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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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IT Director brings long municipal experience to post

MURPHY (May 8, 2017) An 11-year veteran of virtually every aspect of Information Technology within a municipal government environment will step in to become the City of Murphy's next IT Director.

Taylor Prentice, the current IT Systems Manager in neighboring Richardson will begin his Murphy assignment on Monday, May 22, according to City Manager Mike Castro, PhD.

Prentice has been with the City of Richardson since starting his career in information technology, having hired on as a PC Technician in 2006. About 16 months later, he was promoted to SQL Analyst where he remained for about two years.

SQL stands for Structured Query Language and is used to communicate with a database. While in this position, Prentice led a team that was able to significantly consolidate mainframe hardware, saving space and money.

Following that, he became a Network Specialist until the spring of 2011. In that capacity, he was instrumental in developing a VPN (Virtual Private Network) solution designed to enhance access to Richardson's network from remote locations, a key to allowing employees to work from anywhere an internet connection was available.

In April of 2011, he assumed the position of IT Systems Manager. As manager, he leads network, server, security, storage and standard application functions for the Richardson Technology Division.

Managing a team of three IT professionals, he provides project leadership and task assignment for eight staff members in the city's IT and Public Safety Divisions.

He earned a bachelor of science in Electrical Engineering in 2002 and a master of science in Information Technology and Management in 2009, both from the University of Texas at Dallas. He is certified as a Microsoft Technical Specialist and carries an ITIL v3 Foundation Certificate.

"Taylor brings an enormous amount of experience to the position," said Castro. "In this day and age, information technology is vital to our efficiency and effectiveness. Taylor's understanding of the importance of finding the right solutions for local government needs will be invaluable."

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ABOUT MURPHY -- Murphy is a fast-growing community located in Collin County. The population is approximately 19,330, generally characterized as highly educated with a median household income above the state average. With more than 70 percent of the land developed, the community is dominated by single-family residences. City planners strive to preserve a country feel while exhibiting an aggressive economic development stance. Money Magazine has dubbed Murphy as the 27th Best Place to Live in America for small cities, and D Magazine placed Murphy as the fifth best suburb in the 2014 list, where it has consistently ranked in the top 10.