

Martha Kenley, National DBE Program Manager, Federal Highway Administration Office of Civil Rights

Kenley joined FHWA last year as its National DBE Program Manager where she is the program's primary point of contact. In this position she develops policies, and advises Division Offices on program areas such as certification, good faith efforts, prompt payment, goal setting, and commercially useful function. She also provides training and outreach sessions to improve understanding and administration of the program nationally.

Prior to joining FHWA, Kenley was the Director of the Economic Opportunity Division (Civil Rights) at the Indiana Department of Transportation. In this position she supervised and managed the agency's responsibilities with regard to the DBE program and Supportive Services, EEO Contract Compliance, On-the-Job-Training, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and the Americans with Disabilities Act. Under her leadership the State of Indiana held its first National Summer Transportation Institute in partnership with Purdue University.

Also for the State of Indiana, Kenley was Deputy Director for the Indiana Civil Rights Commission where she was responsible for the administration of operating grants and budget. Prior to being promoted to Deputy, she worked for the agency as a supervising attorney where she directed investigators and staff attorneys in the investigation and litigation of employment, housing and public accommodation civil rights complaints. Kenley has litigated civil rights complaints in both administrative forums and in state courts.

Kenley spent time in the private sector representing plaintiffs in Section 1983 actions for deprivation of civil rights. She also worked for the City of Chicago Corporation Counsel where she developed and advised city departments on contractual issues, including the city's MBE program.

Kenley received a J.D. from Northwestern University School of Law and is licensed to practice law in Illinois and Indiana. She received a B.A. *magna cum laude* from Albion College in English and Economics where she was a member of *Phi Beta Kappa*. Kenley also received a Master of Arts degree from Xavier University in Cincinnati, Ohio where she focused on early twentieth-century literature.