

## Joshua S. Johnson Selected to Lead Economic Development for City of Prattville



### **New Contact Information**

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*(Prattville, AL)* City of Prattville officials have taken the next step in their initiative to establish an economic development department within the municipality. With a recommendation by Mayor Bill Gillespie, the city council has voted unanimously to select Joshua S. Johnson as Economic Development Director. The Chason Group was retained by the city to lead the executive search.

Johnson previously served as Director of Economic Development for the City of Madison, Alabama, a suburb of Huntsville.

“The retention and attraction of businesses to our community is extremely important to the overall success of our citizens and our tax base,” according to Mayor Gillespie. “Josh brings a wealth of knowledge to this new position. He understands working in the shadow of a larger community to attract manufacturers while at the same time working to understand and meet the needs of existing companies already in place.”

Johnson, a native of Alabama, earned his bachelor’s degree in political science from The University of North Alabama and a masters of public administration from The University of Alabama at Birmingham. He also holds a professional certification in Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and is a Certified Transportation Planner through the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE).

“My family and I look forward to becoming engaged in Prattville from a personal and business standpoint,” Johnson said. “The growth opportunities in the city for new businesses are exciting from a job standpoint and building a stronger tax base. The community and its partners have done a great job to establish infrastructure for industrial sites and creating a ‘pro-business environment’ for companies to expand and existing ones to prosper. I look forward to becoming a part of the community’s team moving economic development forward in Prattville.”

Other positions held by Johnson include Director of Planning and Development, Birmingham-Jefferson County Transit Authority; Senior Planner, City of Birmingham; and Planner, Shelby County. He earned the

level of sergeant in the United States Marine Corps Reserve and continues to serve as an Infantryman National Guard.

Johnson will be responsible for directing and facilitating inclusive and strategic economic development initiatives to grow and maintain jobs and increase the tax base in the City of Prattville and surrounding areas. The professional is accountable for both commercial and industrial recruitment.

Johnson and his wife Elizabeth have twins who just turned one and will be moving to the Prattville area in the next few months.