhattan College in 1980 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration. After working for a year at a national public accounting firm, he attended Fordham University School of Law School in New York, serving on the Fordham Law Review staff and graduating in 1984 with a Juris Doctorate degree. Following law school, Hanna was a litigation associate at the Cahill Gordon & Reindel law firm in New York, working on a broad range of commercial litigation matters. He is admitted to the practice of law in New Jersey and New York. Born in Teaneck and raised in New City, Hanna has lived in Madison for 22 years.

###