

Rhode Island Executive Branch

Rhode Island has five constitutional officers, known as General Officers, who make up the executive branch of our state government. The titles are Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Attorney General, and General Treasurer.



HOW THEY ARE ELECTED

Each of the five officers is elected statewide by voters.



HOW LONG THEY SERVE

Four-year terms with a two-term limit. A General Officer may serve up to ten years if appointed halfway through a term.

GOVERNOR

The Governor is the chief executive for the state and has the power to sign or veto legislation approved by the General Assembly into law. The Governor prepares and presents the State budget to the General Assembly. The Governor oversees the appointment of judges, cabinet members, and members of executive boards. The Governor also oversees State agencies, including but not limited to:

- Department of Education
- Department of Environmental Management
- Department of Health
- Department of Motor Vehicles

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

The Lieutenant Governor is elected independently from the Governor, although per the Rhode Island Constitution, the Lieutenant Governor assumes the role of Governor if that position becomes vacant. The Lieutenant Governor also works in several policy areas, and manages the following councils:

- Rhode Island Emergency Management Advisory Council
- Long Term Care Coordinating Council
- Small Business Advisory Council

SECRETARY OF STATE

The Secretary of State serves as the state's chief elections official, preserves State records, and works closely with local businesses. The responsibilities of the Department of State span business services, elections, civics, historic records preservation, and public information. The office manages:

- The Central Voter Registration System
- Business Filings
- Lobbying Registrations
- Public Meeting Filings
- State Regulation Filings
- State Archival Records

ATTORNEY GENERAL

The Attorney General is the state's chief legal official and is responsible for prosecuting criminal cases in the state. The Attorney General represents all agencies, departments, and commissions in litigation and initiates legal action where necessary to protect the interests of Rhode Island citizens. The Office of the Attorney General oversees:

- Open Meetings Act Compliance
- Access to Public Records Act Compliance
- The State Bureau of Criminal Identification
- Consumer Protections for Utility and Health Care Rates

GENERAL TREASURER

The General Treasurer is responsible for stewarding State funds and processing payments. The Office of the General Treasurer promotes economic growth and financial security for all Rhode Islanders. The General Treasurer manages and oversees:

- State Employee Retirement
- Crime Victim Compensation
- Unclaimed Property
- CollegeBound Saver (529 Plan)

GOVERNOR

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Gregg M. Amore
Secretary of State