

Walter Robbs Names Curtis President as Part of Leadership Transition

Robbs to Continue as Chairman along with the Naming of Two Vice Chairs & Three Vice Presidents

WINSTON-SALEM, NC (May 10, 2016) - Walter Robbs Callahan & Pierce Architects, PA (Walter Robbs) has named L. Wesley Curtis, Jr. president of the firm, replacing Larry Robbs who had served as president since 1997. Robbs, who joined the firm in 1971, has served as chairman of the firm's board of directors since 1999 and will continue that role. Curtis will lead day-to-day operations of the firm as president effective July 1, 2016.



In conjunction with the leadership change, Rence Callahan and Clark Pierce, both having served as vice presidents since 1980 and members of the firm's board of directors, have been named to newly created roles as vice chairmen. Walter Robbs also has named three new vice presidents of the firm: Steve Ulp, Matt Messick, and Ken McDaniel. Ulp, Messick and McDaniel are senior project architects and partners at Walter Robbs who also have served as part of the firm's management team for some time.

“Wesley is an incredibly talented designer and has emerged not only as a highly respected architect throughout the region but also a vital leader of our local community,” Robbs said. “Rence, Clark and I couldn't be more thrilled for our friend and colleague as he assumes duties as president of our firm. We want to emphasize that each of us will continue his architecture work, including client relationships, leading design teams and mentoring other staff members.”

“I owe a great debt of gratitude to Larry, Clark and Rence for shaping me to become the architect that I am today and for their confidence in naming me president of the firm. I am deeply honored,” Curtis said. “With Steve, Matt and Ken in elevated leadership roles, we are fully prepared – and excited – about the opportunity to carry Walter Robbs forward as one of the leading architecture firms in the Southeast.”

Curtis joined Walter Robbs in 1986, became an associate in 1990 and later a partner and member of the firm’s management team. He is a member of the American Institute of Architects (AIA), the National Organization of Minority Architects (NOMA) and the Council of Educational Facility Planners International (CEFPI). A 1981 graduate of the University of Tennessee, where he received a Bachelor of Architecture degree, Curtis is also NCARB Certified and LEED Accredited. An Eagle Scout, he serves on the board of the Old Hickory Council of the Boy Scouts of America, the board of the North Carolina Educational Facility Planners and the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Utility Commission.

Curtis is a Deacon at New Bethel Baptist Church and also serves as a leader in other interdenominational groups across Forsyth County. In addition, he formerly served on the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Community Appearance Commission, the board of Atkins Community Development Corporation and the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Planning Board. Curtis and his wife Cynthia have three children.

About Walter Robbs

Founded in 1965, Walter Robbs Callahan & Pierce Architects, PA (Walter Robbs) is a forerunner in educational architecture, a leader in urban design and an innovator in interior architecture across North Carolina. Walter Robbs is a past recipient of the NC American Institute of Architects’ Outstanding Firm Award and a national AIA design award; the only Piedmont Triad firm to have received these peer recognitions. The firm’s downtown Winston-Salem office is LEED Silver® and was Forsyth County’s first LEED-certified project. Walter Robbs employs 39 in Winston-Salem and provides comprehensive design services including architecture, interiors and planning. www.walterrobbs.com