

# THE GIST

Governor's Crime Commission Monthly Newsletter

Grants  
Information  
Stakeholders  
Training

## First Responder Mental Health Summit

Heart of Horse Sense is hosting a First Responder Mental Health Summit in Asheville and Marshall, NC. This event will take place from Thursday, April 24 - Saturday April 26. This event is described as three days of building awareness, reducing the stigma and providing a safe pathway for first responders to seek support. Learn more about Heart of Horse Sense and the event [here](#).

## New GCC Commissioner - Ginger Efirm

Ginger D. F. Efirm was raised in Stanly County, N.C. and attended Pfeiffer University graduating with a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice with a concentration in Law Enforcement and Corrections in May 2000.



Ginger started her career with the North Carolina Judicial Branch shortly after graduation. She served in various positions across district attorney's offices for Mecklenburg, Stanly, Union, Anson, Richmond and Montgomery Counties. She joined the Mecklenburg County district attorney's office as a domestic violence victim/witness legal assistant in December 2000. From there, Efirm transferred to work as child sex assault victim/witness legal assistant through December 2006. She then became the administrative assistant for Prosecutorial District 20A serving in that role for over sixteen years under three district attorneys. Efirm was appointed on December 1, 2022, to fill a vacancy for a retiring clerk. She was elected as Stanly County Clerk of Superior Court and was sworn in on December 5, 2022.

Ginger currently serves the North Carolina Conference of Clerks of Superior Court as chair of the Public Relations Committee and member of the Legislative Committee. Most recently she was appointed by Governor Roy Cooper to serve on the Governor's Crime Commission.

## New GCC Commissioner - Ken Pike

Ken Pike began his law enforcement career in 1989 as an agent with the North Carolina Alcohol Law Enforcement Division.

Over his 28-year career with ALE, he advanced through the ranks,



ultimately retiring in 2017 as assistant director. Immediately upon retirement, Ken began working with the Franklin County Sheriff's Office where he supervised the Narcotics Unit and Special Operations Group. Ken remained in that role until 2022, when he was appointed to the position of chief deputy by Sheriff Kevin White.

In addition to over 34 years of law enforcement experience, Ken is a Division I college basketball official, and he works as a contracted security consultant for the United States Golf Association. Ken has been married to his wife Jill for 34 years and they have two sons.

## SCIP and CVIPI Grants

The requests for application for the Edward Byrne State Crisis Intervention Program and the Community Based Violence Intervention and Prevention Initiative grants will be launched on Friday, February 28, 2025. You can access all of GCC's current RFA's [here](#). Be on the lookout for more communication about both applications and when they open. Learn more about the CVIPI program through this [video](#) and on the Office of Violence Prevention [website](#).

Click [here](#) to see past publications of **The GIST** and to [subscribe](#) to all future publications.