

# JOEY R. PRESTON

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## CAREER OBJECTIVE/PROFESSIONAL PHILOSOPHY:

Respond to the challenges and needs of government in these times with creativity, continuous dialogue, prudent planning, vision, careful budgeting and ongoing collaboration between communities, their government and businesses.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

**County Administrator**, Anderson County, South Carolina (council-administrator form of government) \$150 million annual budget -900+ employees -\$70 million in building projects -Bond rating improved to AA+, 1996 – 2009

**County Administrator**, Cherokee County, South Carolina (council-administrator form of government) \$40 million budget -425+ employees, 1988-1996

**Administrative Services Officer**, City of Charlotte, North Carolina, 1984 to 1987,

## EDUCATION ADVANCED TRAINING:

South Carolina Economic Development School, *Graduate 2008*

Urban Land Institute, *Graduate 2008*

National Defense University, Reserve Components National Security Course, *Graduate 2005*

Clemson University, *M.P.A. Graduate Certificate, 2005*

Furman University, The Richard W. Riley Institute, Diversity Leadership Academy, *Graduate 2004*

South Carolina Budget and Control Board Executive Institute, *Graduate 2002*

Harvard University, John F. Kennedy School of Government, State/Local Government Program, *Graduate 2001*

Leadership South Carolina, *Graduate 2000*

Leadership Anderson, *Graduate 1998*

Leadership Cherokee, *Graduate 1991*

University of North Carolina - Charlotte, BA, Political Science and Psychology, *Graduate 1986*

## PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY AFFILIATIONS:

SC Educational Television (SCETV), *Advisory Board*

Southeast Stormwater Association, *Board Member*

Anderson University, *Board of Visitors*

Anderson County March of Dimes, *Chair 2003 & 2004*

Anderson County Arts Council, *Treasurer 2003, VP 2004*

Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA), *Member*

South Carolina Economic Development Association, *Member*

South Carolina Law Enforcement Officers' Assoc., *Member*

Electric City & Blacksburg Rotary Clubs, *Former Member*

Anderson County Fraternal Order of Police, *Honorary Member*

Upstate SC Alliance, *Public Sector Board*

The Great Southeast BalloonFest, *Executive Committee*

Salvation Army Board, *Vice Chair 2001-02*

Saluda-Reedy Watershed Project, *Advisory Council Member*

Anderson Area Chamber of Commerce, *Board & Member*

American Society for Public Administration (ASPA), *Member*

Virginia Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, *Member*

American Public Works Association, *Member*

Downtown Anderson Merchant's Association, *co-founder*

Awareness of Inclusion, *Vice Chairman 2008-09*

## MILITARY AWARDS:

**South Carolina Military Department, Rank: Colonel in the Adjutant General's Joint Services Detachment**

Joint Services Department, *Detachment Adjutant*

Joint Services Detachment, *Deputy Director, Governmental Affairs*

"SC State Guard Award of Excellence," *Sept. 2004*

National Guard Association of South Carolina, *Affiliate Member*

South Carolina Military History Foundation Board, *Chairman*

Youth Program Advisory Board, SC National Guard, *Vice Chair*

State Guard Association of the United States, *Member*

Palmetto Chapter State Guard Assoc. of the U.S., *Member*

"National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Patriotic Employer Award", *2003, 2005*

Army National Guard, "Command Volunteer of the Year Award," *2006*

263rd Air Artillery Missile Defense Command, *2005*

263rd AAMDC, "Order of Saint Barbara," honorary military society of US Air Defense Artillery & Field Artillery, *2008*

South Carolina Army National Guard 263rd Regiment Scholarship and Family Care Association (RSFCA), *Member Proclamations and Dedications Committee, South Carolina State Guard Medal of Honor Ceremony, Member*

## South Carolina Military Department

"SC Homeland Defense Achievement Medal," *Aug. 2006*

"State Commendation Ribbon," *Aug. 2005, Nov. 2006*

"State Achievement Ribbon," *Aug. 2005, May 2004, Nov. 2006*

"State Service Ribbon," *Feb. 2005, Nov. 2006, Nov. 2007*

"State Guard Commendation Medal," *Nov. 2004, Aug. 2005*

SC Military Dept. "Officer Basic Course," *Honor Graduate 2004*

## United States Air Force Reserve Officers Training, 1983-84, University of North Carolina at Charlotte

"Outstanding Cadet," three times, 1984 Arnold Air Honor Society, *Member*

## CAREER HIGHLIGHTS:

- Provided leadership and direction necessary for Anderson County to attain the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) every year since 1996. Anderson County has an annual budget (operating and capital) of approximately \$150 million, and more than 900+ employees. In 2005, the County earned the Excellence in Budget Presentation award from GFOA. Standard and Poor's recently upgraded the County's bond rating to AA+, the highest rating for a county our size in the state.
- Spearheaded local initiative to obtain the National Civic League's "All America City" Award in 2000. Anderson became the first County in South Carolina to ever win the honor. This prestigious annual award is only given to ten communities nation-wide whose government, private, and non-profit sectors work together to solve problems. Anderson County was also the first County to win the South Carolina Association of Counties' "J. Mitchell Graham Award" for two consecutive years and one of the few to earn the award multiple years. This award is presented annually to the County that exhibits excellence in its governmental performance.
- Oversaw the construction of Anderson County's \$100 million sewer infrastructure, the county's Library system, consisting of \$19 million in new buildings and improvements, and the development of \$2.5 million in County parks. Other notable construction included \$2.81 million in Law Enforcement Center and Annex, \$3.47 million for DSS Building and maintenance, \$3.82 million improvements to the Health Department, a \$12.73 million Airport Business Park, \$1 million for a Courthouse annex and improvements to the Anderson County Historic Courthouse, and \$41.5 million in various other construction and improvements throughout Anderson County.
- Planned construction for 2009 included a \$3.2 million Animal Shelter and Low-Cost Spay and Neuter Clinic, \$1.2 million in renovations to the Ronald Townsend Government Building and a \$1.5 million renovation to the McCants School Building, currently housing Meals on Wheels, Senior Solutions, and other community programs, and a \$915,000 Community Center at Broadway Lake.
- Brought to Anderson County, between 1996 and 2008, approximately \$3 billion dollars in new capital investments along with the creation of over 7,100 jobs in the area.
- Oversaw the project in 2002 to obtain the "Barrett Lawrimore Memorial Regional Cooperation Award," given by the South Carolina Association of Counties for Anderson's innovative, fare-free, regional, transportation system. This project connects the heart of the City of Anderson with four local colleges and five municipalities.
- Coordinated with other local officials to lure Freedom Weekend Aloft (the second largest hot air balloon festival in the country) to Anderson County in 1999. This festival remained for eight years. In 2007, initiated the first annual Great Southeast BalloonFest. Worked to have Anderson County named as the site for the U.S. National Hot Air Ballooning Championship for seven years. Anderson County is now poised to place a bid for the World Hot Air Balloon Championship. During my tenure, the Anderson Sports and Entertainment Center received the 2005 Governor's Cup as the best tourism attraction in the State.
- Assisted with the establishment of the downtown Arts and Cultural District: placement of the Main Library (2000) and Anderson County Museum (2002), as well as the Farmer's Market (2002) and the open-air Market Pavilion (2006); and the locating of the new Convention and Visitor's Bureau (2006) in the newly renovated Art's Warehouse. These are anchors for the Arts and Cultural District.

## ADDITIONAL HONORS & AWARDS:

"The South Carolina House of Representatives Commendation," for being selected "County Leader of the Year" by the Anderson City and County Magazine, 2003

"Anderson County Council Resolution," for being selected "County Leader of the Year" by American City and County Magazine, 2002

"Service Award," Town of Pendleton, 2000

"All-American City Spirit Award," National Civic League, 2000

"Key to the City," Gastonia, North Carolina, 2000

"Cherokee County Council Resolution," for his outstanding service to the citizens of Cherokee County, 1996

"Key to the Town," Blacksburg, South Carolina, 1996

Blacksburg Rotary's "Rotarian of the Year," 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996

## HONORS & DISTINCTIONS

### 2008

- Proclamation of Employee Appreciation by Anderson County
- "Order of Saint Barbara," SC National Guard, 263'd AAMDC
- "Regional Cooperation Award" and Honorable mention for "J. Mitchell Graham Award," S.C. Assoc. of Counties

### 2006

- "President's Award," Balloon Federation of America
- "Regional Cooperation Award," S.C. Association of Counties
- International Association of Emergency Managers "Disaster Preparedness Award"

### 2005

- National Defense University, Reserve Nat'l Security course, only civilian appt.
- "Volunteer of the Year Award," SC Nat'l Guard 263d AAMDC

### 2004

- SC National Guard Youth Programs Advisory Board
- SC General Assembly resolution naming Joey Preston an innovator
- Collaboration Award from SC legislative Black Caucus

### 2003

- "Program Excellence Award for Outstanding Partnerships Intergovernmental Cooperation" Int'l City/Co. Mgr. Association

### 2002

- "Leader of the Year," City & County Magazine
- "Planning Advocate of the Year," S.C. Chapter of the American Planning Assoc.
- "Innovator of the Year," S.C. Democratic Leadership Council
- "J. Mitchell Graham Award" and "Regional Cooperation Award," S.C. Association of Counties

### 2001

- State & local Gov't Program, John F. Kennedy School of Gov't, Harvard University graduate
- "J. Mitchell Graham Award," SC Association of Counties
- "Volunteer of the Year," Salvation Army
- Outstanding Contributions to Community Services Award, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity

### 2000

- "All American City" Award from the National Civic League

### 1999

- "Pointing the Way Leadership Award," Anderson Independent Publishing Co.
- "The Governor's Award for Recruiting," Rotary International

ESGR Award, 2003-2005

Selected: Local Government and Political Leader, Anderson Independent-Mail, 1997-07

Gubernatorial Appointment to the S.C. State Recycling Market Dev. Advisory Council, 1998-2001

Appointment. to U.S. Cultural & Heritage Tourism Summit, 2005