



# News Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Commissioners Thank Retiring Sheriff, Discuss Transition of Authority Process**

FAYETTEVILLE, N.C. – The Cumberland County Board of Commissioners held a press conference today on the eve of Sheriff Earl “Moose” Butler’s retirement to thank the lawman for his 22 years of service and to assure the citizens of Cumberland County of a seamless transition of authority.

Butler’s retirement is effective at midnight on Dec. 31. Under N.C. General Statutes, the chief deputy sheriff shall perform all the duties of the sheriff until the county commissioners appoint someone to fill the unexpired term.

The Board of Commissioners plans to appoint a new sheriff on Jan. 3, 2017, during its regular meeting scheduled for 9 a.m. in the Cumberland County Courthouse. The person appointed by the county commissioners will complete Butler’s term, which ends in 2018.

Chairman Glenn Adams recognized Butler for his leadership, which included achieving international accreditation through the Commission on Accreditation for the Sheriff’s Office consistently since 1998.

Adams said the commissioners wanted to assure citizens that under the leadership of Chief Deputy Ennis Wright, the Sheriff’s Office will continue to operate smoothly and ensure the safety of residents during this holiday weekend.

Wright encouraged citizens to be safe over the New Year’s holiday weekend and to not drink and drive.

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