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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Murphy City Council chooses new City Manager

MURPHY (January 8, 2024) By unanimous vote during a special meeting on Dec. 12, the Murphy City Council appointed Aretha L. Adams as City Manager. She was selected after a national search produced some 40 candidates for the position. Adams will begin on Monday, Feb. 5.

Adams counts on nearly two decades of city government and related public service experience. Most recently, Adams was the City Manager of the City of Heath where she served for nearly five years. Previous to that, she briefly served as Town Manager in Sykesville, MD near Washington, DC.

Among her municipal government posts, Adams served as Assistant City Manager in Lancaster, and in McKinney, Adams served as Assistant to the City Manager and Assistant City Manager. She has also served as interim Economic Development Manager for the City of Corinth.

She served as a Management Analyst for the City of Fremont, CA, and a Legislative Analyst for the District of Columbia. She began her career in her native Florida as a Budget Analyst for the City Manager's Office in the City of Tallahassee.

Adams cites her years of overseeing all of the major facets of municipal management with an emphasis on strategic planning, budget development, organizational culture, economic development, management of personnel, and internal services. Her management philosophy is summarized as collaborative management with a focus on consensus building and achieving results.

The City of Murphy is a mature community that is nearly built out, with a thriving commercial corridor along FM 544 which traverses the City on an east to west axis. Economic development, budgetary control, and community engagement are some of Murphy's most important issues.

"Aretha's varied background makes her uniquely qualified for the City of Murphy," said Mayor Scott Bradley. "We carefully reviewed the backgrounds and experiences of many fine candidates, and Aretha scored very high on the variables we were looking for. Her exceptional experience in effectively overseeing the various elements of a city, coupled with her detailed budgetary acumen, makes her the right choice for our organization."

Adams is enthusiastically optimistic about the possibilities that exist in her new assignment. "I am thrilled to join the Murphy team," she said. "I look forward to working with the Mayor, Council, Staff, and community to build upon the amazing foundation already in place. Together, we're going to do great things for our community."

She earned a bachelor's degree in political science from Florida A&M University and a Master of Public Administration degree with a concentration on state and local management from American University in Washington, DC. Among her active memberships are the International City County Management Association, Texas City Management Association, and Women Leading Government.

She and her husband Damien Adams have five children.

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ABOUT MURPHY -- Murphy is a fast-growing community located in Collin County. The population is approximately 21,200, generally characterized as highly educated with a median household income well above the state average. With more than 80 percent of the land developed, the community is dominated by single-family residences. City planners strive to preserve a family-oriented community with a strong sense of place. 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 its annual list, where it has consistently ranked in the top 10.