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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Department of Public Safety Promotes Two in Emergency Management

Westminster, MD, Thursday, February 7, 2019 – The Carroll County Department of Public Safety is pleased to announce two recent promotions within the Emergency Management division. The following positions and/or responsibility changes are effective today.

Ms. Valerie Hawkins – Emergency Management Manager

Ms. Hawkins began employment with Carroll County Government as an emergency management data analyst in 2013 and was promoted to emergency management assistant manager the same year. She served as acting emergency management manager from June 2018 until accepting the official role of emergency management manager today. Her extensive emergency services background includes increasingly responsible positions with various Carroll County fire companies, Carroll County Health Department and the American Red Cross.

Ms. Hawkins' new position coordinates mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery efforts associated with emergencies and provides administrative direction in the execution of a proactive emergency management program with a goal to reduce the risk of injury and loss of life in the event of a natural or man-made disaster.

She earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Emergency Management from University of Maryland University College. Current related positions include being a member and assistant financial secretary of the New Windsor Fire Department and chairperson of the Baltimore Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) Emergency Management Committee.

Mr. Matthew Rodriguez – Emergency Management Assistant Manager

Mr. Rodriguez joined Carroll County as an emergency management planner in 2014. In addition to assisting in management and coordination of all hazards-planning activities, he also assisted with the integration of Carroll County's mass notification system and the upkeep of the county's emergency operations center. Mr. Rodriguez's new position entails coordination of public notification in times of emergencies, training and exercise

CARROLL COUNTY

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development, assistance in management of the county's emergency operations center and other response duties.

He earned a Bachelor's Degree in Emergency and Disaster Management from the American Military University and has completed over 300 hours of Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) courses. His related volunteer experience includes being a member of the Mount Airy Fire Company as a Fire/Rescue Lieutenant and a member of the Advanced Technical Rescue Team in Carroll County.

Public Safety Director Scott Campbell said, "Valerie and Matt represent a wealth of emergency management experience and knowledge. I have every confidence in this team to continue to provide excellent leadership in this critically important area for Carroll County and am excited to announce their promotions. "

Please help Carroll County Government in congratulating Ms. Hawkins and Mr. Rodriguez on their new positions and responsibilities within the Department of Public Safety.

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