



**Bonita Springs, FL (June 5, 2023)** – Rick Mercer was recently hired as Senior Project Manager for Heatherwood Construction Company.

The Plant City, Florida native takes his new role with an extensive and diverse background in construction, development, planning and consulting. His career includes stints as president of Habitat for Humanity of Lee and Hendry Counties and a role with Florida’s Department of Environmental Protection, overseeing the state’s 161 parks and trails system.

Mercer is well prepared for his new responsibilities. “I have been training, hiring and mentoring project managers for a long time,” Mercer said. “I think generally everything on my resume is related to large projects I have done.”

He served from 2017 to 2021 as president of Habitat of Humanity, the third largest in the country. He focused on real estate acquisition, land development and home construction.

When Rick Scott became Florida’s governor, Mercer saw a pathway to Tallahassee where he became Director of Operations for the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, overseeing the parks and trails system, as well as providing operation, financial and technical leadership, from 2012 to 2015.

Intertwined with those roles, the Estero resident served as president of Estero-based Havilah Development Consultants, Inc. for two years, 14 years as president and owner of RMDCI Consulting in Naples, four years as Chief Operating Officer of Elias Brothers Communities in Naples and vice president of planning and land development for WCI Communities of Bonita Springs.

“Rick’s extensive experience and management background only accentuates the values and commitment we thrive on at Heatherwood Construction Company,” said Walter Crawford, owner and Chief Executive Officer. “We look forward to a relationship I know will only make this company stronger.”

Mercer, who grew up the son of a surveyor, and his wife have four children and six grandchildren.

**About Heatherwood Construction Company**

Heatherwood Construction Company is a full-service, commercial general contractor serving the west coast of Florida from Marco Island to the Panhandle. Since 1980, the premier firm has provided complete construction services, including site search and selection, feasibility analysis, site development, value engineering, vertical construction, LEED certification, and more. Recent projects include schools, multi-family, retail, restaurants and community amenities.