

As Seen In

Sept. 5-11, 2008

N E W S M A K E R S

LI's workers get new rep

Mark J. Grossman was recently named by Gov. Paterson as the New York State Labor Commissioner's Long Island Regional Representative.

Grossman, who was an aide to former Gov. Mario Cuomo, most recently served as a deputy to Brookhaven Supervisor Brian X. Foley. In addition, in 1994 he founded Grossman Strategies, a public relations firm in Bellport that is still in business.

Grossman said his mix of public and private sector experience made him an ideal candidate for this post. "I know this business from both sides," he said. "I ran my own mid-size public relations firm for 11 years. I had a payroll, and I paid unemployment insurance, Social Security taxes and workers' comp insurance. On the other hand, I have significant experience in the public sector and fully recognize that government is needed to ensure that workers aren't exploited, that people are paid a fair wage for a day's work, and that unions continue to have the right to organize and advocate for their membership."

Grossman noted the Department of Labor has changed its image of people waiting on long lines to file for unemployment insurance benefits.

"Customers now file claims on the Internet or by telephone, and DOL offices have been transformed into one-stop career centers where people who are unemployed or underemployed can get a myriad of services, such as help in resume writing, interviewing skills and computer training," he said. "This ain't your father's DOL."

NAME: MARK J. GROSSMAN

**POSITION: NEW YORK STATE LABOR COMMISSIONER'S
LONG ISLAND REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE**

ORGANIZATION: DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

**FAVORITE PASTIME: COLLECTING YANKEES
BASEBALL CARDS FROM 1965 TO 1975, "WHEN
THEY WERE A MISERABLE TEAM."**

— BERNADETTE STARZEE

