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## **SECRETARY BOWLING ANNOUNCES JEREMIAH SAMPLES TO SERVE AS ASSISTANT TO THE SECRETARY**

CHARLESTON, W.Va.—West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources Cabinet Secretary Karen Bowling today announced the appointment of Jeremiah Samples as Assistant to the Secretary, effective July 16, 2013.

“Jeremiah’s broad-based experience adds great value to our team in accomplishing the mission of the department— helping West Virginians,” Secretary Bowling said. “Jeremiah began his DHHR career seven years ago and returns with tools and knowledge essential to helping our agency move forward.”

Samples began his career in public service as a Herndon intern with the West Virginia Legislature. He then joined the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources where he served in the offices of Communications and Legislative Affairs, General Counsel, and Deputy Secretary. He later worked for the Governor’s Office of Health Enhancement and Lifestyle Planning (GOHELP) where he managed website development, assisted in health policy strategic planning, and coordinated public and private agencies on state health policy issues. Samples most recently served as Director of Health Policy for the West Virginia Offices of the Insurance Commissioner, leading the state’s analysis of the federally mandated Affordable Care Act health insurance reforms.

Nationally, Samples was a founding member of the National Association of State Health Policy Exchangers Steering Committee. In addition, he has been actively engaged in the National Association of Insurance Commissioners, where he has served on several key committees. Samples has also been a frequent contributor to the National Governors Association, Academy Health, and other national organizations that focus on health care issues.

Samples graduated Magna Cum Laude from West Virginia University with degrees in History and Political Science. Currently, Samples is pursuing his Masters in Legal Studies at West Virginia University.

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