

THE STATE

State budget director has the right reputation

■ Tackles New York's spending problems with a vengeance

By DAVID BAUDER
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ALBANY — Patricia Woodworth relishes her reputation as a

spending hawk who specializes in delivering bad news because, as she says, "I'm good at it."

At a time this summer when most state policymakers were more concerned with beaches than budgets, Gov. George Pataki's budget director seized control of the state's spending plan. She ordered state agencies to prepare budget-cutting plans

and, some Democrats allege, slowed spending to a trickle.

That assertiveness is what many in New York government expected when Pataki hired Woodworth, a 40-year-old former budget director in Michigan and Florida who became known for her toughness in helping other Republican governors cut spending.

*Handed to
for review
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