

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Governor Scott Names Okaloosa Director of Public Safety to SERC Committee

Okaloosa County's Board of County Commissioners is proud to announce the appointment of Alvin Henderson, Director of Okaloosa County's Department of Safety to the State Emergency Response Commission as the Florida Association of Counties Representative.

SERC is responsible to implementing federal emergency planning and community right-to-know act provisions in the Sunshine State. SERC works with local emergency planning committees to reduce the effects of releases or spills of hazardous materials by collecting data on the storage of hazardous chemicals above planning quantities.

Henderson Joined Okaloosa County Department of Safety on January of 2016. And brings significant experience dealing with the cleanup of hazardous spills and materials.

"It's truly an honor to be able to represent our first responders around the state and especially in Okaloosa County," Henderson said upon learning of his appointment, "from my perception, I would prefer to spend a lot of time in preparedness and mitigation efforts than have to respond to an actual spill."

Henderson has managed five hazardous material response teams in active spill situations during his career.

"I am very proud and excited for Alvin," Chairman of the Okaloosa County Board of County Commissioners Graham Fountain said, "He is a highly qualified director, with many years' experience handling dangerous situations. He has an outstanding track record for keeping people safe and his expertise will be well-used around the state, thanks to this move by the governor."

Commissioner Ketchel also praised Henderson, saying "He is a valuable member of our public safety team, who brings a wealth of experience to Okaloosa County. His appointment is just further confirmation."

"It's always good hear our employees have been singled out for their knowledge, leadership and experience," County Administrator John Hofstad said upon hearing of the appointment.

Henderson began his appointment March 22, and will serve at the pleasure of the governor.

For any further questions, please contact Christopher Saul at 585-7059, or via email, at csaul@myokaloosa.com