



AGENDA ITEM #4  
May 6, 2019

Interview


OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE  
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND 20850

Marc Elrich  
County Executive

MEMORANDUM

April 24, 2019

TO: Nancy Navarro, Council President  
Montgomery County Council

FROM: Marc Elrich, County Executive 

SUBJECT: Appointment of Director, Department of Technology Services

I am transmitting the appointment of Mr. Vennard Wright for the position of Director, Department of Technology Services. Mr. Wright is being appointed at a salary of \$212,000. His appointment will be effective upon confirmation by the County Council.

Attachments

RECEIVED  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY  
OFFICE  
2019 APR 25 11:10:49



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE  
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND 20850

Marc Elrich  
*County Executive*

APPOINTMENT

PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY VESTED TO ME UNDER SECTION 215 OF THE CHARTER OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND, I HEREBY APPOINT

Vennard Wright

TO SERVE AS Director, Department of Technology Services

THIS APPOINTMENT SHALL BE EFFECTIVE UPON CONFIRMATION BY THE COUNCIL FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND.

MARC ELRICH  
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

4/25/19  
DATE

Resolution: \_\_\_\_\_  
Introduced: \_\_\_\_\_  
Adopted: \_\_\_\_\_

COUNTY COUNCIL  
FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

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By: County Council

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Subject: County Executive's Appointment of Director, Department of Technology Services

The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland approves the following resolution:

The County Executive's appointment of Director, Department of Technology Services

Vennard Wright

The appointment of Mr. Wright is confirmed by the County Council.

This is a correct copy of Council action:

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Megan Davey Limarzi, Esq.  
Clerk of the Council

# Vennard Wright

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**-- CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER --**  
**Collaborative Executive Leader, Business Partner, & Solutions Manager**

**Strategic technology executive with proven public and private sector C-level success in enterprise level planning, capacity/cost projections, IT governance, and complex business solution designs, including cloud-based applications. Logical thinker and strong communicator noted for transforming IT organizations with support to disparate organizations. Award winning, quality-driven leader with proven expertise to drive business development, project delivery and retention to customer and partner-focused success.**

- Provides leadership vision enterprise-wide via decisive and insightful executive leadership, guiding daily operations and policy implementation through strategic thinking and decision-making.
- Builds and leads high-performance teams to manage, implement and streamline complex business operations.
- Spearheads project delivery within tight timeframes, using cutting edge tools and best practices.

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## **CORE COMPETENCIES**

Strategic Planning and Management · Needs Analysis · Organization Improvisation · Staff Utilization · Cloud Computing Integration · Integration and Optimization · Information Security Controls · Risk Assessments · Customer Relationship Management · Disaster Recovery · Project/Program Management · Information Technology Infrastructure Library (ITIL) · ISO 20001

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## **TECHNOLOGY LEADERSHIP:**

**Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC), Laurel, MD**  
**Chief Information Officer (CIO)**

**2017 – Present**

**Selected to provide the requisite leadership to transform the management of business technology capabilities and transformative services to support the Commission's operations by ensuring that service delivery is in full alignment with the General Manager and Commissioners' strategic goals and objectives.**

### **Executive Achievements:**

- ✓ Led the deployment of an Enterprise Project Management Office (EPMO) for project intake
- ✓ Managed upgrade of 1700 workstations from Office 2010 to Office 2016
- ✓ Facilitated completion of secondary datacenter to serve as warm backup site for primary datacenter
- ✓ Issued and awarded IT services contract vehicle that improved IT procurement process
- ✓ Oversaw cost cutting measures that resulted in over \$6 million in savings in first year with WSSC
- ✓ Responsible for team of 200+; Operational budget of \$70 million+

**Prince George's County Government, Largo, MD**  
**Chief Information Officer (CIO)**  
**Chief Technology Officer**

**2012 – 2017**  
**2010 – 2012**

**Selected to drive strategic vision** as administration cabinet member and trusted collaborator; produce strategies to improve agency and branch service levels, maximize ROI, and control costs. Direct Infrastructure, Telecom, Service Desk, GIS, training, and project management for 6,000+ internal users and almost 900,000 County residents. Manage 16 direct reports and 100+ staff.

**Executive Achievements:**

- ✓ Enabled streamlined contracting processes by successfully developing two iterations of County-wide
- ✓ IT services contract vehicle (CATS for Prince George's) that allows for more rapid procurement
- ✓ Helped government agencies increase efficiencies by deploying multiple SAP modules for ERP system
- ✓ Increased citizen services by implementing 311 call center and companion mobile application
- ✓ Spearheaded Tech Prince George's through creation of a student career pipeline for succession planning
- ✓ Increased potential for revenue opportunities by completing construction on County fiber optic network
- ✓ Responsible for team of 150+; Departmental budget of \$50 million+

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**Cherry Road Government Technologies (CRGT) Inc., Mclean, VA**      **2008 - 2010**  
**Sr. Program Manager**

**Served as technical and strategic lead for implementation of new initiatives** that included the re-engineering of business processes for various clients and the creation of enterprise level programs that supported strategic goals and initiatives. Provided technical sales delivery for business development pursuits. Managed multiple onsite client delivery teams.

**Executive Achievements:**

- ✓ Served as Project Manager on Montgomery County 311 Call Center Implementation
- ✓ Led the deployment of a video archival system for Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives (ATF)
- ✓ Won over \$5 million of new work over 18 months in business development capacity

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**Integration Technologies Group (ITG), Falls Church, VA**      **2007-2008**  
**Client Executive**

**Managed the successful deployment of multiple technologies** for long term client initiatives for private and public sector clients. Participated as key stakeholder on internal, strategic business process re-engineering activities. Provided technical expertise for business development pursuits. Managed onsite client delivery teams.

**Executive Achievements:**

- ✓ Key member of team that successfully achieved ISO 27001 certification
- ✓ Key member of team that successfully pursued CMMI Level 3 appraisal

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**Hillary Clinton Political Action Committee, Washington, DC**      **2006-2007**  
**Director of Information Technology**

**Spearheaded Hillary Clinton's internal and external technical strategies** during Senate Re-election campaign and prepared technical infrastructure and related strategy for 2008 Presidential campaign. Managed a team of three internal technicians, more than a dozen external consultants and a nationwide network of volunteers and field offices.

**Executive Achievements:**

- ✓ Launched hillaryclinton.com which saw millions of visitors per month at its height
- ✓ Director of Technology for successful Senate re-election campaign

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**Electronic Data Systems (EDS), Herndon, VA**

**2004-2006**

**Chief Technology Officer**

**Promoted from management role to IT leader** in order to oversee all IT functions for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF). Retained long term client business as early adopter of new technologies that addressed potential gaps. Supervised 31 staff, including management/supervisors and contractors.

**Executive Achievements:**

- ✓ Led technical efforts to win 75% of available Federal E-travel business
- ✓ Served as Project Manager on upgrade of CGI-AMS financial system for ATF

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**Digex/WorldCom, Laurel, MD**

**2000-2004**

**Senior Systems Engineer**

**Pioneered engineering solutions**, including integrated IT featuring best-of-breed technology for enterprise-level clients. Maintained subject matter expertise with two system engineering outlay teams, for expansive product teams. Technical lead for team of eight systems engineers.

**Executive Achievements:**

- ✓ As Project Manager, led migration of customer relationship management (CRM) from Clarify to Siebel
- ✓ Lead Developer for MS Joint Developer Program that identified bugs in first version of SharePoint
- ✓ Led successful migration of corporate intranet from SharePoint to PeopleSoft Portal

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**Academy for Educational Dev. (AED), Washington, DC**

**1999-2000**

**Operations & Technical Coordinator**

**Hired to bring expertise within overlay group** of solution focused engineers and technical staff. Engineered technologies aligned with contract terms and SLAs based on task order requirements. Designed solutions to mitigate identified vulnerabilities. Technical lead for internal/external team.

**Executive Achievements:**

- ✓ Led effort to redesign website for Center for Community Based Health Strategies (CCHS)
- ✓ Developed portal for technical assistance providers that streamlined reimbursement process

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**EDUCATION**

B.S., Business Administration, Marketing, University of Maryland College Park

... 1996

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## **AFFILIATIONS**

### *Education*

- Trustee Board Member, Capitol Technology University
- Vice President, Prince George's Community College Joint Advisory Board for STEM
- Advisory Board Member, Bowie State University School of Business and Graduate Studies
- Advisory Board Member, Bowie State University Department of Technology and Security
- Advisory Board Member, Bowie State University Information Technology Advisory Board
- Chair, Prince George's County Public School System (PGCPS) IT Advisory Board

### *Business*

- Member, Leadership Greater Washington, 2019 Cohort
- Advisory Board Member, Maryland Tech Council (MTC)
- Advisory Board Member, Midsize Enterprise Summit
- Member, TEDCO-Maryland Entrepreneurs Resource List (MERL)

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## **AWARDS**

- Technology Council of Maryland (TCM) CIO of the Year ... 2013
- Who's Who in Prince George's ... 2013
- Top 20 Innovative Midmarket CIO ... 2014
- StateScoop 50 – State Leadership Award ... 2014
- National Association of Counties (NACo) Achievement Award ... 2015
- dig IT Award for Open Data ... 2016
- African-American Achievements in Technology ... 2018
- CIO of the Year – Global Business Insight Awards ... 2019

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## **CERTIFICATIONS**

- Project Management Professional (PMP) ... 2009
- Information Technology Infrastructure Library (ITIL) Practitioner ... 2008
- ITIL Foundation ... 2007



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Marc Elrich  
*County Executive*

Andrew W. Kleine  
*Chief Administrative Officer*

MEMORANDUM

April 24, 2019

TO: Nancy Navarro, President  
Montgomery County Council

FROM: Andrew Kleine, Chief Administrative Officer *AWK*

SUBJECT: Due Diligence on Non-Merit Appointment – Vennard Wright

The purpose of this memo is to confirm that in making appointments for non-merit positions, our selection process utilizes thorough reference checks, criminal history, background checks, checks for wants and warrants, credit history and other inquiries appropriate to the position being filled.

Please be assured that due diligence was exercised in determining the suitability of Vennard Wright for appointment as the Director of the Department of Technology Services. In addition, Mr. Wright has filed his Financial Disclosure Statement.

AKW:amg