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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**August 26, 2013**

**Chief Animal Control Officer Named**

Gloucester County Administrator Brenda Garton has announced the promotion of Stephen T. Baranek to the position of Chief Animal Control Officer effective September 1, 2013. Officer Baranek is currently serving as the Senior Deputy Animal Control Officer with the County.

Officer Baranek will assume this position when the current Chief Animal Control Officer, Carl T. Shipley, retires on August 31, 2013 after more than twenty two (22) years of service with Gloucester County.

Hired as a deputy in 1999, Officer Baranek was promoted to the Senior Deputy Animal Control Officer position in 2006. While in this position, in addition to his daily responsibilities in the field, he assists with other agency matters, such as preparing the annual department budget and CIP Plan, maintaining and updating the department's Standards of Operation Policy, and acting as the department administrative head when the chief is on leave.

Garton noted, "I am pleased that Officer Baranek has accepted the offer of promotion, as through the years he has demonstrated his potential for this position with his leadership skills and in his grasp and knowledge of the functions and responsibilities of the Gloucester Animal Control Department."