

***Candidacy Announcement for Southwest Area Alternate Executive  
Kristal Jackson***

My name is Kristal Jackson and I would like to announce my candidacy for the position of Southwest Area Alternate Executive. I have served in this capacity over the past year, and it has been a learning experience for sure! I have thoroughly enjoyed working under the guidance of Southwest Area Executive Jay Goff and believe we make a strong team with a strong voice on behalf of our area and its members.

This past year has been a whirlwind for FSA county employees and NASCOE. With talk of FPAC, reorganization, and now Farm Bill, NASCOE has to be prepared to defend our members on multiple fronts. As with all associations, this is a team effort. The job cannot be done by a handful of people with formal leadership titles. We need all members engaged in the process from paying dues to building relationships with external stakeholders to serving on a taskforce when called upon.

Recruitment and retention of members is also critical as we deal with short staffing numbers. You are much more capable of encouraging fellow employees in your area to be involved in NASCOE than any report or e-mail bulletin from the national or state level. Let's bring personal relationships back to NASCOE and rally the troops for whatever lies ahead!

As we move forward, I am confident in Jay's leadership and the team of committee chairs he has put together. I appreciate the work that this group has accomplished this year and look forward to another successful year of working and learning together. In closing, I thank you for the opportunity to serve in this role and ask for your continued support in my candidacy for Southwest Area Alternate Executive.

Sincerely,  
Kristal Jackson