

Media Release

Caroline County Assists Travel Industry with Per Diem Increase

Bowling Green, Virginia

March 23, 2011

Alan Partin, Interim County Administrator

The General Services Administration (GSA), through the efforts of Fort AP Hill, Caroline County and the Town of Bowling Green, has revised its Federal Travel Per Diem and Meals Per Diem so that Caroline will command higher travel reimbursements at \$89 from \$77; and for meals at \$56 from \$46.

The Federal Register announcement was dated March 22, 2011 and the new rates will take effect April 1, 2011.

Many non federal employers use the government per diem charts for their travel reimbursement policies so the potential impact for travelers to Caroline may extend beyond the impact of federal workers seeking overnight accommodations. The increase can possibly drive more business to Caroline County hotels.

The rise in per diem rates for Caroline helps to make the County more competitive in bringing business travelers to local hotels with the potential for greater employment, profit and government revenues through Transient Occupancy Taxes, meals taxes and sales taxes.

County Economic Development and Tourism Staff has worked with the Fort and the Town of Bowling Green to bring the case of the County's inadequate rate to the attention of the GSA. The Fort, by federal statute, had to be the entity to submit the request to the GSA.

According to the GSA bulletin released, Caroline County is the only community in Virginia to have a rate adjustment at this time.

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