

**ROBERT POWELL** dedicated a 35 year career in public service to North Carolina state government spanning four decades and serving in six gubernatorial administrations during this time. His career included service in four separate state departments starting as an entry level employee and culminating as North Carolina state controller. Robert retired from the position of state controller in 2008 and now works as a consultant in the private sector.

Throughout his career in government Robert had the opportunity to make contributions to the improvement of North Carolina state government operations while directing the financial activity from senior positions in the State. Robert's experience across North Carolina state government is extensive. While serving as a corporate tax auditor in the Department of Revenue, he was closely involved in the development of the Administrative Procedures Act, most specifically the corporate tax component, which was enacted by the General Assembly in 1975. His efforts at the Department of Revenue led to Robert being one of only two officials nominated in North Carolina state government to attend the Federal Executive Institute. In 1977 Robert joined the Office of State Budget and Management where he served for 25 years, 12 of which were as deputy state budget officer. During that tenure Robert was involved with managing the state's fiscal affairs through two major economic downturns and multiple natural disasters from hurricanes. He also was instrumental in establishing a statewide bond program for water and sewer construction and managing a prison construction program that resulted in the construction of twelve thousand new beds in North Carolina over a six year period. Robert served as interim state budget officer as Governor Michael F. Easley transitioned into office in 2001. Governor Easley asked Robert to become North Carolina's fourth state controller, a nomination unanimously approved by the North Carolina General Assembly.

Robert Powell's dedication and abilities have been acknowledged by government leaders. Governor James B. Hunt, Jr. recognized Robert with the highest award bestowed by the state, the Order of the Long Leaf Pine. Robert was also recognized by his peers in 2000 when he was elected president of the National Association of State Budget Officers. His nomination in 2001 by Governor Michael Easley and his confirmation by the General Assembly as state controller for North Carolina further demonstrated the confidence and trust that Robert has earned among top governmental leaders. During that seven year term Robert directed the implementation of an ERP to serve as the business framework for North Carolina state government for the next generation of management. Upon completion of this seven year term, Robert elected not to serve a second term and retired from state government in 2008. He now serves as senior advisor for governmental policy with the Raleigh-based consulting firm of Cansler Fuquay Solutions.

In 1971 Robert earned his degree in business administration from Atlantic Christian College (now Barton College) in Wilson, North Carolina. He was selected in 1976 by Governor James B. Hunt, Jr. to continue his education at the Federal Executive Institute in Charlottesville, Virginia, and in 1982 was selected to attend the Duke University Public Manager Program as the representative of North Carolina state government. Robert lives in Raleigh, North Carolina with his wife Terry and they enjoy time with their six grandchildren.