## **IMMEDIATE NEWS**

## **RELEASE**



The Michigan Sheriffs' Association (M.S.A.) Announces the Selection of the Association's next Executive Director Sheriff Matthew Saxton, Calhoun County

Recently, the M.S.A. Board of Directors met to interview candidates for the next Executive Director position. After an extensive process, Sheriff Matthew (Matt) Saxton was selected to replace Sheriff Blaine Koops (Ret.) who is leaving the post at the end of April.

According to Iron County Sheriff Mark Valesano, the current M.S.A. President, "We had several excellent candidates apply for the position. Matt brings years of experience, knowledge and personality to the position. We are looking forward to Matt's leadership into the next chapter of M.S.A."

Sheriff Saxton has been with the Calhoun Sheriff's Office since 1994. He has held various command positions within the Law Enforcement and Corrections Divisions. He has been the elected Sheriff of Calhoun County since 2013. He also spent a short time as a patrol officer in the Village of Homer, prior to joining the Calhoun Sheriff's Office.

Sheriff Saxton's educational achievements include a Bachelor's Degree (BS) from Lake Superior State University. He is a graduate of the Northwestern University Center for Public Safety, School of Police Staff and Command. Furthermore, he is a graduate of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's National Academy #230. He has served on the M.S.A. Board of Directors for the last 7 years and is the current Vice President of the Association.

"I look forward to serving the 83 Michigan Sheriff's and their agencies into the future, as well as the over 21,000 citizen Membership", Saxton stated in an interview.

Sheriff Saxton, his wife Heidi, and their three children, reside in Pennfield Township.

Sheriff Saxton will begin his duties at M.S.A. pending contract negotiations.