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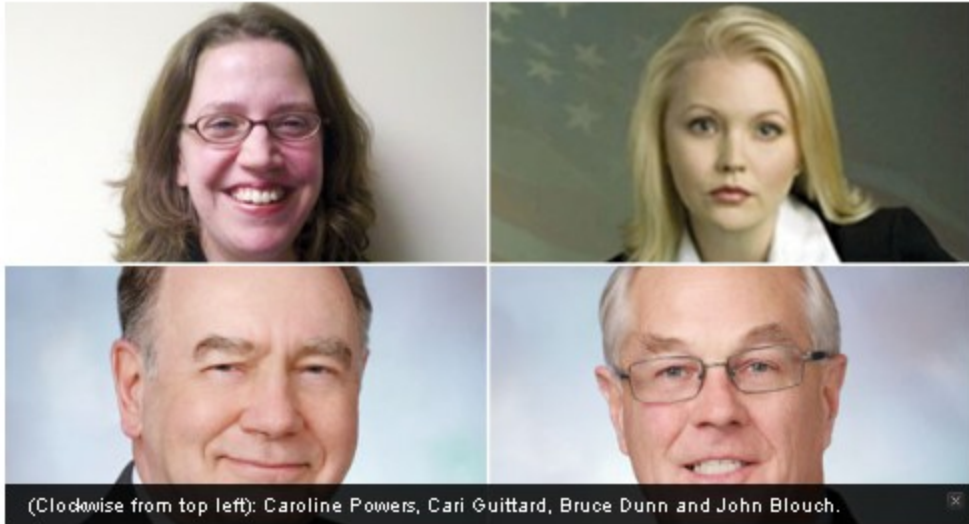
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By MJ LEE & ZEESHAN ALEEM | 2/23/11 9:57 AM EST Updated: 2/23/11 10:27 AM EST

### Powers to O'Neill

The government and public relations firm O'Neill & Associates has hired Caroline Powers as an associate in its federal relations practice.

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She had been director of the Office of Federal-State Relations for Massachusetts Gov. Deval Patrick. Earlier, she was a legislative director and policy adviser for Rep. Stephen Lynch (D-Mass.).

"Her unique combination of experience within state and federal government is a perfect match for our firm," said CEO Thomas P. O'Neill III.

Powers has a bachelor's degree from Goucher College and a master's degree in government from Johns Hopkins University.