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Virginia Mine Chief Receives Reappointment from Governor Ralph Northam

Randy Moore will continue his role over the safety of Virginia's coal miners at the Virginia Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy

Big Stone Gap, Va.- Randy Moore will continue to serve as Virginia Mine Chief at the Virginia Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy (DMME). Governor Ralph Northam made the announcement of Moore's reappointment on August 24th. Governor Bob McDonnell initially appointed Moore to the position in 2011. He was hired at DMME in February 2004 as a mine safety inspector for the Division of Mines.

"We are very happy that Randy will continue to serve the Commonwealth as Virginia mine chief," said DMME Director John Warren. "His commitment to keeping miners safe is reflected in the safety records and low injury rates at Virginia's coal mines. I look forward to the continued results Randy's dedicated efforts."

Moore's experience in coal mining goes back to 1977. Before joining DMME, he worked nearly every job in underground coal mines and on surface coal mines. The Virginia Mine Chief oversees DMME's Division of Mines which focuses on safety enforcement and training of coal miners.

Under Moore's leadership, the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) and the Interstate Mining Compact Commission (IMCC) have recognized the Division of Mines' safety training programs with national awards. The first state mine rescue team in 2016 that serves as first responders to coal mines was created with the assistance of Moore. Each year he visits coal mines that have impeccable safety awards for a presentation and celebration. Mines must have no lost time accidents in that year to receive the honor.

“Miner safety is more than a job to Randy Moore,” said Deputy Director Butch Lambert. “It is personal. He focuses on prevention of accidents and uses creative ways to equip our miners with a wealth of knowledge to protect themselves.”

Moore is a native of Wise County and graduated from the University of Virginia’s College at Wise in 1980 with a B.S. in Business Administration. He is married to Imelda, has two daughters and five grandchildren. Moore also serves as the pastor of the Clinchco Missionary Baptist Church.



Virginia Mine Chief Randy Moore