

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DCA hires new Research and Surveys Head

Tyler Reinagel brings “wealth of valuable experience to role”

Atlanta, GA (June 20, 2017) – Commissioner Camila Knowles today announced that the Georgia Department of Community Affairs has hired a new Government Research & Surveys Manager, Dr. Tyler Reinagel. Reinagel comes to DCA from the Office of the Inspector General of the United States Postal Service, where he focused on fiscal and economic policy research.

“Tyler has a deep knowledge of county and city government processes, and understands how local governments utilize research,” Knowles said. “I’m so pleased to have someone of his caliber leading the research and surveys division. More than ever we are focused on how to best serve our customers, and providing local governments with the informational building blocks needed to guide their decision-making is the foundation of successful public planning. Tyler brings a wealth of invaluable experience to this role.”

DCA is charged by the state to assist local governments and authorities by collecting data and making it available to city, county, and authority staff. One of the most used tools DCA provides is the Wage and Salary annual survey, which provides job duties and descriptions for local government jobs as well as their accompanying salaries. In total, DCA produces 13 reports and surveys required by state law.

“DCA gathers an incredible amount of information that local governments use when making decisions about development and infrastructure investment,” Reinagel said. “We want to make sure this information is made accessible in the most useful format to help them plan strategically.”

DCA has been working on ways to make reporting requirements less onerous for local governments and authorities, while providing value to those who utilize these reports and data. For instance, DCA is working with the Department of Transportation, the Georgia Association of Regional Commissions, and the Georgia Municipal Association on a digitized collection of GIS roads and annexation data, so that this information is easily available to any agency that needs it – whether for the upcoming 2020 Census or to help with local and regional planning.

“Whether developing a comprehensive plan or making major budget decisions, it’s critically important for Georgia’s community leaders to have the best data to make sound economic choices,” Reinagel said. “I’m excited about the opportunity to ensure we provide them with the information they need to help

them in their decision-making processes, and look forward to working with them to ensure we are delivering the right information in the most effective and efficient way."

Since 2013, Reinagel has served on the faculty at Western Carolina University teaching graduate (MPA) courses on public budget and finance, policy analysis, community economic development, strategic planning, and research methods. Previously, he spent five years with the Fanning Institute at the University of Georgia, working with county and municipal governments, state government offices, federal agencies, colleges and universities, and community/non-profit organizations to advance community development initiatives, strategic planning efforts, analysis on fiscal well-being and stability, and extensive quantitative research on public policy development and analysis models.

Prior to joining the Fanning Institute, he worked with the Georgia Municipal Association, representing and supporting city governments across the state of Georgia, with emphasis on taxation and fiscal policy analysis and community economic development research. In addition, he served as an Urban Policy Fellow in the Office of the Bronx Borough President (county executive), conducting data driven research on issues facing the borough, while completing undergraduate studies at Fordham University in New York City.

Reinagel received his Bachelor's degree in American Studies at Fordham University, and earned his MPA and Ph.D. in Public Administration and Policy at the University of Georgia. He has published extensive peer-reviewed research, and has appeared in State and Local Government Review, Journal of Education Finance, Administration and Society, and Journal of Public Affairs Education.

Originally from Woodstock, Reinagel now resides in Atlanta.

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About the Georgia Department of Community Affairs:

The Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) partners with communities to create a climate of success for Georgia's families and businesses through community and economic development, local government assistance, and safe and affordable housing. Using state and federal resources, DCA helps communities spur private job creation, implement planning, develop downtowns, generate affordable housing solutions, and promote volunteerism. DCA also helps qualified low- and moderate-income Georgians buy homes, rent housing, and prevent foreclosure and homelessness. For more information, visit www.dca.ga.gov.

