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DWD Secretary Perez Appoints Two Division Administrators

Allison Rozek appointed to oversee Administrative Services Division; Charlene Dwyer reappointed as Vocational Rehabilitation Administrator

MADISON – Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD) Secretary Manny Perez today announced two members of his leadership team, naming Allison Rozek to lead the agency's Administrative Services Division (ASD) and Charlene Dwyer to lead the agency's Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR).

"Allison Rozek comes to us with substantial experience in fiscal analysis, program management and economic development at the local level," Secretary Perez said. "In addition, she has taught at the university level. She has the expertise and experience to help us improve operations, providing the essential services that our citizens need in a cost-effective manner."

The Administrative Services Division provides support services essential to operation of the Secretary's Office and DWD's five other divisions. As ASD Administrator, Rozek will oversee budget and financial management operations, human resources, information technology services and general services.

Until her appointment, Administrator Rozek was a fiscal administration and management analyst with Milwaukee County, overseeing budgets on the Combined Court System, the District Attorney's Office, Employee Wage and Benefits, and the Department of Health and Human Services, Behavioral Health Division. From 1999 to 2009, she worked in the City of Milwaukee, Department of City Development, first as a senior planner and later as a major projects manager. Her previous experience includes work as a program manager with Wisconsin Citizens for a Better Environment, Smart Growth-Land Use and Transportation from 1997 to 1999, and as an adjunct professor at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee in 2001 and 2008, teaching courses in Smart Growth and New Urbanism.

She earned her undergraduate degree in political science from the University of Florida in 1995 and a master's degree in public administration from Florida Atlantic in 1997. Her credentials include a finance and economic development certification in 2007 and UWM management certification in 2009.

Secretary Perez also reappointed Charlene Dwyer as Administrator of the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR), which provides employment services and vocational counseling to people with disabilities. She has been DVR Administrator since July 2001, serving under two previous administrations.

"Throughout her career, Charlene Dwyer has worked tirelessly on behalf of people with disabilities, helping them gain employment and become self sufficient," Secretary Perez said. "I am pleased to have her on our team as we work to advance Governor Scott Walker's agenda to create jobs and provide employment opportunities for all Wisconsinites."

Administrator Dwyer's 34 years of experience include 17 years working in the non-profit sector. During that time, she established several model service-delivery programs. She earned her undergraduate, master's and doctoral degrees at Northern Illinois University and received the 2008 Outstanding Alumni Award from the NIU College of Health and Human Services. Her new appointment begins January 31.