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**Secretary Bowling Announces Vickie Jones to Serve as Commissioner
for the West Virginia Bureau for Behavioral Health and Health Facilities**

CHARLESTON, W.Va.—West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources Cabinet Secretary Karen Bowling today announced the appointment of Victoria (Vickie) Jones as Commissioner for the Bureau for Behavioral Health and Health Facilities, effective September 1, 2013.

“Filling this position on a permanent basis has been a priority for me since the Bureau oversees all seven state-owned and operated hospitals, as well as the community-based behavioral health system in West Virginia,” Bowling said. “I am confident Vickie’s wealth of experience in health care and her proven leadership will make her successful in this position.”

Since 2009, Jones has served in a number of leadership roles within the Bureau for Behavioral Health and Health Facilities including serving as CEO of Mildred Mitchell-Bateman Hospital, Acting Commissioner, and Commissioner. Her career includes working at the state Health Care Authority, serving as fiscal officer for the Bureau for Behavioral Health and Health Facilities, and at Columbia Hospitals.

Jones holds an associate’s degree in Accounting and a bachelor’s degree in Business from the University of Kentucky, and a master’s in health care administration from Marshall University.

“I am honored to be able to continue in my role as the Commissioner for the Bureau for Behavioral Health and Health Facilities under the leadership of Cabinet Secretary Karen Bowling,” Jones said. “I believe we are poised to make positive changes to West Virginia’s behavioral health care system, and I look forward to continuing my work with West Virginia families.”

Jones and her husband, J.J., have three children and reside in Cross Lanes, W.Va.

Pat Franz, Assistant CEO at Mildred Mitchell-Bateman Hospital, will serve as the Acting CEO while a search for the position is conducted.

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