

Tyler Sharp - Wilson Co.

NCACCYS Report

An interview with Wilson County's assistant county manager, Mrs. Denise Stinagle, brought to light many issues in Wilson County. The largest issue faced is the county's budget. The economic recession, though not as severe in this county as it has been in other parts of the country, has reduced county revenue, especially from sales tax, in turn, causing issues with money shortages in many county services. For example, Mrs. Stinagle pointed out that several county offices would greatly benefit from technological updates to make business more efficient and less messy. She also pointed to several physical needs of the Wilson County School System and its community college, which cannot be fulfilled due to dips in county income. In addition to these challenges caused by economic hardship, Mrs. Stinagle also cited a need for an expanded sheriff's department.

Besides these monetary issues, legislative disagreements also pose problems in Wilson County. Recently, laws regarding canine and other animal issues, such as shelters, and spay and neuter programs, have caused local controversy. Also, opposition between a municipality within Wilson County, the City of Wilson, and the county itself poses problems for the county. City officials believe that allowing a Sanderson Farms chicken factory to open will be beneficial for the city; however, county leadership claims it would have a negative impact on residents. The struggle between these two governing bodies poses problems for the county.