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For More Information:

Bonnie Catone
Director of Communications
Treatment Research Institute
(518) 753-0151
(518) 441-9847
(215) 399-0980
bcatone@tresearch.org

**Obama/Biden Pick of McLellan for ONDCP Post
Draws Critical Acclaim from Addiction Field**

That the Administration has chosen a scientist of Dr. McLellan's caliber and stature as Deputy Director of ONDCP demonstrates the President's commitment to bringing the full power of science to bear on one of the nation's toughest problems. I applaud both the Administration for choosing him and Dr. McLellan for his willingness to enter in this kind of public service.

- Alan Leshner, Ph.D.; CEO, American Association for the Advancement of Science;
Former Director, National Institute on Drug Abuse, National Institutes of Health.

The nomination of Tom McLellan Ph.D. to be Deputy Director of ONDCP is the most important White House appointment for substance abuse treatment in over a decade. Tom is widely recognized as the leading drug treatment researcher in the world. He has no peers and no detractors. He enjoys a unique position of respect from this field that seldom agrees on anything. Dr. McLellan is the man and this is the hour to revitalize drug abuse treatment and to raise the national priority for demand reduction. This appointment brings great credit to the Obama administration. It fulfills the President's ambition to bring new ideas to solve long-neglected, urgent national priorities.

- Robert L. DuPont, M.D.; Second White House Drug Czar (for Presidents Nixon and Ford); First Director, National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA);
President, Institute for Behavior and Health, Inc;

The appointment of Tom McLellan to this vital role is the best news had in many a year for those of us in the treatment community. Tom has already made lasting improvements to the science of addiction. He cares deeply about what works under what circumstances and has demanded measurement and quality ... this role could not be better served.

- Dr. David Deitch, Chief Clinical Officer, Phoenix House Foundation; Emeritus
Professor of Psychiatry, University of California San Diego.

Dr. Tom McLellan is unquestionably one of the addiction field's best and brightest. His nomination to a leadership position in the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy is a triumph for demand reduction, ensuring that both prevention and treatment are central to strategies to decrease drug use in America. Dr. McLellan's work has transformed the way the disease of addiction is evaluated, and he is a pioneer of innovative approaches to effective addiction treatment. He is also deeply caring and compassionate, and clearly understands drug use and the disease of addiction as urgent issues facing millions of families and parents across America. I hope that the Senate will move swiftly to confirm his nomination.

- Stephen J. Pasierb, President & CEO, Partnership for a Drug-Free America

By virtue of intelligence, integrity, experience, temperament, and depth and breadth of knowledge, Professor Thomas McLellan is clearly the best choice the President could have made for this very important position.

- Jerome H. Jaffe, M.D.; Clinical Professor of Psychiatry, University of Maryland School of Medicine; Former Director, White House Special Action Office for Drug Abuse Prevention, and Special Consultant to the President for Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs, 1971-1973

Dr. Thomas McLellan is a superb choice for the ONDCP Deputy position. He is no doubt the leading scientist in the U.S. on what works for treatment of substance abuse disorders and, in addition, has branched into improving prevention effectiveness, especially focusing on the role of parents. He is widely respected by his peers, professional organizations, and by various citizen groups. Although an academic, he is not content to write papers but instead started the Treatment Research Institute which has become a leader for its work in improving treatment at the state level and improving prevention by working, for example, with the Partnership for a Drug Free America and the Betty Ford Institute."

- Herbert D. Kleber, M.D.; former ONDCP Deputy Director for Demand Reduction; Professor of Psychiatry and Director, Division on Substance Abuse, Columbia University/NYSPI

Tom has the compassion of a saint and the rigor of a great scientist. It's a brilliant appointment.

- Mitch Rosenthal, M.D.; Founder, Phoenix House

We are so proud to hear of Tom McLellan's appointment to be Deputy Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP). Tom and his research are well known across America. His ground-breaking work comparing the treatment of addiction to treatment for diabetes, asthma and other chronic illnesses comes to mind. This research alone has assisted in normalizing the idea of treatment and the treatment process for this highly stigmatized, yet highly treatable disease. With one in four families in our great country wrestling with the addiction of a loved one, this work couldn't be more important. Tom will bring a wealth of experience and research to the D.C. policy debates on how to address the problem of untreated addiction and we look forward to working with him.

- Deborah Beck, President; Drug and Alcohol Service Providers Organization of Pennsylvania

Tom McLellan is more than a leader in the addiction field. He is the “go to” guy on what really matters. Tom is passionate about raising the bar on the quality of care in addiction treatment. He is equally driven on improving access to care for all alcoholics/addicts and their loved ones. Tom, at the end of the day, is about making a difference in the lives of alcoholics, addicts and their loved ones. Tom’s new challenge at ONDCP will be one in which he will bring the same passion and vision to try to make a difference. His legacy at the esteemed Treatment Research Institute will carry on in the ongoing work of the scientists and clinicians there.

- John Schwarzlose; Chief Executive Officer, Betty Ford Center

President Obama's appointment of Dr. Thomas McLellan as Deputy Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy signals the Administration's strong commitment to a comprehensive strategy that will effectively address drug abuse through prevention, treatment and sensible enforcement policies. Dr. McLellan is the nation's leading expert on drug treatment and is personally responsible for many of the research breakthroughs of the past three decades. He also brings a deep understanding of the complex interrelationship of domestic and international drug policy as well as a profound personal belief that more effective approaches to drug abuse and addiction can alleviate untold human suffering. His appointment is a living example of President Obama's pledge to improve the lives of all Americans by identifying and supporting programs that work.

- Mathea Falco, J.D., President, Drug Strategies; Visiting Scholar, Harvard Law School Center for International Criminal Justice; first Assistant Secretary of State for International Narcotics Matters (1977-1981).

I am thrilled to hear of Dr. Thomas McLellan's appointment as ONDCP Deputy Director. Dr. McLellan has made immeasurable contributions to the addictions field and his appointment sends a clear message that the treatment of drug addiction will receive high priority in this administration. He is regarded internationally, as one of the foremost addictions experts who has helped our collective understanding of the factors that lead to recovery and the importance of viewing addiction as a chronic illness. His work in Philadelphia has promoted cross-system collaboration by linking substance abuse with child welfare, criminal justice, and primary care. He's had a tremendous impact in Philadelphia and nationally on improving treatment and prevention of substance abuse. Tom is an outstanding choice for ONDCP Deputy Director.

- Arthur C. Evans Jr, Ph.D., Director, Philadelphia Department of Behavioral Health and Mental Retardation Services

On behalf of Governor Paterson and all New Yorkers, we applaud Tom McLellan's appointment as ONDCP's Deputy Director. Over the course of his extensive career, Tom has been instrumental in advancing the science of addiction treatment. OASAS has benefited greatly from its partnership with the Treatment Research Institute and Tom's Addiction Severity Index (ASI) tool is widely used throughout the 1,550 OASAS-certified programs which treat 110,000 New Yorkers on any given day. Most important, as the Administration moves forward in reforming our nation's health care system, it will be critical to have Tom guiding the discussion and increasing understanding that prevention is possible, addictive disorders are chronic, progressive illnesses that respond well to patient-centered treatment and that recovery happens for people every day. We wish him every success in his new venture.

- Karen M. Carpenter-Palumbo, Commissioner, NYS Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse

McLellan is a great choice for Deputy Director of ONDCP. He has unparalleled expertise in the addiction field and is highly regarded for his efforts to marry the best of scientific research with practice. His pragmatic, no-nonsense, creative approach augurs well for those millions of Americans whose lives are touched in one way or another by substance abuse.

- John Kimberly, Ph.D.; Henry Bower Professor, Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania

Not only is Tom a great scientist, but he is also a true patriot. He served with distinction as a VA clinician scientist for almost 30 years where he worked very hard to improve the treatment of veterans with drug problems. His work left a lasting impact on the VA as well as on the state programs that he has designed at the Treatment Research Institute. Tom is the perfect person to bring to Washington fresh, evidence-based ideas that will improve the prevention and treatment of substance abuse for the entire country.

- Charles P. O'Brien, MD, Ph.D; Kenneth Appel Professor, Department of Psychiatry, University of Pennsylvania

With his unique approach to the way substance abuse treatment is delivered, versus how it should be delivered, McLellan is the perfect person to be Deputy Director of ONDCP. Given the Administration's expressed beliefs, the demand reduction part of the position becomes that much more important and McLellan is the perfect person to fill it.

- David Friedman, Ph.D.; Associate Dean for Research, Wake Forest University School of Medicine.

Tom McLellan has demonstrated how potent science can be in response to a national public health epidemic. Addiction is a preventable and treatable disease, one that strikes everyday Americans in all walks of life. Here in Philadelphia and across the nation, the work and words of Tom McLellan have inspired hope for those who need and deserve better treatment and prevention. I commend President Obama and Vice President Biden for appointing McLellan and others like him. Through him, they champion policies that work; and through him, they offer hope for all Americans who struggle with this debilitating disease.

- Beverly Haberle; Executive Director, Bucks County (PA) Council on Alcoholism & Drug Dependence, Inc.

The Treatment Research Institute is a non-profit research and development organization specializing in science-driven reform of practice and policy in addiction and substance use. For more information contact Bonnie Catone, Director of Communications, at bcatone@tresearch.org or visit the TRI website at www.tresearch.org.