

## IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Director of Aviation Merrill Atwater departs KDOT

Merrill Eisenhower Atwater will depart the Kansas Department of Transportation at the end of the year. Atwater has served as KDOT's Director of Aviation since February 2016.

"It has been a true privilege working on behalf of the citizens of Kansas as the Director of Aviation for KDOT," said Atwater. "I'd like to thank Secretary Carlson for his leadership and Governor Brownback for his emphasis on aviation. I look forward to seeing what the future holds for KDOT Aviation and I am excited to start a new venture and join the legacy of People to People International."

In his role at KDOT, Atwater worked with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), collaborated with aviation stakeholders across the state and oversaw KDOT aviation programs, receiving the FAA 2017 Impact Award for his efforts.

"Under Merrill's management, the Division of Aviation at KDOT has created a significant imprint on the heart of the Kansas aviation industry," said Secretary of Transportation Richard Carlson. "From economic development, to workforce innovation programs and educational opportunities, Merrill has led KDOT Aviation on a path of innovation. We appreciate his service to this agency and the State of Kansas and wish him the very best."

Atwater will take on the role of Chief Operating Officer at People to People International, an organization created by President Dwight D. Eisenhower, which is dedicated to peace through understanding and friendship on the international stage.

The Kansas Department of Transportation would like to thank Merrill for his service.

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