

Diane M. Symonds

Diane began her professional career in California with Scott Aviation as a Industrial Relations Representative. She returned to New England under the employ of a CIGNA subsidiary to assist injured workers in recovery and returning to gainful employment. Diane was promoted to marketing/sales then Branch Manager in NH, and after two years promoted again to Northern New England District Manager.

In 1990, Diane was recruited to become the Director of the Workers' Compensation Pilot Program on Managed Care, a program introduced by Governor Gregg. As a result, the success of the pilot program became the framework for sweeping legislative reform of the workers' compensation system enacted in 1994. She pursued the office of Commissioner of Labor in early 1995, and was appointed by Governor Stephen Merrill. Diane served for five years under the Merrill and Shaheen administrations.

After State service, Diane was hired by Northern General Services of NH, as VP, to develop and build a third party administration operation for self-funded workers' compensation programs. In 2006, she served an appointment for one year with the US Department of Labor as Assistant Regional Director for the Office of Federal Workers' Compensation Programs. She has assisted the New Hampshire Lodging and Restaurant Association (NHLRA) for many years in training staff and guiding Members with labor law compliance. NHLRA recruited Diane in 2007 to become Director of their Self-Funded WC Trust and to manage Membership relations/recruitment and support.

Diane and her family reside in the seacoast region of New Hampshire.