



News Release

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For More Information Contact

A.J. Hostetler, Public Relations Director
aj.hostetler@drs.virginia.gov
804-662-7372

TWO NAMED TO VIRGINIA ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY SYSTEM ADVISORY COUNCIL

(RICHMOND, Va.)—Department of Rehabilitative Services Commissioner Jim Rothrock has named two new members to the Virginia Assistive Technology System Advisory Council.

The mission of the Virginia Assistive Technology System is to ensure that Virginians of all ages and abilities can acquire appropriate and affordable assistive and information technologies and services to actively participate in society. The advisory council is composed of individuals with disabilities, family members and representatives from Virginia's disability service agencies, in addition to representatives of several state agencies.

William S. Massey, CEO of the Peninsula Agency on Aging in Newport News, and Clayton E. Bowen of the Virginia Department for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing joined the council Dec. 8. They will serve three-year terms.

Massey replaces Ben Garrett of the Virginia Department for the Aging. Bowen is the state administrator of Virginia's telecommunications relay services program and manager of VDDHH's technology assistance program. TAP provides telecommunication equipment to qualified applicants whose disabilities prevent them from using a standard telephone.

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The Virginia Department of Rehabilitative Services provides and advocates for the highest quality of services to help persons with disabilities maximize their employment, independence, and full inclusion into society. Through its five regional offices, 35 field offices, and various partnerships within the private and public sector, DRS assists more than 25,000 consumers annually with services including vocational counseling, career exploration, training, assistive technology and other specialized programs that cater to individual needs. For more information, visit www.vadrs.org.