FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE May 20, 2025 Baxter County Judge Kevin Litty 870-421-0664

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Litty Seeking Second Term as Baxter County Judge

Baxter County Judge Kevin Litty says he will seek a second term in the 2026 election cycle.

Judge Litty says in his initial run for the office, as he campaigned across the county, he stressed the importance of moving Baxter County forward. Now, Litty says it's important to maintain the momentum the county has experienced since 2023 with him in the helm.

Baxter County has a quality of life second to none. Litty pledges to continue working to make Baxter County even more attractive for new businesses and residents, as well as visitors.

Judge Kevin Litty has called Baxter County home since 1976. He says, "I've always been proud of Baxter County, and when I look back over the past two and a half years, I see Baxter County even more attractive and prosperous, setting the stage for continued improved infrastructure for those that call this area home or those who visit because of our natural beauty and eventually become residents."

"Baxter County residents and visitors can take great pride in the accomplishments we've made together," Litty says.

On that list of accomplishments, he cites:

- Initiated the construction and building of a new \$4 million 9,000-square-foot county health department set to be completed June 2025 at the corner of West Road and Buttercup Drive. The new facility will nearly double the size of the current location and will provide greater service to the citizens of our area;
- Continue working to clean up unsightly county property.
- Removing the former First Baptist Church that later served as the first location of Arkansas State University-Mountain Home on Sixth Street, which has been vacant since about 2011 and was cost-prohibitive for repairing.
- Improving the County Courthouse, including installing new steps on all sides and applying for \$60,000 in grant funding for a new handicap-accessible entrance on the north side of the building.

- Starting a county road striping program providing enhanced safety for drivers;
- Implementing an open-door policy to create transparency and to welcome visitors to his office. Judge Litty encourages residents to call him with their concerns and says if you send him an email, text or message him, you will get a phone call in response.

To keep the momentum moving Baxter County forward, Judge Litty says he will work to:

- Continue improvements to the infrastructure, making the area attractive to
 visitors to encourage them to move here. Specifically, he speaks of improved
 roads and bridges and notes the county has purchased two new tractors and
 mowers at a cost of \$175,000 each for mowing right of ways. He says wellmowed roadways create a mindset of neatness, making the area attractive for
 our residents, visitors and potential new residents;
- Seek funding for the construction of a new facility for the Assessor, Collector and an enhanced voting center at the now vacant lot (site of former First Baptist Church) along Sixth Street. The project would include the sale of county-owned property on the southside of the courthouse square;
- In the process of improving Water Plant Road, which provides access to 75
 percent of water for Baxter County residents. Litty says several property owners
 have indicated they are ready to build residences on the road when
 improvements are completed:
- Secure the funding to increase the number of road graders. Litty says his office
 receives more requests for grading roads versus paving them, noting while all
 county's approximately 750 miles of roads cannot be paved, they can be graded;
- Continue regular meetings with the other County Elected Officials to maintain an assessment of needs across the departments within Baxter County.

Litty served as a Justice of the Peace on the Baxter County Quorum Court for six years prior to being elected Baxter County Judge. His experience on the Court included work on the budget, Personnel and Building Committees. In addition, Litty served as an officer for the Mountain Home Police Department for 28 years. He and his brother formed the 2L Cattle Company in early 2000. This well-rounded experience makes Judge Kevin Litty highly qualified to continue to lead Baxter County over the next four years.

Kevin Litty and his wife have two sons, a daughter and five grandchildren.