

# NEWS RELEASE

## **MONROE CHAMBER ANNOUNCES 2016 LEADERSHIP OUACHITA CLASS**

MONROE-The Monroe Chamber of Commerce announced the participants of the 28<sup>th</sup> Leadership Ouachita Class today at the Monroe Chamber Office. On hand for the announcement were Monroe Mayor Jamie Mayo, a graduate of Leadership Graduate, Sue Nicholson, Monroe Chamber president and Jeff Laudenheimer, Chairman of the Leadership Council.

The 2016 participants are: Andrea Adams, Specialty Management Services of Ouachita; Tarya Bell, City of Monroe; Avius Carroll-Zimmerman-NE Delta Human Services Authority; Laura Clark, P & S Surgical Hospital; Cecilia Costanza-MOEBiz; Julie Emory, Children's Coalition; Janice Garrison, JP Morgan Chase; Herb Guillory, Hi-Def Marketing & Film Group; Robyn Hemphill, Monroe Surgical Hospital; Jamaro Hill, Never Forsaken Inc.; Antoinette Hoard, Children's Coalition; Philip Ingram, CenturyLink; Donald Johnson, JP Morgan Chase; Johnnette Jones, Sunquest Properties; Meleah Jones, Keller Williams Realty ; Leigh Ann Kingrea, Origin Bank; Ashley Kirby, Heard, McElroy & Vestal; Julia Letlow, ULM; Beverly Lewis, University Health Conway ; Amanda Massey, Origin Bank; Lisa Matusiak, CenturyLink; Amanda Mayo, Origin Bank; Jonathan O'Leary, Ruffin Building Systems; Dianna Poindexter, Monroe-West Monroe CVB; Jason Strunk, ANGUS Chemical; Ashley Thompson, Origin Bank; John Turner, LA Delta Community College; and Michael Wilkes, Progressive Bank.

The Leadership Ouachita class will run through November 2016. Those selected will be trained to take an active role in government advocacy, workforce development, infrastructure and all aspects of the community where leadership is needed to make an impact. The course empowers the emerging leaders of northeast Louisiana to transform the region into one of the best places to live, work and do business.

The 2016 class will begin with an opening retreat in Shreveport. The first session includes a basic leadership assessment that includes a component on how society works through participation in SIMSOC, a simulated society.

Over the course of the year, class members will meet with leaders in education, economic development, transportation, and workforce development. To learn more about Leadership Ouachita, go to [www.monroe.org](http://www.monroe.org).