



Calvert County NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Linda Vassallo to Lead New Department of Communications & Media Relations

PRINCE FREDERICK, Md. – May 19, 2017 – The Calvert County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) is pleased to announce the appointment of Linda Vassallo as director of the new Calvert County Department of Communications & Media Relations. The appointment is an important part of the reorganization plan the board approved April 25 to improve overall county government operations and services to the public.

Vassallo, who is currently director of the Calvert County Department of Economic Development (DED), has worked for Calvert County Government for 21 years. Hired as the county's first marketing and communications specialist in 1996, she quickly moved through the ranks to become DED director in 1999.

“Linda has done a fantastic job for the business community and for the taxpayers of Calvert County,” said board President Tom Hejl. “She is the true definition of a public servant. Over the last 21 years, she has worked hard to more than double our business base from less than 1,700 businesses in 1996 to the more than 4,650 businesses we have today, increasing the commercial tax base more than 200 percent or by nearly \$900 million.

“She and her team played a vital role in two of the county's most important economic legacies,” Hejl continued. “She helped coordinate the Dominion Cove Point LNG expansion and her team's work on cultivating a robust commercial tax base was a key factor in Calvert County Government earning its first triple-A rating from all three credit rating agencies last year.”

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“The experience I have obtained on the economic development side of the house has been invaluable,” shared Vassallo. “I am honored to have played a role these last several years in building an economic development climate that is sustainable and growing to meet the needs of business owners and the citizens.

“It has been a great run, but I am truly excited to lead the new Department of Communications & Media Relations,” she continued. “Our communication team brings an impressive skill set to the table. We look forward to the opportunity to grow our existing communications program into a more robust operation.”

Vassallo earned her bachelor’s degree in Mass Communication from Towson University and held several public information and public affairs positions before joining Calvert County Government. She is currently a board member of the College of Southern Maryland Advisory Council, the Patuxent Partnership and Leadership Southern Maryland Leadership Council, and she is a 2007 graduate of Leadership Maryland. Vassallo will transition to the position of director of the new Communications & Media Relations Department July 1. Recruitment is currently underway to fill the DED director’s position.

Information on Calvert County Government services can be found online at www.co.cal.md.us. Find Calvert County Government on [Facebook](#).

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Calvert County is Maryland’s smallest county in land area with 213 square miles. It is home to nearly 91,000 people and has one of the highest standards of living in Maryland. Major industries include defense contracting, information technology, tourism, energy, advanced manufacturing and administrative services.