

## Governor Phil Murphy

# Governor Murphy Announces Promotion of Natalie Hamilton to Press Secretary

03/8/2024

### Maggie Garbarino Named Deputy Press Secretary

**TRENTON** – Governor Phil Murphy today announced one new promotion and one new hire within his communications team. Natalie Hamilton will serve as the Administration’s lead spokesperson in her newly promoted role as Press Secretary, while Maggie Garbarino joins the office as a new Deputy Press Secretary. The Communications Office will continue to be led by Mahen Gunaratna, the Governor’s Communications Director.

“Natalie has been an indispensable part of my team. Her instincts and command of the issues, coupled with her unparalleled work ethic, will continue to serve her well in this new role. I have the utmost faith in her ability to carry our message as Press Secretary for my Administration,” **said Governor Murphy**. “Maggie will handle a portfolio of key issues, including education and labor. We’re happy to have her on board to help us continue communicating these groundbreaking policies to the public.”

Prior to being promoted to Press Secretary, Natalie Hamilton most recently served as Deputy Press Secretary, handling a portfolio of various departments and issues, overseeing the Governor’s television appearances, coordinating messaging for weather emergencies, and managing a team of interns. She first joined the Murphy team in 2019 as a Communications Intern, and later served as Press Intern during the 2021 gubernatorial campaign. After graduating magna cum laude in 2021 from the University of Delaware with a Bachelor’s Degree in Communication and concentration in Public Relations, she joined the Administration full-time as a Press Assistant. In October 2023, she took a leave from the Administration to serve as Communications Advisor to Brandon Presley’s gubernatorial campaign in Mississippi.

Maggie Garbarino recently joined the Governor’s Communications Office as a Deputy Press Secretary, overseeing a portfolio that includes Education, Labor, Children and Families, Military and Veterans Affairs, and Higher Education. For the past three years, she served as the Deputy Press Secretary for the New Jersey Assembly Democratic Majority Office. Prior to working for the State, she served as a Public Relations and Social Media Specialist Intern for The Lesniak Institute for American Leadership at Kean University. Maggie graduated with a Bachelor’s degree in Political Science and Communications Studies with a concentration in Public Relations from Fairleigh Dickinson University.

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