

Cowper names Gottehrer, Price to staff positions

Gov. Steve Cowper announced the addition of two staff members in his Juneau office — Sheila Gottehrer of Fairbanks, who will serve as special assistant for boards and commissions, and Ray Price of Anchorage, who is the governor's special assistant for cabinet affairs.

Gottehrer, will assist the governor in filling the more than 900 positions on 114 boards and commissions, on judicial appointments and on nominees to federal agencies such as the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council.

Price will serve as the governor's key aide for state agencies, as an equal employment opportunity oversight officer, and he will work as a liaison with interest groups outside government.

"Both of these people have years of experience in state government so they

know in detail how the system works," Cowper said. "They also have lots of fresh ideas and the savvy to put them into practice."

Gottehrer, 45, ran the Fairbanks Ombudsman Office from 1978 until earlier this year and also headed the Urban Adult Learning Center in Fairbanks. A former Peace Corps volunteer, she served as deputy manager for Cowper's Fairbanks campaign and holds a master's in special education from Columbia University.

Price, 38, is the former manager of Anchorage's Heritage Land Bank and a former deputy director of the state Department of Community and Regional Affairs. Also, he has served as president of Blacks in Government and as a member of the Alaska Black Caucus. Price was Cowper's Anchorage campaign coordinator.