



## Gloucester Department of Community Engagement and Public Information

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Gloucester's Community Engagement department expands its roles

Gloucester County's Community Engagement department recently expanded to include a Public Information component. The department, which has traditionally overseen community use and involvement in all the County's public schools, now serves as an official point of contact to provide information about county events and services for members of the media and the public.

The department will also play an integral role in marketing and branding Gloucester County and help communicate progress as the County seeks to implement the Board of Supervisors' vision and strategic priorities for the benefit of County residents and businesses.

"The department title was changed to reflect the additional focus placed on keeping the citizenry informed of government news and happenings," said Carol Steele, Gloucester's assistant county administrator. "The change in responsibilities will allow the County to better coordinate information coming from various departments, keep up with the increased use of social media and have an official contact person – a Public Information Officer."

Steele added that the department will continue its partnership with Gloucester County Public Schools as well as other engagement initiatives such as managing the local cable television channels, sponsoring the Gloucester Resource Council and providing the Gloucester County Resource Directory.

Two new staff members have joined the department to help fulfill its mission. Gloria Williams, who served as executive director of the Gloucester County Chamber of Commerce for the past five years, is managing the department. Her roles include

overseeing the seven Community Engagement Coordinators in each of the schools, managing the Cable Communications Partnership Program, overseeing the County's public information and branding initiatives and more.

Williams and her husband Matt reside in Gloucester with their two children. "I am incredibly excited to join the Community Engagement and Public Information team for Gloucester County," Williams said. "We look forward to working hand-in-hand with County departments to update and further streamline our processes of communication within the greater community and region, while continuing to provide the quality programming that our students, families and residents have counted on for decades. I'm grateful for this opportunity to serve my community."

Also, Quinton Sheppard, a journalist with the Gloucester-Mathews Gazette-Journal for the past 16 years, is the County's new Public Information and Marketing Coordinator. A native of Gloucester, he will be creating marketing strategies for the County, produce a wide variety of media materials and more. He and his wife Megan reside in Gloucester with their son.

Additionally, both Williams and Sheppard will serve as official Public Information Officers for the County and will receive and process all requests for Freedom of Information that is requested from County departments.

For more information, contact the Community Engagement and Public Information office at 804-693-5730 or e-mail [qsheppard@gloucesterva.info](mailto:qsheppard@gloucesterva.info).

#End of announcement