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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Michael Cooper Retires From PCWA

Auburn - Michael D. Cooper, who has served for the past 14 years as a key member of the Placer County Water Agency management team, is retiring from a public service career that has spanned 32 years.

Cooper, the water agency's Director of Administrative Services/Assistant General Manager, spends his last day on the job today (Aug. 5).

He was recognized by the PCWA Board of Directors at Thursday's (Aug. 4) regular board meeting and was feted by friends, associates and co-workers at a retirement dinner Thursday evening at The Ridge.

Cooper, now 60, joined PCWA in 1992 as the agency's first human resources director. He was the first department head hired by General Manager David Breninger as Breninger set out to reorganize and streamline the agency's operations.

Cooper's initial responsibilities in human resources and risk management soon expanded to include management of information systems. Three years ago he took on additional responsibilities as Director of Administrative Services/Assistant General Manager.

"Mike has been a tremendous asset to the water agency team," said Breninger. "I have greatly appreciated and have come to depend upon his insight and advice these many years. He has been a great asset to the agency, the profession of municipal management and to the public in his more than three decades of government service."

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Page two

Cooper said he has enjoyed his position with the water agency but says it is now time to move on. "This is a great place to live and work," he said. "Dave (Breninger) has been an excellent chief executive. He and the Board of Directors deserve a lot of credit for the progress the agency has made."

Before joining PCWA, Cooper was employed with the City of Merced and had held positions with Kings, Butte and Santa Clara counties. He earned his bachelor's degree from California State University, Long Beach and master's in public administration from CSU, Stanislaus.

Cooper and his wife, Yvonne, plan to enjoy retirement in Cool, El Dorado County, where they keep horses and enjoy riding. Cooper plans to spend more time on the golf course and says he and his wife hope to soon realize a long held dream of visiting Ireland.