



Baxter County Judge

One East Seventh St. - Suite 303
Courthouse Square
Mountain Home, AR 72653

January 4, 2022

To Whom It May Concern,

It has been a thrill throughout my life to think that a poor Ozark County Farm boy, raised on the banks of Lick Creek, could achieve the heights to which God and the good folks of Baxter County have given me and put their trust in my abilities to serve them. Having served in some form of government for nearly 34 years, I think it is time after much consideration, prayer, and consultation with family that it is time for me take the next step. At the end of this year, and the end of the 1st historic 4-year term for County officials, I will turn 70 years old in less than 2 months. God willing, I will have served as your County Judge for 10 years. Many folks have inquired as to my intentions, and that has certainly picked up after others have announced that they will be filing for County Judge, and so tonight I will publicly announce that which I have told my staff, family, and others privately, my intentions. It is time I believe that I divert my time and attention to serving God, my family, and the so-called golden years as well as myself for as long as God allows me to live. So, I will not seek re-election to continue as your County Judge in 2022. This was and has been on the forefront of my mind since my serious health issues in 2016. That event made me even more aware of the facts that life is short, and we have only a short time on earth. I wish to retire from over 50 years in the work force and with family support enjoy what is left of life for more without the daily stress that comes from this position.

Many of the aforementioned people, as well as many in this room tonight have encouraged me to reconsider, and I am overwhelmed with that response. It makes me feel as if we have helped with all of us working together, that we have accomplished a lot of good, and I will not bore you tonight by listing some of them as I see them. There will be time for that. But when I am told, "Judge, you know you got 4 more years in you", it gives a sort of satisfaction and belief that I might in my own minor way have contributed for good in all of Baxter County. I have been places, become friends with many folks in high places, from city halls in Baxter County to the White House. I thank everyone for that because unless I had served in this position by the will of the people, I would have never had those opportunities. Thank you for your encouragement, and for your support and letting me help you as you helped me and to accomplish what I see we have over the past nearly 10 years.

Now with that said, I wish each and everyone of you a happy & successful 2022 and let's go to work to accomplish even more and better things.

Sincerely,

Mickey D Pendergrass

Mickey D Pendergrass
Baxter County Judge
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