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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Commissioners Gary Blount and Ben Casey Recognized as Certified County Commissioners

WOODBINE, Ga. - December 8, 2021 - The Association County Commissioners of Georgia (ACCG) recently recognized District 4 Commissioner Gary Blount and District 5 Commissioner Ben Casey for completing their core requirements in the Lifelong Learning Academy. Commissioners Blount and Casey were honored during the recent ACCG County Reconnect Conference at the Savannah Convention Center in Chatham County.



Chairman Gary Blount

ACCG and the Carl Vinson Institute of Government at the University of Georgia have collaborated for more than two decades to provide county officials with supplemental training and educational tools in the Lifelong Learning Academy. With abundant courses to choose from, every county official has a tailor made learning experience that allows them to excel in specific areas of expertise.

"County officials are faced with many challenges and ever-evolving circumstances under which they must govern Georgia's local communities," said Dave Wills, ACCG's Executive Director. "The Lifelong Learning

Academy was created to help them navigate those challenges. I commend county leaders such as Gary Blount and Ben Casey who take full advantage of educational opportunities to further their knowledge on how to better serve their communities."

The Lifelong Learning Academy was created with input from county commissioners who identified courses based on the issues and decision-making challenges regularly faced by county officials. To ensure the course requirements and curriculum remain relevant and engaging, the ACCG Lifelong Learning Committee – comprised of county commissioners and staff from both ACCG and the Carl Vinson Institute of Government at the University of Georgia – meet regularly to review and adjust accordingly. Through this collaborative approach, the

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Lifelong Learning Academy has been successful in equipping county officials with the necessary skills to meet the needs of their constituents.

"I am glad to improve my service to the citizens of Camden County by participating in ACCG's Lifelong Learning Academy and the Certified County Commissioner program," said District 4 Commissioner Gary Blount. "This program is an asset to County Commissioners as we undertake these important duties in service to our community."

District 4 covers south central parts of Camden County. Serving on the Board of Commissioners since 2011, Commissioner Blount leads as the 2021 Chairman of the Board of Commissioners.

"This program provides vital information that I have used to benefit not only the residents of District 5, but all of Camden County," said District 5 Commissioner Ben Casey.

Vice-Chairman Ben Casey

District 5 covers southwestern Camden County. Taking office in 2017, Commissioner Casey serves as the 2021 Vice-Chairman of the Board of Commissioners and completed coursework in 2020.

About Camden County: Located in the extreme southeast corner of Georgia, Camden County truly is "Georgia's Coastal Community of Choice." Originally formed in 1777, Camden County is best known for its rich history, natural scenic beauty and Southern hospitality. Our vision is helping to make this the best place to live by preserving and enhancing the history and quality of life, while promoting smart growth and providing an efficient, effective and responsive government.

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