


Governor-elect Sherrill Announces Shirley Emehelu as Comptroller Nominee

01/2/2026

TRENTON – Today, Governor-elect Mikie Sherrill announced that she will be nominating Shirley Emehelu to be State Comptroller. Emehelu brings a wealth of experience to the role, from the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the District of New Jersey and the New Jersey Office of the Attorney General, Governor-elect Sherrill has committed to an administration that strengthens transparency and accountability, and Emehelu will be a partner in conducting oversight as the head of the state’s key watchdog agency. 

“Shirley is a leader who will fiercely uphold the rule of law, expose corruption, and ensure that state government is transparent and accountable. I worked closely with Shirley at the U.S. Attorney’s Office and saw how she implemented innovative reforms in the criminal legal system that improved public safety in New Jersey. I know that she will bring a focus on public service, integrity, and fairness to the Comptroller’s office to ensure that Trenton is being a good steward of New Jerseyans’ tax dollars to make life more affordable,” **said Governor-elect Mikie Sherrill.**

“It’s an honor to be nominated to be New Jersey’s next Comptroller. I worked alongside the Governor-elect at the U.S. Attorney’s Office, and I know that her administration will be guided by a commitment to public service and accountability to the people. Our office will serve as a watchdog for the state and public trust – uncovering fraud, waste, and corruption to protect New Jersey taxpayers,” **said Shirley Emehelu.**

Shirley Emehelu was the Executive Assistant Attorney General from 2022-2024. She was previously a Member of the White Collar criminal Defense and Government Investigations Group of Chiesa Shahinian & Giantomasi, and co-led the firm’s Banking and Finance Group. She also previously served as Chief of Asset Recovery and Anti-Money Laundering for the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the District of New Jersey, overseeing various statewide programs, including federal asset forfeiture, money laundering, and victim restitution. During her nine-year tenure at the U.S. Attorney’s Office, she prosecuted numerous complex financial fraud cases. Emehelu clerked for the Honorable James R. Spencer in the Eastern District of Virginia. She received her B.A. from Yale University and J.D. from Yale Law School.

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