



**For Immediate Release:**  
October 28, 2021

Joe Petrycki New County EMA Director & Andrew Keller New County Administrator

The Richland County Board of Commissioners (“Board”) formally announces the additions of Joseph D. Petrycki (“Joe”) and Andrew S. Keller effective November 12, 2021. Joe will join the County as the Director of EMA replacing Rick Evans who retires at the end of the year. Andrew will move from the Richland County Prosecutor’s Office to become the Richland County Administrator where he will completely administer the County’s federal stimulus funding as well as working with the Board on budget contracting and grant matters.

Joe is widely known in the community, particularly amongst safety services’ groups from his time spent as the City of Mansfield’s Assistant Chief of Police. Joe spent 25 years with the Mansfield Police Department where he earned great respect for his leadership and dedication to safety service. His experience with emergency response situations at multiple levels of law enforcement makes him a natural fit to lead the County’s Emergency Management Agency.

Andrew will bring to his new role one of the area’s finest legal minds to help Richland County navigate federal procurement laws that govern the use of more than \$23M in American Rescue Plan Act funding. Andrew started his career in service with Richland County in 2011 in the Prosecutor’s Office as an Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, and he became the County’s Chief Civil Attorney in 2013. He spent the last 8 years in that role serving as the lead counsel for the County’s elected offices and agencies along with assisting in representing the County’s townships.

The Commissioners would also like to extend their best wishes in retirement to Rick Evans who spent a career in service. Rick’s tireless work in the Shelby area following the tornado in 2019 was invaluable to the Shelby community, and the people of Richland County. The Board thanks Rick for his commitment to the safety of Richland County residents.