

Sixth Annual NCACC Youth Summit

Youth Summit Interview on Commissioner Zack Koonce

By Justus Hargett August 19, 2015

I have lived in Jones County my entire life. Since I am fifteen that is not saying much because my life is just beginning. County commissioner Zack Koonce on the other hand has had the privilege of enjoying Jones County a little longer than me and has grown successful while doing it.

Zack Koonce attended Atlantic Christian College, now known as Barton College, and achieved a BA degree in Arts. Before being a county commissioner Zack worked for the state of NC as an adult probation officer. With his duties as a county commissioner Zack also is a self-employed small business owner of Z.A.K.'S of Mallardtwn and works at the NC Department of Public Safety.

Zack Koonce was first elected in 2010. When the chance to run for election struck Zack he took it as an opportunity to help his community and family as well as mine and every other citizen of Jones county with the addition of benefitting our county. Zack has had experience as a county commissioner for nearly six years now and is planning on running next term. As a commissioner Zack's number one priority is the safety of us citizens. Assuring this priority is easier to obtain since Zack works for the NC Department of Pubic Safety.

I asked Zack: If there are any, are there any long-term concerns for our county? Zack's largest concern for our county is our lack of industry. Jones County's main and only industry is agriculture. Zack hopes to bring some other form of industry to our county to provide more jobs for our citizens. Agriculture provides a

large amount of funding for the budget by making Jones County eligible for grants on local, state, and federal levels. Our main source of funding comes from our local businesses, colleges, stores, and banks due to sales tax.

Zack Koonce knows almost everyone here in our county and everyone knows him. Zack has always been a very friendly and trusty person and stays active within the community. I am thankful him and me got to speak.