



# Joint Industrial Development Authority

of Wythe County, Wytheville & Rural Retreat

150 East Monroe Street • P. O. Box 569 • Wytheville, Virginia 24382  
Phone: 276-223-3370 • Fax: 276-223-3427 • Email: [JointIDA@wytheville.org](mailto:JointIDA@wytheville.org)

Dr. Alan Hawthorne, Executive Director  
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## PRESS RELEASE

### Joint IDA Director Receives National Award

WYTHEVILLE— The Board of Directors of the Joint Industrial Development Authority of Wythe County announced today that the authority's Executive Director, Dr. Alan Hawthorne, was recently honored by a prestigious International Economic Development Council award. Hawthorne was presented the award, bestowed for outstanding leadership and accomplishments made during the first five years of an economic development career, during the organization's annual recognition ceremonies held September 20 in St. Louis in conjunction with the international council's annual meeting of economic development professionals.

Dr. Hawthorne has served as Executive Director of the Joint Industrial Development Authority of Wythe County since May 1999. He also serves as executive director of the Crossroads Regional Industrial Facility Authority, an regional economic development organization that assists in providing economic development financing.

The Joint IDA is a local economic development organization comprising Wythe County and the towns of Wytheville and Rural Retreat with the goal of fostering collaboration among member jurisdictions to improve the quality of life for citizens through economic development. Previous Joint IDA awards and recognitions include recognition by *Site Selection* as one of the nation's ten 2002 Top Economic Development Groups, being the runner-up for the U.S. Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration Excellence in Rural Economic Development award for 2003, and selection of Chairman Steve Irvin as the Virginia Economic Developers Association's Volunteer of the Year award in 2003.

The International Economic Development Council, located in Washington, DC, is the nation's largest economic development professional association.

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For additional information, contact:

Alan Hawthorne, Executive Director  
Joint IDA of Wythe County  
(276) 223-3370  
[JointIDA@wytheville.org](mailto:JointIDA@wytheville.org)

Shayna Smith  
IEDC  
202-223-7800  
[SSmith@iedconline.org](mailto:SSmith@iedconline.org)

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