

BEN CROSS

PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Elected May 2018 as first Republican County Judge in Pope County history

2016 Promoted to Assistant Troop Commander, Arkansas State Police – Troop H

2014 Arkansas State Police Medal of Valor, *second award*

2014 Appointed to the Board of Trustees, Arkansas State Police Retirement System

2011 Elected to the Pope County Quorum Court / J.P. District 3 (R)

2011 “*Best of the Best*” Police Officer Award, Arkansas River Valley

2005 Arkansas State Police – Trooper of the Year

2005 Arkansas State Police Medal of Valor

2005 Official Commendation

2004 City of Russellville Outstanding Citizen Award

2004 Arkansas Law Enforcement Officer of the Year

2003 Official Commendation

1997 Arkansas State Police Lifesaving Award

1990 United States Army, Battalion Soldier of the Year

1990 Sergeant, Combat Communications Persian Gulf War

Operation’s *Desert Shield / Desert Storm / Desert Sabre*

SKILLS

Senior Certificate – Commission on Law Enforcement Standards and Training

Graduate, School of Law Enforcement Supervision – U.A.L.R.

Professional Law Enforcement Instructor

Professional Firearms Instructor

Arkansas State Police S.W.A.T. – former team leader

Private Pilot

Licensed Arkansas Contractor

S.C.U.B.A. Certified

WORK HISTORY

August 1987 – September 1995

U.S. Army – Active Duty

U.S. Army National Guard

Sergeant - U.S. Army

Combat deployment to Persian Gulf, November 1990 – June 1991

November 1990 – October 1995

Police Officer, Russellville, AR Police Department

October 1995 – January 2019

Arkansas State Police, Assistant Troop Commander – Troop H, Fort Smith

January 1, 2019 – PRESENT

Pope County Judge

2012 -2018

Elected Republican J.P., Pope County Quorum Court

EDUCATION

Honor Graduate, Dover High School

Attended Arkansas Tech University

Attended University of Arkansas – Little Rock

Graduate – School of Law Enforcement Supervision - UALR

SUMMARY

After a 30-year law enforcement career, along with prior and concurrent military service, including a combat deployment to the middle east, I sought out and was elected in May 2018 as the first Republican County Judge in Pope County history. Previously, I had been elected to the Pope County Quorum Court in 2011 and finished my third term of service in that capacity in 2018. Upon my retirement from active law enforcement, I had amassed a career that will position me as one of the most decorated troopers in the history of the Arkansas State Police. I continue to maintain my active law enforcement certification in a reserve capacity with the Pope County Sheriff's Office. I am the past Vice-Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Arkansas State Police Retirement System, managing in excess of \$300 million dollars in assets. As county judge, I now effectively manage some 300 employees with an annual budget of \$27 million dollars, serving as chief executive officer for a county that is financially stable and progressively advancing our infrastructure. As a state licensed construction contractor, I have also achieved success in the private sector.

BIOGRAPHICAL

Birth Name: Benjamin David Cross

Date of Birth: 8/20/69

Married / Spouse: Tammy Leann Cross, age 53

Employed by the Arkansas Department of Human Services

Division of Long-Term Elderly Healthcare (20 years)

Faith: Christian / Members, Pottsville First Baptist Church

REFERENCES

Mr. Jeff Phillips – Prosecutor, 5th Judicial District

100 West Main Street

Russellville, AR 72801

479-968-8600

Mr. J.R. Hankins – Chief of Staff

Arkansas Department of Public Safety

#1 State Police Plaza

Little Rock, AR 72209

870-530-1949

Ms. Jami Cook, Secretary, Arkansas Department of Public Safety

#1 State Police Plaza

Little Rock, AR 72209

501-618-8000

Memberships / Affiliations / Boards / Commissions

Board of Directors – ARVAC (*Arkansas River Valley Action Council*)

Board of Directors – Saint Mary's Regional Medical Center

Board of Directors – West Central Arkansas Planning and Development District

Memberships / Affiliations / Boards / Commissions

Board of Directors – West River Valley Solid Waste District

Board of Directors – Russellville Chamber of Commerce

Board of Directors – Russellville Regional Alliance for Economic Development

Member – Pope County Republican Committee

Member – County Judge’s Association of Arkansas

Member – Arkansas State Police Association

Member – National Rifle Association - Endowment Life Member

Member – Arkansas Scottish Rite

Member – London Masonic Lodge #339

Member – Arkansas Cattlemen’s Association

Member – A.O.P.A. (*Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association*)

Member – University of Arkansas, Cooperative Extension Advisory Board

Member – D.A.V. (*Life member, Disabled American Veterans, Simpson-Turner Chapter 27*)

Member – American Legion Post #20

Member – V.F.W. (*Veterans of Foreign Wars, Life Member, Rogers-Rye Post #2283*)

