

# As Firm Prepares for New Office, Ward and Smith COO Completes Move to Raleigh

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Ward and Smith, P.A. is pleased to announce that Mike Epperson is now based in the firm's Raleigh office. Epperson is the firm's Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer and was located in the New Bern office since joining the firm in 2013. "We have been discussing this possibility with Mike for some time and feel it is a good move for him and the firm. This key position being centrally located to all of our offices is a positive. In the near term, as we design and build our new space in Raleigh, Mike's presence there as our Project Manager will

be very beneficial," said Ken Wooten, the firm's Co-Managing Director. Earlier this year, the firm announced an expanded presence in the Triangle that will include a new office space with accommodations for 50 attorneys and 50 support staff in anticipation of the firm's continued growth.

Epperson is responsible for providing leadership to and direction of all staff operations supporting client services as well as coordinating the development and implementation of long range strategic plans. He manages the day-to-day operations of the firm, including developing and maintaining responsible fiscal, employment, and tactical policies and procedures. Prior to joining the firm, he served as the City Manager for New Bern, North Carolina and Dublin, Ohio.