



ST. MARY'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT
PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE

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COMMISSIONERS OF ST. MARY'S COUNTY

James R. Guy, President

Mike Alderson, Jr., Commissioner

Eric S. Colvin, Commissioner

Michael. L. Hewitt, Commissioner

Scott R. Ostrow, Commissioner

NEWS RELEASE *for Immediate Release*

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St. Mary's County Government Officials Head to the Maryland Association of Counties (MACo) Summer Conference

LEONARDTOWN, MD – The Commissioners of St. Mary's County and leaders from across St. Mary's County Government will be attending the Maryland Association of Counties (MACo) summer conference in Ocean City, MD, from **August 14-17, 2024**.

The 2024 theme "*Turning the Tide*" promises innovative solutions for today's challenges to ensure tomorrow's success. This year's conference will examine ways counties can, with an eye on the future, foster and fund priorities like planning for sustainable growth and modernizing mental health and public safety services.

Over 3,000 county and state government representatives and commercial companies will convene at the 2024 MACo Summer Conference. Participants can expect a dynamic and enriching experience, discovering best practices, innovative county solutions, and potential partnerships. Showcasing a diverse program of events, attendees can partake in five enlightening general sessions, delve into more than 50 educational sessions, explore a vast 300-booth tradeshow, and discover cutting-edge solutions at the 60-booth Tech Expo. The conference will also offer numerous networking events, fostering invaluable connections within Maryland's governmental and business communities.

"The MACo conference offers the opportunity to learn about important legislative changes and other key issues facing local governments, such as workforce retention, affordable housing, cyber security, and more," said Commissioner President Randy Guy, who also serves on MACo's Board of Directors and Legislative Committee.

Commissioner President Guy will moderate the session on the *Open Meetings Act*, a core course for fellows in the Academy for Excellence in Local Governance.

Additionally, St. Mary's County Government is proud to have two team members presenting at the 2024 conference. Ben Cohen, with our Department of Economic Development will present as a panelist on the session, "*Navigating Opportunity: Results of the 5-County Coalition on the Chesapeake Bay Ferry System Feasibility Study*" and Captain Shawn Moses, with St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office will present as a panelist on the session, "*Called to Corrections: What's Working in Officer Recruitment and Retention*".

– **MORE** –

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Note to Members of the Press: You are invited to attend the conference as complimentary guests and may register through MACo's website: www.mdcounties.org/SC24OnlineRegistration.

Please note the Commissioners of St. Mary's County will **not** meet on Tuesday, August 13, 2024. **The next CSMC business meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 20, 2024, at 9 a.m.** in the CSMC Meeting Room (1st floor, Chesapeake Building, 41770 Baldrige Street in Leonardtown). Meetings are open to the public and can be viewed live on TV Channel 95 or on-demand via www.YouTube.com/@StMarysCoGov. Visit stmaryscountymd.gov for more information.

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About the Maryland Association of Counties (MACo): MACo is a non-profit and non-partisan organization that serves Maryland county governments by articulating their needs and ideas to the Maryland General Assembly. The Association's membership comprises county elected officials and representatives from Maryland's 23 counties and Baltimore City. More at: mdcounties.org.