



Georgia Department of Economic Development Names New Project Managers To Global Commerce Division

(June 2017) The Georgia Department of Economic Development (GDEcD) has named several new project managers to the Global Commerce Division. The announcement was made by Deputy Commissioner Tom Croteau. GDEcD partnered with The Chason Group, Inc. to conduct four of the talent searches. The new professionals will begin their new roles during the month of June.

“The addition of these professionals to the Global Commerce Division will improve our ability to meet the demand of new projects looking at Georgia in a timely and productive manner,” according to Croteau. “Strategically, now is the right time to add to the state’s economic development team.”

New Project Managers



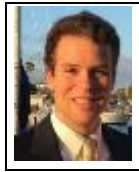
Sunny Anderson. As a University of North Florida graduate with masters’ degrees in Business Administration and Arts in International Management/Intercultural Communications, Anderson is moving to the Atlanta area with her husband who is in law enforcement. She is currently a carrier representative with C.H. Robinson Worldwide Logistics in Savannah and has also worked with Johnson & Johnson Vision Care in Jacksonville, Florida. Previously, she lived and studied in Germany, Poland, and China. Anderson will be joining the Life Sciences & Corporate Solutions team, led by EJane Caraway.

“During my time abroad, I experienced how to interact with people from different cultures,” says Anderson. “I saw firsthand the impacts of globalization. With this background of knowledge, I want to become a part of the GDEcD team to help companies grow and prosper right here in Georgia.”



William Atkinson. Experiences abroad have groomed Atkinson for a project manager seat with the International Investments sector where Nico Wijnburg serves as the director. Currently serving as a program specialist in GDEcD’s Workforce Development Division, Atkinson has a bachelor’s degree in International Affairs from the University of Georgia. He lived in England from 2000 to 2011 and speaks conversational Spanish and French.

“In my current position, I have worked with many members of the GDEcD team as well as many community economic development professionals and volunteers,” according to Atkinson. “The project manager role will provide me an opportunity to broaden those relationships and be a part of a dynamic culture in terms of working with businesses.”



Hank Evans. During the summer of 2015, Hank Evans accepted an internship with the Global Commerce Division of the GDEcD. Last summer, he became a full-time project analyst in the same area providing research on workforce, demographics, taxes, and business costs for companies interested in relocating to or expanding in Georgia. In the summer of 2017, his hard work and persistence has moved him to a project manager position. Evans will be joining the Logistics, Energy, Agribusiness & Food (LEAF) group led by Brittany Holtzclaw.

Evans is a graduate of William & Mary with a degree in economics and minor in Hispanic studies. He has completed the Basic Economic Development Course at Georgia Tech and CORE: Credential of Readiness, Harvard Business School. “One of the most useful and important skills I have learned at GDEcD is how to be a team player,” says Evans. “I am ready to move to the next level by developing a local and national network to continue Georgia’s success in job growth and investments.”



Randall Toussaint. Working on economic development teams in the Savannah and metro Atlanta areas at various times over the past eleven years provides Randall Toussaint a clear understanding of how to sell Georgia. Most recently he served in the Business Development, Technology Sector for the Anne Arundel Economic Development Corporation in Annapolis, Maryland. The experience provided him with a new perspective on cyber security and defense industries. Toussaint will be joining the Life Sciences and Corporate Solutions team as a project manager.

“Becoming a part of the GDEcD sales team has been a goal of mine for many years,” according to Toussaint. “I am proud to return home to use my collaborative approach to economic development – including my ability to be a self-starter, a team player, and a leader than can adapt quickly.”

About The Chason Group. The Chason Group, Inc. (www.thechasongroup.com) is a search firm specializing in talent recruitment for economic development organizations, chambers of commerce, and non-profits. Randy Cardoza and Tim Chason worked with the GDEcD on the project manager searches.

About the Georgia Department of Economic Development. GDEcD (www.georgia.org), under the direction of Commissioner Pat Wilson, is the state’s sales and marketing arm, the lead agency for attracting new business investment, encouraging the expansion of existing industry and small businesses, aligning workforce education and training with in-demand jobs, locating new markets for Georgia products, attracting tourists to Georgia and promoting the state as a destination for arts and location for film, music and digital entertainment projects as well as planning and mobilizing state resources for economic development.