

Mission:

To protect, promote & improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county & community efforts.



Rick Scott
Governor

John H. Armstrong, MD, FACS
State Surgeon General & Secretary

Vision: To be the **Healthiest State** in the Nation

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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STERLING WHISENHUNT NAMED CHIEF FOR BUREAU OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

TALLAHASSEE – The Florida Department of Health (DOH) is pleased to announce Sterling Whisenhunt as the new Bureau Chief for the Bureau of Communicable Diseases. Mr. Whisenhunt comes to the position with a strong public health background in epidemiology and disease control and has experience serving the Department at both the county and state levels. Mr. Whisenhunt will provide leadership for the HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, STD, and Immunization sections of the Department.

Mr. Whisenhunt most recently served as Director of the Florida Department of Children and Families Substance Abuse and Mental Health Office. Prior to this, he served DOH as Interim Deputy Secretary for Statewide Services. As Interim Deputy Secretary, Mr. Whisenhunt was responsible for overseeing Florida's 67 county health departments.

"We welcome Mr. Whisenhunt back to the Department of Health, where his leadership and public health expertise will advance our mission of protecting the people of Florida," said Dr. Pat Ryder, Interim Division Director for the Division of Disease Control and Health Protection.

Mr. Whisenhunt graduated from the University of Alabama with a degree in Health Care Management. He began his public health career at the State of Georgia Department of Public Health, where he received the Sellers-McCroan Award for his work in epidemiology and surveillance at the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta, Georgia. He later worked for the Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County Office of Epidemiology and Disease Control as Hepatitis Program Manager and DOH-Seminole as Epidemiology Program Manager.

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