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Washington, DC 20420
(202) 461-7600
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Dr. Linda Schwartz Confirmed as VA Assistant Secretary for Policy and Planning
Veteran, Connecticut Veterans Commissioner, Nominated by President Obama in August 2013

WASHINGTON – Secretary of Veterans Affairs Robert A. McDonald today welcomed the confirmation of Connecticut Veterans Commissioner Linda S. Schwartz as Assistant Secretary of Veterans Affairs for Policy and Planning.

In this post, Dr. Schwartz will help develop and review VA departmental policy, analyze Veteran trends and statistics, and evaluate VA transformation initiatives. She will play a critical role in guiding VA's strategic planning and work to implement Secretary McDonald's vision to transform VA into a nimble, high-performing and responsive organization.

"I welcome Dr. Schwartz to our leadership team," said Secretary McDonald. "Based on her decades of devotion and hard work on behalf of Veterans and Veterans' causes, I know she will have an immediate impact in the Agency's continued mission of serving the great men and women who have proudly worn this Nation's uniform."

Dr. Schwartz, a disabled veteran, is currently the Commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Veterans Affairs, a position she has held since 2003. She concurrently serves as an Associate Clinical Professor of Nursing at the Yale School of Nursing, where she has been on Faculty since 1999, and was appointed Associate Research Scientist and Scholar. From 1980 to 1993, she taught at several University and College Schools of Nursing and held leadership roles in nursing organizations in Connecticut. From 1979 to 1980, she was a caseworker in the Office of the Field Director of the American Red Cross at Rhein-Main Air Base in Germany. Dr. Schwartz also served in the United States Air Force (USAF) Nurse Corps from 1968 to 1986, both on

Active Duty and as a Reservist. She retired as a Flight Nurse Instructor, with the rank of Major after sustaining injuries in a USAF Air Craft accident. She received her Bachelors of Science degree in nursing from the University of Maryland School Of Nursing; a Master's of Science degree from Yale University School of Nursing; and a Dr. PH from the Yale University School of Medicine.

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