

HANOVER COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT HIRES NEW BUSINESS SERVICES COORDINATOR

The Hanover County Department of Economic Development has hired Tommy Miller as the Business Services Coordinator. Miller's primary responsibilities will include leading the Business First program, which is a business intelligence effort that focuses on identifying trends and issues for the growth and retention of companies in Hanover County.

Miller is not new to Hanover County; he previously served as the Marketing Analyst for the Department of Economic Development from 2006-2008. He specialized in research, design of marketing material and business information systems. Miller was also active in economic research for the 2007 – 2027 Comprehensive Plan update and was the project manager in partnering with the Timmons Group in the creation of *Site LoGISTics*, an interactive GIS commercial real estate database.

Since leaving Hanover County in 2008, he has served as the Business Development Manager with Franklin Southampton Economic Development Inc., a public-private, not-for-profit corporation representing the City of Franklin and Southampton County, Virginia. While at Franklin Southampton Economic Development, Miller was instrumental in establishing a strategic marketing plan, working with existing business, securing Enterprise Zone status and developing a regional tourism strategy. He also worked with various community and government organizations in the response to the closure of Franklin's paper mill, the region's dominant employer.

"We are extremely pleased that Tommy has returned to the fold in Hanover County," said Marc Weiss, Director of Economic Development. "Tommy's professionalism, superior customer service values and his problem-solving skills will be an asset to this office and the business community of Hanover. He will provide outstanding service to our corporate citizens."

Miller earned a B.S. degree in Real Estate & Land Development from Virginia Commonwealth University and a M.S.S. in Urban and Regional Planning, also from VCU.

In addition, he is currently pursuing his certification in Economic Development and is active in many organizations from his local neighborhood association to the Virginia Economic Developers Association.

Miller and his wife Julie have a 17-month old son, Beckett, with a second child expected this June.