



Media Release

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Former DHS Deputy Director, ADEQ Chief Tapped to Lead Division of Youth Services

Marcus Devine, who once served as Deputy Director of the Arkansas Department of Human Services (DHS) and head of the state's Department of Environmental Quality, has been named as the new Director for the DHS Division of Youth Services.

DHS Director John Selig said Devine's management skills and knowledge of both the legislative process and DHS made him uniquely qualified for the position.

"It will be great to have someone with Marcus' years of experience heading such a critically-important division," Selig said. "He is keenly aware that good managers can do a lot with lean state budgets. I appreciate his willingness to serve."

Devine, 43, began his career in public service in 1997 as a regulatory liaison for then Governor Mike Huckabee. He left that position in February 1999 after being named as one of two deputy directors for DHS where he remained until March 2000. After a brief time in private practice, Governor Huckabee tapped Devine to lead the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, a position he kept until moving to the private sector in 2007.

During his time as DHS Deputy Director, Devine oversaw the divisions of Children and Family Services, Youth Services, Services for the Blind and what was then called Volunteerism as well as several support offices.

"I've always been passionate about the work DHS does, and am so glad to be coming back on board," Devine said. "I'll work to ensure that DYS and its providers are always accountable for providing appropriate and effective services."

His first day as director will be March 9.