



WEAKLEY COUNTY MAYOR

Jake Bynum

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEW WEAKLEY COUNTY SEAL FEATURED IN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES PUBLICATION **Symbolism in Design Highlights and Unifies Municipalities with Weakley County**

DRESDEN, Tenn. - February 15, 2018 - Weakley County recently received national attention when its new county seal was highlighted in the National Association of Counties [NACo] Newspaper. Selected from one of 3,069 counties nationwide, Weakley County was honored to have the new seal featured in the February 5th edition of the NACo Newspaper biweekly publication. Weakley County Mayor Jake Bynum unveiled the new seal design and applauded designer and UT Martin University Scholar Rachel Melton at the Weakley County State of the County Address held in Watkins Auditorium at UTM in October 2017.

"In collaboration with the Ms. Melton, we worked to identify a design that truly represents each piece of our county's multifaceted past, present, and future into one unified and cohesive image. We knew it had to be meaningful and represent all of us, and I believe that this design showcases those qualities that make Weakley County, Martin, Sharon, Greenfield, Dresden, Gleason, and all of our communities special – from Dukedom to Stafford Store," said Weakley County Mayor Jake Bynum.

Included in the highlight was a brief history about Weakley County's establishment and the symbolism within the design that is specific to the county and its municipalities: The field in the background features lines representing the original districts that made up Weakley County. The nine stars in the design symbolize the nine districts that currently make up Weakley County. The field, tractor and barn at the back left are a nod to Weakley County's history in agriculture. The water tower image salutes the cities in Weakley County and each eye-catching and unique water tower in each community. The power lines at the right of the locomotive acknowledge the fact that the county is one of a few in the state with a county-owned and operated electric system. The locomotive exemplifies Weakley County's rich history in rail, and the tri-star at the front of the train illustrates the county's unity, connection and commitment to the state of Tennessee. The color of the sky represents the dawning of each new day in Weakley County, with the locomotive moving ever forward.

NACo is a national organization that unites America's 3,069 county governments and brings county officials together to advocate with a collective voice on national policy, exchange ideas and build new leadership skills, pursue transformational county solutions, enrich the public's understanding of county government, and exercise exemplary leadership in public service.

For more information about NACo, visit <http://www.naco.org>.

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Media Contact:

Erica Miller Moore
Cell: 731-281-6693

Email: ericamoore@weakleycountyttn.gov