



Delaware County Commissioners

Jeff Benton
Barb Lewis
Gary Merrell

County Administrator
Ferzan M. Ahmed

Clerk to the Commissioners
Jennifer Walraven

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Feb. 2, 2017

Contact: Jane Hawes, Communications Manager
740/833-2109 (office)

Delaware County Commissioner Appointed to National Committee

DELAWARE, Ohio — Delaware County Commissioner Barb Lewis has been appointed to the National Association of Counties' Justice and Public Safety Steering Committee.

The NACo organization, founded in 1935 and based in Washington, D.C., brings together representatives from the country's 3,069 county governments. With this appointment, Lewis joins a core group of county commissioners from across the nation who will advocate for policies and best practices that better serve governments and their constituents on a local level.

Lewis, a former political science educator at The Ohio State University, has served Delaware County as a Commissioner since 2015. Prior to this, the Genoa Township resident was a trustee in that township for seven years. Lewis said she is excited to take on additional responsibilities now with NACo and, in particular, to expand on her work with the Stepping Up Initiative.

"Stepping Up is a national initiative to reduce the number of non-violent offenders with mental illness in jails and prisons," Lewis said. "Through Stepping Up, we can provide the proper treatment for recovery and we do it cost effectively. By serving on the Justice and Public Safety Steering Committee, I will have the opportunity to be an advocate for mental health reform."

For more information about the Stepping Up Initiative, please visit their website at www.stepuptogether.org. For more information about the National Association of Counties, please visit their website at www.naco.org.

For more information about Delaware County, please visit our website at: <http://www.co.delaware.oh.us>.

###

Attached: headshot of Commissioner Barb Lewis