



STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN RESOURCES
Office of the General Counsel

Bill J. Crouch
Cabinet Secretary

April L. Robertson
General Counsel

April 26, 2022

Kristen Bentley
Reporter, WSAZ
Kristen.bentley@wsaz.com

Via Email Only

Dear Ms. Bentley:

On April 8, 2022, the Department of Health and Human Resources received your request, pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA"), W. Va. Code §29B-1-1, *et seq.*, seeking:

- [C]opies of any and all communications and documentation in your agency's custody regarding the resignation or termination of Jeremiah Samples as DHHR Deputy Secretary. This includes email messages, text messages, memorandums, etc.
- [A]ll email communication between Jeremiah Samples and Bill Crouch between December 1, 2021, and April 7, 2022.

After review of your request, this office has determined that any responsive records in our possession are exempt from disclosure pursuant to W. Va. Code §29B-1-4(a)(2) and W. Va. Code §29B-1-4(a)(8). Accordingly, your request is denied. The responsibilities of this office with regards to your request are now at an end. You are advised that FOIA affords you the opportunity to seek injunctive or declaratory relief in the Circuit Court of Kanawha County.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "April Robertson".

April L. Robertson
General Counsel