



Gloucester Community Engagement & Public Information

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May 19, 2023

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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George Bains Receives Distinguished Service Award

Gloucester County's Deputy County Administrator George Bains was recently awarded the Julian F. Hirst Award for Distinguished Service by the Hampton Roads Chapter of the American Society for Public Administration (ASPA). The award is given each year to a Hampton Roads-area public administrator that demonstrates an exceptional record of public service.

Bains has over 35 years of public sector experience, and a rich history of service to the Gloucester community. In doing it, he has risen through the ranks of local government, starting out as Gloucester's Director of Engineering, where he helped develop and implement the County's Enhanced 9-1-1 system. He was also an integral player in developing Gloucester's Geographic Information and Public Utilities systems. Bains went on to serve as the County's first Director of Information Technology from 1995 to 2011 and was instrumental in creating the IT department.

After a stint with Henrico County serving as its Assistant Director of Information Technology, Bains returned to Gloucester in 2019 as Chief Information Technology Officer. He was quickly promoted to Deputy County Administrator and has served in that capacity since 2021.

Gloucester's other Deputy County Administrator, Steve Wright, who nominated Bains for the prestigious award said Bains is an "ardent advocate of continuous professional development," having completed the Senior Executive Institute at the University of Virginia's Weldon Cooper Center in 2015. "A true servant leader, George always strives, in small and large ways, to develop and strengthen his teams and improve the outcomes for the community," Wright said.

"I am honored and humbled to be receiving this award, and about my colleague, Steve, thinking highly enough of me to nominate me for this incredible recognition," Bains said. "All my work over the years boils down to my love for my community and figuring out ways we can all work together to make our services stronger and better for all our citizens."

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George Bains