

## Haywood County "Toeprints"

September 22, 2020

Vol. #11 Issue #7 (Subject: Who is Rachael Hawes?)

[www.haywoodtp.net](http://www.haywoodtp.net)

### What's Happening?

The purpose of this newsletter is to inform Haywood County Taxpayers of what transpires at the bi-monthly County Commission Meetings. This newsletter will be written from the perspective of a casual observer, myself. Any opinions expressed will be mine.

### Who is Rachael Hawes?

**Rachael Hawes** is a lawyer. This is her information from the North Carolina Bar Association Member Directory.

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ID	39135
Name	Ms. Rachael J. Hawes
Address	Haywood County Department of Social Services, 157 Paragon Parkway, Suite 300
City	Clyde
State	NC
ZIP Code	28721
Country	USA
Work Phone	828-452-6620
Email	<a href="mailto:rachael.hawes@haywoodcountync.gov">rachael.hawes@haywoodcountync.gov</a>
License Date	03/27/2009
Judicial District	43 Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Haywood, Jackson, Macon, Swain
Status	Active
Status Definition	- The lawyer is presently eligible to practice law in North Carolina.

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Does anyone see anything strange here?

- Her law office is the Old Walmart Building.
- She is issued a Haywood County e-mail address.

### RFI: Blevins Meeting transcript from Ira Dove.

Based on news reports from WLOS and the Asheville Citizen Times about shoddy treatment of a nine (9) year old girl by Buncombe County DSS, I was reminded of a meeting on 8/18/2017 regarding underage children Terry Ramey and I had with **Stonewall Blevins**. **Blevins** had Amy Stevens transcribe the meeting. I made a Request for Public Information to **Ira Dove** to get that transcript.

See:

[E-mail dialog with Ira Dove, head of Haywood County DSS, re: Stonewall Blevins. 9/18/2020...](#)

or

<https://www.haywoodtp.net/pubII/200918E-MailDialogWithIraDove.pdf>

[**Editors Note:** copy and paste the second link into your favorite browser.]

**Ira Dove** sent me a Blow-Off letter, which I received on 9/15/2020. View at the end of this newsletter.

Ira Dove indicated that the Agency Attorney, **Rachael Hawes**, reviewed my request. Who is **Rachael Hawes**?

I sent Kathi McClure, HCHR Director a Request for Public Information about **Rachael Hawes**:

- She lists her business address as the Old Walmart Building, a county owned facility. WTF?
- She has been issued a county e-mail address. This is all on her member listing with the Bar Association. I have never seen this before.
- On the other hand, a similar inquiry for **Ira Dove**, his address is not the Old Walmart Building, and not a county issued e-mail address.

Here we go...

- Is **Rachael Hawes** hired as a county employee?
- If so, when was she hired, what is her title, and what is her current salary? Please copy this request for **Ira Dove**.
- If she is a county employee, is she running her lawyer business out of the DSS building? Is she paying an rent?

Kathi McClure responded to my request for public information.

"Ms. Hawes is a County employee. She has been employed with Haywood County since May 1st, 2010. Her current title is Attorney II with the Haywood County Health and Human Services Agency. Her current salary is \$106,219.88. As stated Ms. Hawes is a County employee who is assigned to the Haywood County Health and Human Services as their in house counsel."

**\$106,219.88.** WTF?

**Rachael Hawes** obtained her license on 3/27/2009, and was hired by DSS on 5/1/2010. Hmmm, thirteen (13) months.

Who hired **Rachael Hawes**? **Ira Dove**? It was **Ira Dove** that hired **Stonewall Blevins** [re: 8/18/2017 meeting.]

There are three (3) instances where bad things happened to underage children by DSS, two in Haywood County and one in Buncombe County, all during the tenure of **Stonewall Blevins**. **Blevins** is now the target of an investigation by NC Senator Chuck Edwards.

The second case in Haywood County involving underage children was a lawsuit -

[17CVS422, Derrick vs Stonewall Blevins and the HC Department of Social Services \(DSS\). Stonewall Pleads to Dismiss, indicating he has Immunity. No one is above the law. 4/19/2017. 10/2/2017...](#)

or

<https://www.haywoodtp.net/pubII/171002-17CVS422DerrickVsDSS.pdf>

It is interesting to note in that case, that **Rachael Hawes** name is nowhere to be found. Instead, **Blevins** hired a Charlotte lawyer.

Fred W. Devore, III  
DeVore, Acton & Stafford, P.A.  
438 Queens Road  
Charlotte, NC 28207  
(704) 377-5242  
[fdevore@devact.com](mailto:fdevore@devact.com)  
NC Bar Number 10308

Why the [expletive deleted] didn't **Blevins** use **Hawes**?

How many lawyers does this county need? We have -

- **James Weaver "Kirk" Kirkpatrick the III,**
- **Ira Dove,**
- **Frank Queen, County Attorney,**
- God knows how many others.

Why do we need to be paying **Rachael Hawes \$106,219.88** if the first time we see her come up for air is a co-lawyer opinion on my **Ira Dove** Blow-Off letter?

What does she do?

There appear to be several other instances of underage children with catastrophic consequences with the placement of these children in foster homes by DSS. Those are being researched.

Was she involved with some of these other cases where there were catastrophic consequences with the placement of children in foster homes by DSS?

Legend: If any name is in **bold**, it can't be a good thing.

Monroe A. Miller, Jr.  
Haywood County Taxpayer  
2200 Camp Branch Road  
Waynesville, NC 28786  
[www.haywoodtp.net](http://www.haywoodtp.net)  
*Si vis pacem, para bellum*



# HAYWOOD COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

157 Paragon Parkway, Clyde, NC 28721-9481

Ira Dove, Agency Director

Public Health	828-452-6675	Social Services	828-452-6620
Dental Office	828-452-6701	Meals on Wheels	828-356-2442
Environmental Health	828-452-6682	Maple Leaf Adult Respite	828-456-9488

September 14, 2020

SEP 15 2020

Mr. Monroe Miller  
Via email

*It was Aug 18, 2017*

Dear Monroe Miller,

The Agency Attorney, Rachael Hawes, and I have reviewed your request made on September 5, 2020 for documentation the Haywood County Health and Human Services Agency may hold regarding a meeting held on August 17, 2017 that you say that you attended which also included former Director Talmadge Blevins, and others. Upon careful consideration, and with neither confirming nor denying the presence of any others, any documentation possibly generated from a meeting with you that day constitutes confidential information due to its subject matter.

*- WTF?*

*- WTF?*

Disclosure of confidential records held by the Haywood County Health and Human Services Agency is expressly prohibited. In reaching this determination, a few previously published Opinions of the North Carolina Attorney General related to confidential records were reviewed in addition to statutes. Thus, I regret to inform you that we cannot comply with your request.

With kind regards,

Ira L. Dove

*what a bunch of  
weasle wording.*

*I attended, as I said. Who are  
you to say otherwise.*

cc: Rachael Hawes

*"Enhancing the health, safety and full potential of our community"*

Haywood County HHSA is an equal opportunity provider and employer