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Hampton Roads Regional Jail Authority Announces New Superintendent

The Hampton Roads Regional Jail Authority announces the selection of David L. Simons as the new Superintendent for the Hampton Roads Regional Jail (HRRJ). Simons, a Certified Jail Manager, will begin in the position on April 1, 2011 following the retirement of Superintendent Roy W. Cherry.

As a criminal justice professional with over 28 years of progressive jail and law enforcement work history, Simons has previous experience with the HRRJ having served as the Assistant Superintendent from 1997, which was during the facility construction period, until 2008. He is currently the Jail Superintendent of the Western Tidewater Regional Jail located in the City of Suffolk.

"Given his substantial law enforcement experience and his long service with the Hampton Roads Regional Jail, David Simons is certainly the obvious choice as that individual who will be a responsible, effective leader for the facility, following in the steps of Roy Cherry," said HRRJ Board Member and Portsmouth City Councilman Steve Heretick.

"As the Hampton Roads Regional Jail Superintendent, I will continue in maintaining a safe and secure jail facility, focusing on public safety and cost-effective operations," stated Simons.

During his career, in addition to managing jail facilities, he has worked in law enforcement as Police Chief for the Onancock Police Department in Onancock, VA; Task Force Agent for the United States Department of Justice; and as a Deputy Sheriff, Sergeant, and Lieutenant in the Portsmouth Sheriff's Office.

Simons obtained a Juris Doctorate degree in 2001 from Regent University, School of Law; a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Criminal Justice from Saint Leo College in 1990; and in 1986, an Associate's Degree in Police Science from Tidewater Community College.

As a member of several professional organizations including the American Jail Association; the American Correctional Association; board member of the Community Criminal Justice Board and the Virginia Association of Regional Jails, Simons is also active in the community. He is a member of the National Eagle Scout Association and board member of Suffolk Crime Line and Boy Scouts of America, Tidewater Council. In addition, he is a member of Liberty Baptist Church in Hampton where he resides.

The Hampton Roads Regional Jail is located in the City of Portsmouth and houses up to 1,350 inmates. This correctional facility, which opened in 1998, serves the localities of Hampton, Newport News, Norfolk, and Portsmouth.

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