



News Release

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County Names New Assistant County Manager Announces Management Reorganization

FAYETTEVILLE, NC – County Manager James Martin has named Human Resources Director James Lawson as the county's new Assistant County Manager of Human Resource Development and Support Services. The announcement is part of a reorganization plan designed to strengthen two primary areas -- human resource development and communications.

The former Assistant County Manager for General and Support Services position has been vacant since January 2009. In announcing Lawson's promotion, Martin said, "We have spent a considerable period of time observing and analyzing the management issues that have arisen during this vacancy and have concluded that the position needed to encompass a new emphasis on staff development and training. James Lawson brings more than 24 years of personnel experience to the job, including almost 12 years as our human resources director."

Lawson, a graduate of Westover High School, served nine years in the Air Force working in military personnel. He joined the county's personnel department in 1995 and was named the Human Resources Director in November 1998. The county has more than 2,400 employees.

Lawson, 44, holds an associate's degree in resource management from the Community College of the Air Force and a bachelor's degree in business management from the University of Maryland. He is now responsible for overseeing Human Resources, Animal Services, Emergency Services, Central Maintenance and several other county departments.

"I look forward to this opportunity to serve alongside great leaders as we strive to meet the challenges impacting our workforce and citizens." Lawson said.

As part of his reorganization plan, Martin restructured the communications manager's position to include strategic planning. Communications Manager Sally Shutt is now the Communications and Strategic Initiatives Manager charged with reporting on the county's current goals and assisting in coordinating a future strategic planning process.

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