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**Starke County Economic Development Foundation Exec Elected to NWI Forum Board**  
***Forum Managing Board Welcomes Charles Weaver***

Portage, IN—The Northwest Indiana Forum (Forum) elected Charles Weaver, Executive Director of the Starke County Economic Development Foundation to their Managing Board of Directors. Weaver will serve a two year term.

“The Forum is pleased to represent Starke County. Our members recognize the commitment of Charlie and Starke County as true regional partners in economic development and associated initiatives,” said Mark Maassel, President and CEO of the Forum. “We are fortunate that Charlie is willing to bring his level of professional expertise to our table. More importantly, representation from Starke County affords the Forum an opportunity to engage a new perspective and a fresh voice of leadership focused on creating jobs and attracting investment.”

The Forum Managing Board of Directors meets monthly to discuss critical issues of regional importance. Weaver is currently the only local economic development professional to sit on the Board.

Weaver said, “The Forum has been a working partner of the Starke County Economic Development Foundation for many years and I am honored to be elected to the Board. My election illustrates the dedication of Forum members to always broaden horizons to address regional needs.”

The Forum is the regional voice for the business community and a significant catalyst for initiatives that promote economic development and create and retain quality jobs in Lake, Porter, LaPorte and Starke Counties. Funded by membership contributions and grants, membership translates into a direct

investment in the region. Its corporate members represent more than \$40 Billion in commerce in Northwest Indiana.

For more information or to become a member of the Forum, contact Karen Lauerman, Director of Marketing and Communications at 219/763-6303 x181 or [klauerman@nwiforum.org](mailto:klauerman@nwiforum.org) or visit [www.nwiforum.org](http://www.nwiforum.org).