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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## Board of Commissioners Chairman Thomas Thompson Receives NCACC Recognition for Professional Development

**HC-2015-27**

**Hendersonville, NC - September 23, 2016**

Henderson County Board of Commissioners Chairman Thomas “Tommy” Thompson was recently recognized by the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners for meeting the Practitioner level in the Local Elected Leaders Academy. A Practitioner has completed a minimum of 48 credits of continuing education since becoming a county commissioner.

The Local Elected Leaders Academy, a partnership with the UNC School of Government, the N.C. Association of County Commissioners and the N.C. League of Municipalities, offers local elected officials the knowledge and skills needed to lead and govern their communities.

County commissioners are recognized for their participation in both educational programs and service to the Association. The starting place for earning credits is the orientation program, the Essentials of County Government. As commissioners increase education and service, they earn credits toward recognition at three levels: Practitioner, Master and Mentor. The NCACC tracks credits and recognizes participation every year at the Annual Conference.

“A commissioner who achieves recognition through LELA has shown a true commitment to their personal development and to their constituents back home,” said NCACC Executive Director Kevin Leonard.

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