

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Henthorne selected as Bureau Chief at KDOT

Bob Henthorne has been named the Bureau Chief of Structures and Geotechnical Services for the Kansas Department of Transportation.

Henthorne already served the agency for 35 years. He began at KDOT in 1984 in the Lawrence Construction office. He transferred to the Geology section in Topeka for a short time, then went to the Geology office in Chanute for 17 years. In 2002, Henthorne was promoted to Chief Geologist and returned to Topeka.

Geology is an important part in constructing a high-quality transportation system. “If you have good information for your foundation, you can build everything else,” he said. “By testing, drilling and analyzing capacity for the soil and rock, you can give the designers the information to build the best quality and most economical roads and bridges.”

He retired from KDOT in 2016 and went to work for Bettis companies. But calls from current employees encouraged Henthorne to give KDOT a second run. “It feels good, I’m excited to be back,” he said.

According to Henthorne, KDOT has many young engineers and geologists and, “I want to be a mentor to them and also help the bureau continue to move forward as well as keep projects on time and under budget,” he said.

Henthorne and his wife, Mary Ann, have three grown daughters and five grandchildren whom they keep connected with on Zoom meetings. He also enjoys hunting and fishing.

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