

Mecca E. Santana
Chief Diversity Officer
State of New York

Mecca E. Santana was appointed as Chief Diversity Officer in September 2013. The Chief Diversity Officer is one of three statutorily required positions within the Executive Chamber, along with the Secretary and the Counsel. As the Chief Diversity Officer, Ms. Santana is responsible for the creation and implementation of recruitment and retention initiatives designed to promote workforce diversity and inclusion, while also leading new initiatives to increase Minority & Women Owned Business (MWBE) procurement opportunities. Ms. Santana previously served as the Executive Director of Equal Employment Opportunity & Diversity Management for the New York City Department of Education, where she created the agency's Diversity Management Program. Prior to joining the Department of Education, Ms. Santana was Senior Assistant Counsel for the New York State Commission of Investigation, where she oversaw investigations of municipal corruption and assorted misconduct. Ms. Santana began her legal career as an Assistant District Attorney in the New York County (Manhattan) District Attorney's Office, where she prosecuted violent crimes and sexual offenses as a member of the Trial Division. Ms. Santana holds certifications from Cornell University's School of Industrial and Labor Relations in Equal Employment Opportunity Studies and Diversity Management. Ms. Santana, who is licensed to practice law in both New York and New Jersey, graduated from Hofstra University School of Law and completed her undergraduate education at the State University of New York (SUNY) at Albany, where she double majored in Criminal Justice and Political Science.