

AARON J. NORRIS

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EDUCATION

Auburn University Graduate School Auburn, AL
Master of Community Planning (MCP), Master of Public Administration (MPA) – Dual Degree
 Graduate Minor: Economic Development 08/2018-12/2020

- ICMA Local Government Early Career Service Certificate | International City/County Management Association (ICMA) 12/2020
- Pi Sigma Alpha (Epsilon Nu Chapter) | National Political Science Honor Society 05/2020
- Student of the Year (Graduate School) | Student Government Association 2019-2020
- Administrative Vice President (AVP) / Graduate Student Council (GSC) 04/2019-12/2020

Auburn University Auburn, AL
Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary University Studies
 Emphases: Business, Leadership, Philanthropy & Nonprofit Studies 08/2010-05/2018

- Chi Phi Veterans Honor Society 2018
- Chi Phi Fraternity (Mu Delta Chapter) 2010

MILITARY SERVICE

Lance Corporal (E-3) | United States Marine Corps Reserve (USMCR)
Supply Administration and Operations Clerk Mobile, AL
3D Force Reconnaissance Company 04/2013 – 04/2016

- Awarded Meritorious Mast (Top 5 in class) – Military Combat Training (MCT)
- Awarded Certificate of Commendation (2nd in class) – Military Occupation School (MOS)

EXPERIENCE

Alabama Department of Commerce Montgomery, AL
Business Development Specialist | 40 hours/week 12/2020-Present

- Manages the development of proposals for national and international firms outlining potential sites, site development, funding, permitting and other economic development information.
- Develops and maintains networking relationships with local, regional, state, national and international economic allies in order to promote and facilitate new industry locations or existing industry expansion and retention such that effective and efficient project due diligence is provided
- Prepares and maintains detailed project files and summary reports such that prompt, accurate, and concise information is produced as requested by the supervisor and Secretary of Commerce regarding project specific details, criterion deadlines, contact follow-ups (oral and written), and closing/announcement data
- Collects and maintains updated economic and engineering data on raw materials, natural resources, labor supply, industrial sites, building space and other information on the State’s resources
- Leads problem solving efforts with potential or existing firms relating to economic development within the State
- Coordinates economic development efforts as liaison with the Economic Development Partnership of Alabama (EDPA) and other allies in Alabama to provide local representation of Commerce to augment stronger working relationships

*Professional references available upon request.

- Shadows and assists Project Managers or Division Director in meetings, workshops, and seminars to maintain and enhance professional economic development knowledge and skills
- Participates in contact programs, trade/product shows, conferences, or other economic development ally efforts, regional functions and regional events to identify suspect, prospect, and project leads in an efficient manner
- Conducts presentations at meetings, seminars, and conferences to national and international firms about the advantages of locating and expanding facilities within the State
- Operates state issued equipment so to ensure that vehicles, data devices, etc. are utilized and maintained in an effective, efficient and safe manner in compliance with agency policy and procedures

Alabama Department of Commerce

Montgomery, AL

Rural Development Intern | 40 hours/week

05/2020-12/2020

- Developed and implemented new program strategies for the 40 targeted or rural (population below 50,000) counties in the State of Alabama
- Analyzed key business and industry policy concerning our targeted counties and their needs – contributing to agency decisions and policy recommendations
- Planned and managed high-priority rural economic development products and services
- Worked closely with Federal and non-Federal partners revitalizing, expanding, and upgrading distressed communities’ physical infrastructure in rural Alabama
- Served as a technical authority handling a broad range of programmatic areas and functions

CERTIFICATIONS

Intensive Economic Development Training Course

Auburn University Government & Economic Development Institute (GEDI)

09/2019

Basic Economic Development Course

Auburn University Government & Economic Development Institute (GEDI)

07/2019

INVOLVEMENT

Auburn Young Professionals (AYP)

Member

07/2021-Present

Auburn Food & Wine Festival, LLC

Co-Owner

06/2021-Present

Economic Development Association of Alabama (EDAA)

Member

01/2021-Present

Storybook Farm, Inc.

Junior Council Member

11/2020-05/2021

Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Lee County | Board of Directors

Board Member

01/2020- Present

Women’s Philanthropy Board (WPB)

Phil Jr. (The Phils – WPB’s Men’s Auxiliary)

08/2018- Present

*Professional references available upon request.