



# ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

*Johnny Key, Commissioner*

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## **Clay Named New ADE General Counsel**

**LITTLE ROCK** — Arkansas Department of Education Commissioner Johnny Key is pleased to announce Kendra Clay as the new general counsel. She replaces Jeremy Lasiter, who was selected for a position with the Bryant School District. Clay will assume her new role July 1.

As general counsel, Clay will oversee the Office of Legal Services, which ensures agency compliance with federal and state legal requirements. The office advises the commissioner and State Board of Education regarding policies and legislation, oversees the agency's rule-making process, and manages litigation.

"Ms. Clay has comprehensive knowledge of ADE and the Arkansas education system," Key said. "As part of the legal team, she has demonstrated expertise in the legislative process and is an excellent advisor in legal matters of vital importance to the agency. I look forward to her continued guidance in this leadership role."

Clay began working for the department as a staff attorney in 2010, where she took lead roles in several areas of the legal office, including charter school processes, the Freedom of Information Act and human resources issues. Before joining ADE, Clay worked in private practice for two years.

She graduated cum laude with a Bachelor of Science in International Business from the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville. She received a Juris Doctor from Tulane University in New Orleans.

Clay is a native of Conway and currently resides in Little Rock with her husband and son. They are expecting their second child.

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