



**For Immediate Release**  
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**Contact: Tony Clark,**  
**404-865-7109**  
**[Tony.Clark@NARA.gov](mailto:Tony.Clark@NARA.gov)**  
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## **Carter Library Director Is Stepping Down**

*Jay Hakes to Devote Time to Writing and Speaking of Energy Issues*

**Atlanta, GA.** – Jay Hakes, the Director of the Jimmy Carter Presidential Library and Museum in Atlanta, plans to step down at the end of July. Hakes, who has been the library’s director for the past thirteen years, wants to devote more time to writing and speaking about energy issues.

“Jay has been a wonderful director,” said former President Jimmy Carter. “Rosalynn and I appreciate all that he has done for the library and will miss working with him and his wife Anita.”

As Director, Hakes developed a close working relationship between the Carter Library and the adjoining, non-profit Carter Center. He oversaw the \$10 million redesign of the Carter Presidential Museum, which has won seven major awards for its films and interactive exhibits.

Hakes created a variety of programs for the public, including one of the finest author lecture series in the Southeast, and brought in special temporary exhibits including the Emancipation Proclamation, the First Ladies and Suzhou Embroideries.

With financial assistance from Coca-Cola, the library’s educational programs have been expanded with highly innovative curriculum materials and teacher institutes in which educators are able to ask questions of President Carter in person. Hakes also initiated a program of financial assistance to help schools visiting the museum with their transportation costs.

Under his leadership, a project was begun of digitizing all the documents that crossed Jimmy Carter’s desk while he was President. Those documents will eventually be placed on the web for researchers around the world.

“Jay has been a leader for the presidential library system,” said David S. Ferriero, Archivist of the United States. “He is the most senior director of the thirteen presidential libraries and has been a key player in our strategic planning to make presidential documents widely available. I will miss his judgment and counsel.”

Prior to becoming the Director of the Carter Library in 2000, Hakes was the Administrator of the Energy Information Administration at the Department of Energy, a post he held for seven years. He oversaw the collection, dissemination, and archiving of the nation’s energy data series, was a major spokesman on energy issues and testified frequently before congressional committees on a wide variety of energy issues.

It was that background in energy that led to Hakes’ selection in 2010 as policy and research director for President Obama’s National Commission on the BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill and Offshore Drilling. Taking a seven month leave from the Carter Library, Hakes worked on analysis of the role of offshore exploration and development and the potential for restoring the coast of the Gulf of Mexico.

Hakes is the author of the 2008 book “*A Declaration of Energy Independence: How Freedom from Foreign Oil Can Improve National Security, Our Economy, and the Environment,*” and is currently writing a new book on energy issues.

“I have enjoyed my long friendship with President and Mrs. Carter, as well as the opportunity to be the director of the Carter Library,” Hakes said. “I now look forward to being able to focus more of my time on the vital issues of energy that face this nation.”

Hakes will be wrapping up a long career in public service. He served as Deputy Executive Secretary and Executive Secretary at the U.S. Department of Interior under President Carter and later as Special Assistant, Executive Office of the President.

Beginning in 1981, Hakes headed the Florida Department of Energy. He became Governor Bob Graham’s chief of staff. and when Graham was elected to the U.S. Senate, Hakes ran his Florida offices.

Hakes and his wife plan to split their time between Atlanta and New Orleans.

For more information, call 404-865-7109. You can keep up with the Carter Library events on the Jimmy Carter Presidential Library page on Facebook and follow the CarterLibrary on Twitter. . If you wish to unsubscribe to these news releases, simply email [tony.clark@nara.gov](mailto:tony.clark@nara.gov) and put “UNSUBSCRIBE” in the subject line.