



INFORMATION RELEASE

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AHTD ANNOUNCES ADDITIONAL PROMOTIONS

LITTLE ROCK (12-1) – The Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department (AHTD) has announced three promotions at its Central Office in Little Rock.

Effective December 1st, Tony Sullivan became the Department's Assistant Chief Engineer for Operations. Kevin Thornton became the Assistant Chief Engineer for Planning and Joe Sartini became the State Maintenance Engineer.

Sullivan is replacing Emanuel Banks who recently became Deputy Director and Chief Engineer. Sullivan began work at the AHTD in 1979. After completing the engineering orientation program, he was assigned to the Traffic Division, where he advanced to Civil Engineer II, followed by Traffic Engineer, Advanced Traffic Engineer and Senior Traffic Engineer. In 1988, he assumed the responsibilities of Section Head of Traffic Services and became the Staff Traffic Engineer in 1989. In 2007, Sullivan was promoted to Assistant State Maintenance Engineer and, in 2008, was promoted to his former position as State Maintenance Engineer. He has a bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Arkansas.

Thornton replaces Lorie Tudor who was promoted to Deputy Director and Chief Operating Officer. Thornton began in the Roadway Design Division in 1986. The next year, he transferred to Hot Springs where he was promoted to Construction Field Engineer I and Construction Field Engineer II. In 1990, he transferred to Camden as an Advanced Construction Field Engineer. He became the Assistant Resident Engineer in 1991 and transferred back to Hot Springs the same year. Thornton was promoted to Staff Construction Engineer in 2006 and moved into the Systems Administrator position in 2007. He was promoted to Assistant Division Head of Programs and Contracts in 2011 and, later the same year, was promoted to Division Head of Programs and Contracts. Thornton has a bachelors degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Arkansas.

Sartini replaces Sullivan as State Maintenance Engineer. Sartini joined the AHTD staff in 1986 as a Senior Construction Aide in West Memphis. He advanced to Civil Engineer I, Construction Field Engineer I, Advanced Construction Field Engineer and Assistant Resident Engineer while in West Memphis. In 2000, Sartini was promoted to Resident Engineer in Wynne and, in 2002, advanced to District Maintenance Engineer. He

was promoted to District Engineer in Little Rock in 2008. Sartini has a bachelor's degree in engineering with emphasis in civil engineering from Arkansas State University.

All three are Registered Professional Engineers.

"It's such a benefit to have the experience in place that these three bring to their new positions," stated Emanuel Banks, Deputy Director and Chief Engineer.

"We are proud to announce these promotions and are confident that they will represent the AHTD in the best manner possible," added AHTD Director Scott Bennett.

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