

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Williams County Commission appoints new State's Attorney**

**Williston, N.D., (September 29, 2020)** – Jaakan Williams has been appointed as the next Williams County State's Attorney. Mr. Williams, currently an Assistant State's Attorney with the County, will replace current State's Attorney Marlyce Wilder upon her retirement on October 24, 2020, and fulfill the remainder of her term due to end in 2022. He was one of seven candidates from across the U.S. to interview for the position; the Williams County Commission unanimously voted for his appointment during their September 22, 2020 regular meeting.

Mr. Williams is overwhelmed with joy and humbled by the appointment. "I feel so rewarded by the Commissioners."

Public service has been at the forefront of Mr. Williams' career since graduating from Western Michigan University's Cooley Law School in 2009. Prior to joining the Williams County State's Attorney's Office in February of 2020, he served as a prosecutor with Devils Lake Regional Child Support Unit in eastern North Dakota and also served as an Assistant General Counsel for the Florida Elections Commission and Florida Division of Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco.

When asked about stepping into his new role next month, Mr. Williams says he is looking forward to engaging more with the community and building relationships with local law enforcement. "I'll uphold the integrity and professionalism of the office and our mission to promote justice for those we serve," he adds.

Until October, Mr. Williams will complete his current caseload and work with Attorney Wilder on transition of duties.

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