



STATE OF UTAH

GARY R. HERBERT
GOVERNOR

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Governor names new director of state and federal relations

SALT LAKE CITY- (January 28, 2014) Governor Gary R. Herbert has named Wesley Smith as director of state and federal relations.

“Decisions made in the nation’s capital have significant impact on the people of Utah,” said Gov. Herbert. “Wesley’s policy experience, combined with his ability to work collaboratively with others, will provide Utah with a powerful voice in Washington and with governors across the county as we address the important issues of our day.”

Smith served as executive vice president of government affairs and general counsel for the Salt Lake Chamber where he oversaw the government relations efforts of Utah’s largest business association and provided legal expertise for the organization. During his five years at the Chamber, Smith played a significant role in several policy areas including economic development, health system reform, immigration, transportation and education.

“Policy decisions made in Washington weigh heavily on our state,” said Smith. “I look forward to working with Gov. Herbert to do all we can to make sure these decisions are well-informed, influenced and improved by the voice of Utahns.”

Before joining the Chamber, Smith worked as an attorney and was a consultant with The Exoro Group, where he advised clients on government affairs issues. He has also been a policy analyst with the Environmental Protection Agency in Washington, D.C. Smith served President George W. Bush and Vice President Dick Cheney in several capacities. His White House experience includes working in the Office of Presidential Advance, the Office of the Vice President and the Office of Counsel to the President.

Smith fills the role vacated by Robert Spendlove who resigned after winning a special election to the Utah House of Representatives. Smith will assume his new role Feb. 10. Smith earned a bachelor’s degree in American Studies from Brigham Young University and a juris doctorate from The George Washington University Law School. A resident of Cedar Hills, Smith and his wife, Allyson, have four children.

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