

EMPLOYER'S COUNCIL OF MENDOCINO COUNTY

NEWS RELEASE

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Dickerson New Employer's Council Executive Director

Ukiah, California... May 2, 2005

John G Dickerson is the new Executive Director of the Employer's Council of Mendocino County (ECMC). Jeri Harris served in that position and has retired due to time requirements.

"We're pleased to have John's understanding of our local economy and the County's finances," reported Dick Selzer, Ukiah real estate broker and Chairman of ECMC.

"We've heard a lot about the 'structural deficit' in our State's budget," continued Selzer, "but our County has the same problem. We look forward to working with John to understand the hole our County is in, and develop recommendations to help get it back in balance. We're involved in a number of issues, but this is extremely important, complicated, and has to be addressed now."

Previously Dickerson was Executive Director of the Mendocino County Alliance, the County's visitor's bureau. Before that he was Director of Marketing and Sales at Patchen, a Ukiah technology company, and a partner at Hidden Cellars Winery near Ukiah. Earlier, after receiving his MBA at the University of Texas, he worked in the Bay Area's software industry.

"The Employer's Council has been fortunate to have Jeri Harris' heartfelt service," said Al Beltrami, ECMC's first Executive Director and former County Chief Administrative Officer. "Jeri will continue to work with the Council in improving our ECMC program which provides students with job interview experience and skills."

"The Employer's Council has a crucial role", says Dickerson. "ECMC can help clarify our community's core economic issues, discuss them with the broader community, and help move the public discussion into a productive framework."

ECMC's mission is to help the private employer community function with reasonable local government financial and regulatory burdens, so that the entire community will benefit through the creation of jobs, incomes for working families, and an adequate local tax base. About 200 businesses that provide 4200 jobs are members of the ECMC.