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CATAWBA COUNTY CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER PILATO ATTAINS CGCIO™ CERTIFICATION

NEWTON, NC – Michael “Rick” Pilato, Chief Information Officer (CIO) at Catawba County Government, has successfully graduated from the 2015-2016 Certified Government Chief Information Officers Program at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill’s School of Government.

The Certified Government Chief Information Officer Program is designed for local government Information Technology Directors and Chief Information Officers whose challenging responsibilities require a broad understanding of management, leadership, legal, regulatory, and enterprise topics. Since 2005, the program has graduated more than 1,500 public sector technology leaders across the nation. Pilato is one of 57 local government, state agency, community college, and K-12 information technology leaders in North Carolina who successfully completed the course this year.

“Catawba County is very proud of Rick in achieving this accomplishment, which reflects his commitment to lifelong learning and to serving the public with competence and professionalism,” said Mary Furtado, Assistant County Manager responsible for supervising Technology. “Rick is smart, strategic, and ethical, and his participation in this program will benefit both the County organization and the community.”

Pilato has lived in North Carolina for 26 years and began his service with Catawba County in 1998, moving into the CIO position in January 2015 after a four-month stint as interim CIO on the heels of a long tenure in Social Services. As CIO, Pilato serves as department director for Catawba County Information Technology and Geographic Information Systems (GIS), supervising 27 employees and a budget of \$4.3 million. He oversees the development of new technologies and identifies, plans and implements strategies to improve access to information and service efficiency for the citizens of Catawba County. Pilato also manages several existing technology-related partnerships between the County and local municipalities.

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