

## Cook, Hall & Hyde, Inc.

### Cook, Hall & Hyde Inc.'s Kimet Speed Inducted Into Long Island Business News' 40 Under 40 Award Class of 2007

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#### Long Island, NY

Cook, Hall & Hyde, Inc. (CHH), a leading regional provider of commercial and personal insurance, employee benefits, and risk-management services, recently announced that Kimet Speed, supervisor, commercial insurance, has received a Long Island Business News 40 Under 40 Award. Ms. Speed was selected based on her leadership in business, her support of Long Island nonprofit organizations and her commitment to the community. She, along with 39 other awardees, was honored at a breakfast held on January 25th at the Crest Hollow Country Club in Woodbury.



Since joining CHH in December 2000, Ms. Speed has steadily advanced through the ranks as her strong customer service, team building and organizational skills were recognized. She currently holds the position of supervisor in the commercial insurance division, where her responsibilities include recruiting, training and managing a team of customer service representatives (CSRs). Prior to serving in this role, she worked in the personal insurance division, where she started her career as a CSR and was promoted to progressively more demanding jobs, culminating in the position of supervisor. During her tenure at CHH, Ms. Speed has been instrumental in leading the organization's Agency Management System User Group, which helps to ensure that CHH remains on the leading edge of information technology.

Ms. Speed has received commendations from the CHH management team for her business and leadership skills, as well as praise from leading insurance carriers and CHH clientele for outstanding customer service. Equally important, Ms. Speed is well-respected and valued by her colleagues at CHH. As evidence of her continued striving for excellence, she earned her Certified Insurance Counselor designation last April, placing her in the top tier of insurance professionals. Ms. Speed also holds a Property and Casualty Insurance License.

Since graduating from Syracuse University with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Musical Theater, Ms. Speed has remained committed to local theater. She is actively involved in acting and building sets, and helps raise awareness for both the North Fork Community Theater (Mattituck) and the Riverhead Faculty and Community Theater. Both of these nonprofit organizations use their productions to raise college scholarship funds for local high school students. Ms. Speed has appeared in the North Fork's productions of *Godspell*, *You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown*, *She Loves Me*, and *No Way to Treat a Lady*, as well as in its annual variety show. For the Riverhead Theater, she recently starred in *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*.

Ms. Speed is also active in the Westhampton Presbyterian Church, where she currently serves on the Board of Trustees and is a member of its nominating committee. She previously served on the Board's stewardship committee, which leads the church's pledge campaign to support global humanitarian efforts. Ms. Speed is also a regular participant in the church's "Annual Crop Walk," which raises funds to fight hunger here on Long Island and nationwide.

Ms. Speed resides in Westhampton, NY, with her husband of eight years.