

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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### **SUFFOLK ECONOMIC DIRECTOR CHOSEN FOR NATIONAL "40 UNDER 40" AWARD**

SUFFOLK, VA (January 28, 2013) Kevin Hughes, the Director of the Suffolk Economic Development Department, has been selected as a National winner in the economic development profession's "40 Under 40" awards, the first-ever awards program recognizing young talent across the nation in the economic development profession.

A five-member selection committee chose the winners from a pool of more than 150 candidates based on their exceptional contributions to the economic development industry. The award's program was managed by Development Counselors International (DCI), a New York-based firm that specializes in economic development marketing.

The pool of winners consists of 14 women and 26 men; the youngest is 26 years old and the oldest is 39 years old.

Large communities and the South dominated with 27 award recipients hailing from communities of 200,000 residents or more and 22 winners from Tennessee,

Louisiana, Mississippi and South Carolina and other southern states. Hughes was the only award recipient in the State of Virginia.

Suffolk City Manager Selena Cuffee-Glenn says, “Kevin is dedicated to the development of the Suffolk business scene. He has great vision and work ethic to ensure Suffolk continues to set the pace in the Hampton Roads area. We are proud of his achievement and that he is a member of our team.”

Kevin Hughes has been with the Suffolk Economic Development Department since 2005, and was named the Director of the Department in February 2010. Since joining the Suffolk team, Kevin has managed more than 120 new and expanding business projects totaling more than \$403 million in capital investment and more than 3,250 new jobs. Hughes’ responsibilities also entail the supervision of the Division of Tourism, the Suffolk Executive Airport as well as serving as the Deputy Secretary Treasurer for the Suffolk Economic Development Authority

DCI’s “40 Under 40” award was designed to discover the economic development profession’s rising stars across the nation.

“The people chosen by the selection committee represent a bright future for the economic development world,” said Andy Levine, president of DCI. “They are a new breed of results-driven, place makers. We’re very pleased to see Kevin among the winners.”

DCI officially announced the national winners last night at an awards reception during the International Economic Development Council Leadership Summit in Orlando and will feature an in-depth profile of each on its website during 2013.

For more information on DCI’s “40 Under 40” winners, visit [www.aboutdci.com/40under40](http://www.aboutdci.com/40under40)

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