

**BUSINESS**

Monday December 12, 2011

**Jane Cline, Mary Jane Pickens join Spilman Thomas & Battle**

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CHARLESTON, W.Va. -- Two former top executives at the West Virginia Offices of the Insurance Commissioner have joined the law firm Spilman Thomas & Battle.

Jane Cline has joined the firm as director of public policy and Mary Jane Pickens has joined the firm as counsel.

Cline retired from state government in June after a 30-year career. She was state insurance commissioner from 2001 to June 30 and was commissioner of the Division of Motor Vehicles from 1989 to 1997.

At Spilman Thomas & Battle, Cline will be a key leader of the Public Policy, Advocacy and Reform Group and will be actively involved in government relations, the firm said.

Pickens worked in the Offices of the Insurance Commissioner for more than 10 years, most recently serving as general counsel and director of the Legal Division. At Spilman Thomas & Battle she will be an instrumental contributor to the Public Policy, Advocacy and Reform Group and will support Spilman's government relations team, the firm said.

In a prepared statement, Spilman Thomas & Battle said that under the leadership of Cline and Pickens during the past decade and with a broad coalition of support, the state passed and implemented several crucial legislative reforms, including the privatization of the state's workers' compensation system.

Spilman Thomas & Battle has more than 140 lawyers. In addition to its Charleston headquarters, the firm has offices in Morgantown and Wheeling and in Harrisburg and Pittsburgh, Pa., Winston-Salem, N.C., and Roanoke, Va.

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