

## **BRAC RTF Hires Economic Development Liaison: Fred Papa**

FAYETTEVILLE, N.C. (August 18, 2010) - The BRAC Regional Task Force (BRAC RTF) has named veteran economic and business developer Alfred J. "Fred" Papa as Economic Development Liaison effective August 9, 2010. He will serve the 11 member counties that comprise the BRAC Regional Task Force.

Papa will spearhead the effort to recruit defense related companies to the 11 county region. His responsibilities include client lead generation, marketing, working existing leads, and coordinating client visits.



"Establishing a strong working relationship with the Economic Development teams in the individual counties will be crucial to his success," said Tim McNeill, Harnett County Commissioner and Chairman of the Board for the BRAC Regional Task Force.

The county economic developers, along with Steve Yost and Lee Anne Nance who represent the regional partnerships, have been meeting monthly as the BRAC RTF's Marketing Committee to plan how best to capitalize on the growth at Fort Bragg.

"It was our recommendation to the BRAC RTF Board of Directors that this was the necessary next step in that process," said Phyllis Owens, Harnett County Economic Development Director, who currently serves as the Chair of the BRAC RTF Marketing Committee .

"The next three years are crucial to this effort," said Greg Taylor, Executive Director of the BRAC RTF. "We anticipate that many of the company relocations will take place in the two years following the transition of FORSCOM to Fort Bragg next year. So connecting with the companies this year is critical if we hope to impact the decision making process at the company level."

Papa brings more than 25 years experience in all facets of economic and business development, including downtown revitalization, site certification, engineering, entitlement, marketing, construction and site management for commercial, industrial and mixed-use projects. Papa previously worked as Director of Economic Development for Warren County, North Carolina.

Papa has a Bachelor's Degree in Urban and Regional Planning from East Carolina University and a Master's of Business Administration from Frostburg (Md.) State University. He is a member of the North Carolina Economic Developers Association, N.C. Chapter of the American Planning Association, Society of American Military Engineers, and Rotary International.

Fred Papa may be reached at [fpapa@bractrf.com](mailto:fpapa@bractrf.com) and at 910-808-4202.

### **About the BRAC RTF:**

The BRAC RTF is a partnership of governments working with the 11 counties and 73 municipalities surrounding Fort Bragg and Pope AFB. Our mission is to coordinate the planning and identify community impacts as U.S. Forces Command and U.S. Army Reserve Command move to Fort Bragg by 2011. More information on the BRAC RTF can be found online at <http://www.bractrf.com> .

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