



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Bill Sisson Named Mobile Area Chamber of Commerce President**

MOBILE, Ala. – On Friday, April 19, Bill Sisson was named president of the Mobile Area Chamber of Commerce. He will replace Win Hallett, who is retiring this summer following 22 years as president.

Sisson has been executive director of the Mobile Airport Authority since 2008, and previously worked as vice president of economic development for the Mobile Area Chamber from 2003-2008. Before coming to Mobile, Sisson was executive director of the Center for Community and Economic Development at the University of Southern Mississippi, the only school in the country to offer a master's degree in economic development. Prior to that, he served as director and later vice president of the business development division of the chamber in Birmingham.

“This community is poised for unprecedented growth and prosperity, and I look forward to working again at the Chamber to continue the excellent economic and community development that has occurred under Win's leadership,” Sisson said.

“Bill has first-hand knowledge about so many facets of this organization – from project management in economic development, to overseeing our international trade and workforce development programs, and working with the Chamber's air service task force,” said Hallett. “He brings institutional knowledge of Chamber management, as well as a clear understanding on the importance of maintaining key public and private partnerships.”

Mike Saxon with Alabama Power Co., and chairman of the Mobile Area Chamber's board of directors, headed up the search committee made up of a diverse base of business executives and representatives of the city of Mobile and Mobile County. He said the selection committee worked eight months before naming Sisson, who was the committee's unanimous choice for the job according to Saxon.

“We felt strongly that proven leadership ability was a must; and Chamber and/or economic development experience was also very important. And while not absolutely necessary, a strong local knowledge was also a plus. Bill clearly met all of these criteria,” Saxon said. He noted that Sisson brings to the Chamber proven leadership from his work with the Mobile and Birmingham chambers and the Mobile Airport Authority.

A graduate of James Madison University with a degree in international business and an MBA from The University of Alabama, Sisson is also a graduate of the Institute for Organizational Management. He is married to Catherine Sisson and has two sons.

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