



THE IMPACT OF ESG IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Raleigh Networking Luncheon Agenda

December 1 • Noon – 1:30 pm • City Club Raleigh

AGENDA

- 11:30 am – Noon** **Registration / Networking**
- Noon – 12:30 pm** **Luncheon**
- 12:30 – 12:35 pm** **Welcome**
- JOANNA HELMS**
Director – Apex Economic Development
NCEDA Vice President
- RAUL PERALTA**
Senior Vice President – ECS Southeast
NCEDA Board of Directors
- 12:35 – 12:40** **Lifetime Service Award Presentation for Ken Atkins**
- JOANNA HELMS**
- CHRIS PLATÉ**
Executive Director – Monroe-Union County Economic Development
NCEDA President
- 12:40 – 12:45 pm** **NCEDA Foundation: Highlights from the Future of NC Revenue Report**
- DAN GERLACH**
Owner – Dan Gerlach LLC
- 12:45 – 1:25 pm** **ESG Panel Discussion**
- ALBERT ALWANG**
Director of Economic Development – Wake County Economic Development
Panel Moderator
- JOSH MARKS**
Counsel – Parker Poe
- KONRAD WISNIEWSKI**
Business Relationship Manager – NC Department of Commerce
- 1:25 – 1:30 pm** **Closing Remarks**
- JOANNA HELMS**

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LUNCHEON PRESENTERS



Albert Alwang serves as the Economic Development Director for Wake County Economic Development (WCED) as a key member of their business recruitment and expansion team. Prior to joining WCED, Albert served as an Economic Development Specialist at the Virginia Tech Office of Economic Development and as a Research Assistant at Purdue University, both of which helped shape his career in economic development. Albert is a graduate from Virginia Tech University and holds a master's degree in Agricultural Economics from Purdue University.



Josh Marks is an attorney with Parker Poe law firm. He has nearly three decades of experience with environmental policy and law and advises clients on their environmental compliance, real estate, land use, conservation, and corporate legal needs. He has advised corporations regarding environmental, social, and governance (ESG) investing, with a focus on environmental and social responsibility issues, renewable energy, and climate policy. Prior to becoming a lawyer, he held a variety of advocacy and public policy roles. Josh is a graduate of Dartmouth College and earned his JD from Georgia State University.



Konrad Wisniewski serves as the Business Relationship Manager and Corporate Citizenship Lead for the North Carolina Department of Commerce, where he works with new and existing companies to develop projects focused on the Department's three main goals: Environmental Sustainability, DEI Hiring, and Work Based Learning. Prior to his role at Commerce, Konrad led economic development efforts for the Belgian government in New York City, where he assisted Belgian companies with entry into the US market and helped many American companies establish European headquarters. Konrad also organized numerous international trade missions for the Belgian Royal family and became an expert in beer, chocolate, and waffles.