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Vickie Hurt, Administrator Laura Kelly, Governor

**DATE:** January 11, 2021

BULLETIN: 2021-KDCU-CUB-1

TO: Kansas Chartered Credit Unions

SUBJECT: Message from Administrator Vickie Hurt

## MESSAGE FROM ADMINISTRATOR VICKIE HURT

## **Happy New Year!**

I know we are all looking forward to 2021 with the hope of returning to some form of normal for our Credit Unions, our staff, members and families.

I wanted to take the opportunity to introduce myself. Many of you know me from my time as CEO of two credit unions in Kansas over the past 20 + years and also from my time serving on the Kansas Credit Union Association Board of Directors for 12 years (now Heartland Credit Union Association.) I have always been a strong supporter of credit unions and their mission of helping members. Many of you know I retired 4½ years ago, I had the opportunity to travel and enjoy some family time. As sometimes happens when you retire, I missed the interaction with others and my time with credit unions. When I was approached about this position, I thought it might be a perfect fit. I replaced Jerel Wright who retired in November to enjoy some time with family and friends.

I'm looking forward to working with Kansas Credit Unions to help carry out the mission of the Kansas Department of Credit Unions to protect Kansas citizens from undue risk by ensuring safe and sound operations of state-chartered credit unions. The department's objectives include ensuring the safety and soundness of credit unions and the monitoring of compliance with laws and regulations, thereby safeguarding the funds of credit union members.

The Kansas Department of Credit Unions has gone through many changes the last few years and as many of you know we have relied on NCUA's help to perform exams. The department is now fully staffed, aided by the fact that this team of examiners is comprised mostly of individuals with prior credit union experience. Their prior experience in credit unions also provides them with better understanding of your processes and operations.

In accordance with Governor Laura Kelly's <u>Executive Orders</u>, I will continue to review the feasibility of resuming the on-site examination program. This will be done in coordination with NCUA. As nice as it is to work from home our examiners miss working with credit unions in person. I look forward to visiting credit unions as soon as it's safe.

Wishing you a safe and happy 2021!