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IRRC Executive Director receives professional excellence award

HARRISBURG - The Independent Regulatory Review Commission announced today that its Executive Director, David Sumner, has been named the recipient of an Award for Professional Excellence from *The Legal Intelligencer*.

Sumner has served as IRRC's Executive Director since 2011. In this role, he oversees the day to day operations of an agency responsible for the independent oversight and review of state rulemakings to ensure that Pennsylvania's regulations are in the public interest. The agency recently celebrated its 40th anniversary.

IRRC's Chair, George Bedwick, offered the following statement, "David plays a valuable role in ensuring a fair and balanced regulatory climate in Pennsylvania. My fellow Commissioners and I congratulate him on this well-deserved award."

During his tenure at IRRC, Sumner has been instrumental in expanding citizen engagement in the Commonwealth. His efforts include a new website, new online database for public comments, livestreams of IRRC's meetings, the coordination of the first hearing in IRRC's history, and scheduling key public meetings of the agency outside of IRRC's offices in order to improve access. He is the longest serving Executive Director in IRRC's history.

Issued annually to celebrate achievements and excellence in the Pennsylvania legal community, the Professional Excellence Awards were presented by *The Legal Intelligencer*, America's oldest legal journal, at a ceremony in Philadelphia. Sumner's award, "Power Player," recognizes attorneys responsible for significant impacts in public policy, legislation, or jurisprudence.

Before joining IRRC, Sumner was a Senior Deputy Attorney General in the Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General where he handled civil and multi-state prosecutions before being elevated to the position of Director of Legislative Affairs. While at the Attorney General's office, he served under five Attorneys General, including former Pennsylvania Governor Tom Corbett.

Governor Tom Corbett congratulated Sumner on the award stating, "David has always worked to ensure a level playing field for Pennsylvania businesses,

consumers, and families and I am pleased to see those efforts recognized with this achievement."

Former IRRC Chair and President/C.E.O. of Targepeutics, Inc., Sil Lutkewitte nominated Sumner for the award. Lutkewitte offered the following in his nomination: "David improved the ways in which parties participate in the regulatory process and expanded their access to the Commission. His service to five Pennsylvania Attorneys General was marked by legal victories and legislative achievements providing significant protections for consumers. In summary, throughout his career in public service, David's efforts have and continue to improve the lives of millions of Pennsylvanians and have given a voice to citizens and organizations dealing with state government."

Sumner is a graduate of Lock Haven University. He received his law degree with high honors from Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey.

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[Photograph of Mr. Sumner is available if needed]

The Independent Regulatory Review Commission provides oversight and review of proposed and existing rules and regulations issued by all departments, boards, commissions, agencies or other authorities of the Commonwealth, excluding the Legislature, Fish and Boat Commission, the Game Commission, and any court, political subdivision, or municipal or local authority. The Commission also acts as a clearinghouse for complaints, comments and other input regarding existing, proposed, and pending regulations.

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