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## **Kalamazoo County Names Lewis Smith as Corporation Counsel**

KALAMAZOO, Mich. – Kalamazoo County Government is pleased to announce the appointment of Lewis "Lou" Smith as its new Corporation Counsel, effective immediately.

"Lou has shown tremendous capability in a short amount of time," said Kevin A. Catlin, Kalamazoo County Administrator/Controller. "His willingness and desire to serve the County have been evident since he joined us earlier this year as Assistant Corporation Counsel. He has consistently demonstrated his legal expertise and commitment to public service, and we are confident that he will continue to be an asset to the County in this new capacity."

Having also previously served as a Staff Attorney for the County's 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court, Smith's appointment reflects the County's goal of building and developing talent from within. As Corporation Counsel, Smith will lead the County's legal office, provide strategic advice to the Board of Commissioners, represent the County in legal matters, and ensure compliance with all applicable laws.

"I am deeply honored to take on the role of Corporation Counsel and continue my commitment to the County," said Smith. "Serving the public is both a challenge and a responsibility I embrace wholeheartedly, imparted to me by my parents. I am dedicated to ensuring that our legal team maintains integrity and excellence in our work while effectively supporting the needs of our community."

Smith holds a Juris Doctor from Thomas M. Cooley Law School in Lansing and a Bachelor of Arts in political science from Dillard University in New Orleans, Louisiana. His extensive background in public service includes roles as Legislative Assistant for former U.S. Rep. Sander M. Levin, and both Public Policy Analyst and Assistant Corporation Counsel for the Detroit City Council.

Smith is also an active member of the State Bar of Michigan and has been active in various community organizations.

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