

Norris E. Bennis Jr., is a senior attorney for the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare's Office of General Counsel. In this role, he provides advice and counsel to the Office of Medical Assistance Programs on issues relating to policy development, managed care and outpatient fee-for-service programs. Mr. Bennis represents the Department in federal court, state court and before administrative tribunals in a variety of matters. He also provides legal advice and representation to the Department's Medicaid Third Party Liability Section on issues including estate recovery and subrogation.

He previously served as the Director of the Department's Bureau of Program Integrity. In this role, Mr. Bennis protected Pennsylvania's \$14 billion Medical Assistance Program from fraud and abuse, monitored program compliance and ensured that Medical Assistance recipients received quality medical services.

Prior to working for the Department, Mr. Bennis served as chief counsel and executive director of the Pennsylvania Senate's Health and Welfare Committee. Mr. Bennis also worked as a special assistant to Pennsylvania's Secretary of Health, as the director of Complaints and Appeals and associate general counsel of Health Partners, Inc. and as associate counsel of Highmark, Inc.

He is a member of the Pennsylvania Bar Association, the Association's Minority Bar Committee and serves as the co-chair of the Association's Health Law Committee. He also serves as a member of the board of directors of the Pennsylvania State Animal Response Team (PASART) and previously served as a member of the board of directors of the Shalom House (a Harrisburg-area women's shelter). Mr. Bennis received his B.A., *magna cum laude*, from Hampton University and his J.D. from Temple University.