



LEGISLATIVE SPONSORS

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<input type="checkbox"/> COMMISSIONER DONICE BRYANT-CATO	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMISSIONER BRENDA LYN BAILEY

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MACON-BIBB COUNTY COMMISSION TO AUTHORIZE THE APPOINTMENT OF TEKQUELL WATSON AS THE CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER OF MACON-BIBB COUNTY; AND FOR OTHER LAWFUL PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 14(a)(3) of the Charter of Macon-Bibb County, as amended, the Mayor is authorized to appoint department heads, to serve at the pleasure of the Mayor, subject to the approval of a majority of the commission; and

WHEREAS, on May 20, 2025, the Macon-Bibb County Commission approved Resolution No. R-25-0078, accepting a grant for the purpose of recruiting and hiring a new chief information officer for Macon-Bibb County; and

WHEREAS, following a nationwide search, Mayor Lester Miller has selected Tekquell Watson for appointment as the new chief information officer and head of the Macon-Bibb Information Technology department; and

WHEREAS, a copy of Ms. Watson's resume is attached hereto at Exhibit A, and incorporated herein by reference; and

WHEREAS, the Macon-Bibb County Commission finds that this ordinance is necessary and proper to promote or protect the safety, health, peace, security, and general welfare of Macon-Bibb County and its inhabitants;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Macon-Bibb County Commission and it is hereby so ordained by the authority of the same that:

Section 1.

Pursuant to Section 14(a)(3) of the Macon-Bibb County Charter, the Macon-Bibb County Commission hereby approves and confirms the appointment of Tekquell Watson as the Chief Information Officer of Macon-Bibb County.

<u>Department</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Pay Grade</u>	<u>Pay Range</u>
Information Technology	Tekquell Watson	Chief Information Officer	235	\$122,560.18 - \$195,605.50

Section 2.

In the interest of allowing Ms. Watson to shape and organize the Macon-Bibb County Information Technology Department, the Macon-Bibb County Commission further ordains that, notwithstanding any terms in the Macon-Bibb County Personnel Policies to the contrary, all employees of the Macon-Bibb County Information Technology Department shall be employed at the pleasure of the County Manager, and subject to reassignment, job modification, pay modification, or termination thereby, without further process, for a period of one year following Ms. Watson's start date as Chief Information Officer of Macon-Bibb County.

Section 3.

The preamble of this Ordinance shall be considered to be and is hereby incorporated by reference as if fully set out herein.

Section 4.

The Mayor, and all other proper officers and agents of the County are authorized and directed to execute such documents and to take such other actions as may be required to accomplish the intents and purposes of this Ordinance.

Section 5.

In the event scrivener's errors shall be discovered in this Ordinance or in the Exhibits hereto after the adoption hereof, the Commission hereby authorizes and directs that each such scrivener's error shall be corrected in all multiple counterparts of this Ordinance.

Section 6.

In accordance with Sec. 1-4(c) of the Code of Ordinances of Macon-Bibb County, Georgia, the provisions of this Ordinance shall become and be made part of the Code of Ordinances of Macon-Bibb County, Georgia, and the sections of this Ordinance may be renumbered to accomplish such intention. Upon adoption, the Clerk of Commission is hereby directed to send a certified copy of this Ordinance to the publisher of the Macon-Bibb County Code of Ordinances for inclusion in future publications.

Section 7.

The sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses, and phrases of this Ordinance are severable, and not mutually dependent upon each other or upon any other provisions in the Macon-Bibb County Code of Ordinances. If any sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses, or phrases of this Ordinance shall be declared illegal by the valid judgment or decree of any court of competent jurisdiction, such illegality shall not affect any of the remaining sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses, or phrases of this Ordinance, or any other provisions of the Macon-Bibb County Code of Ordinances.

Section 8.

In the event that this Ordinance or part thereof is found by any court of competent jurisdiction to be substantively more appropriately denominated an act of resolution by the Macon-Bibb County Commission, it is the intent of this Commission that this Ordinance or such portion thereof shall be considered to have been adopted as a resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission. Where any law bearing on the subject matter of this Ordinance calls for the taking of any legislative action by the governing authority of Macon-Bibb County, and such law specifies for such action to be taken by resolution or by ordinance, it is the intent of this Commission that this Ordinance satisfy such requirement, and that this Ordinance be construed accordingly.

Section 9.

All ordinances or resolutions, or parts of ordinances or resolutions in conflict with this Ordinance are, to the extent of such conflict, hereby repealed.

Section 10.

This Ordinance shall become effective upon its approval by the Mayor or its adoption into law without such approval.

SO ORDERED AND ORDAINED this _____ day of _____, 2025.

LESTER M. MILLER, MAYOR

ATTEST:

JANICE S. ROSS, CLERK OF COMMISSION

EXHIBIT A

TEKQUELL WATSON

Bonaire, GA 31005

Accomplished **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT) PROGRAM LEADER** with 20+ years' experience managing large-scale IT projects and driving innovation in the field. Contribute expertise in technology principles and services, including infrastructure, business applications, data management, security, application platforms, and consumer-facing technology. Develop technical solutions to expand capabilities and streamline processes. Successfully support and manage high-performing teams in demanding environments with continuous and overlapping project cycles.

Project Management Professional (PMP) | Certified Information Security Manager (CISM)
CompTIA Security+ | Information Technology Infrastructure Library (ITIL), Level III
Record Management Officer Certification

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER (CIO), Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), Washington, DC | 05/2022-04/2025

Directed the **Information Technology (IT) activities of a small federal agency**, managing IT infrastructure, technical activities, and framework for ~100 staff. Shaped digital transformation efforts, developing and executing a modern, secure, and scalable IT strategy aligned with agency priorities. Managed cloud enterprise architecture and data warehouse operations. Assessed emerging technologies for consideration to enhance IMLS IT infrastructure capabilities. Generated comprehensive and precise documentation of systems, technical specifications, and procedures.

- ✓ Applied business acumen to balance priorities and optimize resource allocation. Supported program offices in facilitating over \$268M in grant awards. Actively collaborated with program offices to integrate Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning (AI/ML) into the grant awarding process to improve user experience.
- ✓ Managed, streamlined, and administrated a \$4M IT budget; leveraged partnering and negotiating skills to advocate for additional funding. Guided IT capital planning and managed IT investments. Directly contributed to a \$400K reduction in agency budget by better negotiating contracts, insourcing IT support, and reducing cost overruns.
- ✓ Led and supervised seven federal staff and 20 contractors. Developed employees through mentoring, training, and progressively challenging work assignments. Set clear, specific goals and expectations; ensured critical deadlines were clearly communicated and consistently achieved.
- ✓ Oversaw formulation of agency policies regarding records management, Privacy Act, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), data confidentiality, and data integrity.
- ✓ Directed implementation of a Continuous Diagnostics and Mitigation (CDM) Program, deploying security monitoring tools (Qualys and CrowdStrike) to improve the agency's overall security posture, reducing vulnerabilities by 15%.
- ✓ Orchestrated development and implementation of the agency's AI Strategy, to include authoring the GenAI Use Policy and standing up an AI Strategy working group comprised of 12 representatives from across the agency.
- ✓ Led six high-visibility White House directed initiatives, driving measurable outcomes in the museum and library communities. Oversaw project budgets totaling \$2M and coordinated with 10 federal agencies and senior stakeholders to achieve strategic objectives.

CHIEF, Special Missions Division, Robins Air Force Base (RAFB), GA | 02/2018-05/2022

Led 150 military, civilian, and contractor personnel providing critical business and maintenance applications for 20K+ customers, both internal and external to the base. Directed administrative and technical operations of more than 100 software, business, legacy, maintenance, and supply systems, including Information Systems Security Manager (ISSM) services and software training, development, and sustainment.

- ✓ Drove processes leading to 98% system reliability and uptime for over 100 systems.
- ✓ Streamlined defect management by implementing an Agile/Scrum methodology, reducing application defects by 45% and defect resolution times by 20%, leading the way in the implementation of DevSecOps across the Directorate.
- ✓ Developed, authored, and executed four software development and sustainment services contracts valued at \$42M.
- ✓ Oversaw implementation of a robust commercial off-the-shelf (COTS) software testing process for the base, adhering to Air Force Network Integration Center (AFNIC) testing requirements. Successfully reduced Work In Progress (WIP) and backlog by 75% within six months.
- ✓ Spearheaded use of Robotic Process Automation using UiPath software; led a hand-picked team to win "Best Operational Impact Bot" for creation of the Wall Walker bot, successfully automating the C-17 AOP process and reducing required task time from 30+ hours to three minutes.

CHIEF, Legacy Systems Branch, Rafb, GA | 10/2013-10/2016 and 02/2017-01/2018

Directly oversaw the work of 40+ civilian and contractor personnel providing administrative and technical operations for 44+ legacy and maintenance applications. Led configuration, infrastructure, and application management across the system development lifecycle (SDLC). Reviewed plans and specifications for adequate analysis and justification of requirements, realistic cost estimates, and viable implementation dates. Identified needs, coordinated actions, and designed workable solutions to difficult technical problems.

- ✓ Proactively developed a burn-down plan to mitigate over 55K Category 1 security vulnerabilities within 70 calendar days. Successfully achieved Authority to Operate (ATO) for these critical applications in just 54 days using agile methodologies.
- ✓ Championed use of production control boards and quality control, reducing WIP levels across the branch by 40%.

PRIOR EXPERIENCE

(Acting) Chief, Special Missions Division, Rafb, GA, 10/2016-02/2017; Section Chief, Helpdesk, Rafb, GA, 08/2011-10/2013; Military Service: U.S. Air Force, 03/1995-12/1998

Air Force Commendation Medal | National Defense Service Medal | Civilian Service Special Act Award | Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal | Air Force Exemplary Civilian Service Award

EDUCATION / PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Master of Science in Information Technology, Grantham University, Kansas City, KS, magna cum laude | Bachelor of Science in Computer Information Technology, Georgia College and State University, Milledgeville, GA

**Leadership Development Course, Rafb | Strategic Problem Solving and Decision Making
Project Management Principles | Agile Software Methodology | Implementation of DevSecOps**