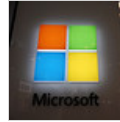


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By ASHBY JONES

Lawyers tapped for the exalted position of White House counsel tend to be grizzled veterans, old hands who've spent years creating connections within Washington's halls of power.

Some names that come to mind: C. Boyden Gray, Lloyd Cutler, Greg Craig, Fred Fielding, John Dean.

Kathryn Ruemmler is definitely not of that mold — at least not yet. The woman set to become the White House's next top lawyer is only 40 years old.

So how did she make such a quick ascent? Click [here](#) for David Ingram's story at Legal Times.

According to Ingram:

Ruemmler is set to take over the job after rocketing through the U.S. Justice Department, private practice and Democratic legal circles in little more than a decade. . . . [T]hose who've watched her climb say she's impressed nearly everyone along the way. "She's almost in the mold of the Cutlers of the world, who have done a little bit of everything," said Beth Wilkinson, a partner at Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison and a Ruemmler friend.



That said, it's probably a good time for Ruemmler to be taking over. Ingram notes that Ruemmler is entering the top post at a time of relative quiet. "The White House isn't facing a major criminal investigation she needs to respond to, and there's no immediate sign of a Supreme Court vacancy, which would consume her staff. The biggest questions for her are likely to be over executive orders, the handling of terrorism suspects at Guantánamo Bay, Cuba, and investigations by House Republicans. She'll also ultimately be in charge of the judicial nominations process."

This won't be Ruemmler's first dance at the White House. After a brief stint at Zuckerman Spaeder, Ruemmler joined the Clinton White House as an associate counsel. She then spent a few months of 2001 as an associate at Latham & Watkins, before moving to the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia.

From there, she joined the Enron Task Force. In 2006, she delivered the government's closing argument in the trial of former Enron executives Kenneth Lay and Jeffrey Skilling, both of whom were convicted. She returned to Latham in 2007, this time as a partner, before again moving to the DOJ.



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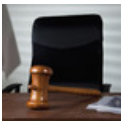
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6:55 pm April 13, 2012

never forget wrote:

Ruemmler... (the) deputy director of the Enron Task Force, who won convictions against four Merrill Lynch bankers in the 2004 Nigerian Barge case, paired a conservative gray suit with stunning 4-inch bright pink stiletto spikes.

1:01 pm November 5, 2011

Anonymous wrote:

I am just curious. When will the American public wake up and see that the obama admin. is merely a Marxist regime? Over 75% of the staff and Directors of his Admin. are dedicated hardcore Marxist. Just a fact of life. Hugo Chavez, Marxist Dictator of Venezuela is slapping his knee saying, "Dang! I didn't think they could do it!"

6:50 pm June 13, 2011

Watergate Weenie wrote:

Dean was born in October of 1938 and assumed the White House Counsel job in July of 1970. So he was actually 31. But the point is well-taken. Dean was hardly "grizzled."

6:34 pm June 6, 2011

EC2 wrote:

John Dean was 32 when he became White House Counsel. A little more "grizzling" probably would have served him well.

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