

Mary A Ferris
5 Quarry Rd
Cell 508 561 1252
maferri55@gmail.com

I am interested in serving on the Hickory Woods Condo Association board so I can contribute to decisions and actions that will make our community an ideal place to live. I believe that this can be achieved through minimal restrictions, consistency and fairness. Good communication by both listening to the residents and sharing information will be key to achieving this goal.

Prior to my retirement in 2013, I spent 35 years with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), where I worked for both the Office of Inspector General (OIG) and the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS). During my 6 years with OIG, I worked as both an Auditor and Special Agent where I audited and investigated individuals and organizations that received or benefited from USDA funding. The majority of my career was as a manager with the Food and Nutrition Service, a small Agency with only 2% of USDA's employees but 67% of the Department's budget. I worked in the Northeast Regional Office in Boston where we oversaw 15 Federal food assistance programs in 7 states. During my years with FNS I served in several financial oversight positions, along with 20 years in the SNAP (commonly known as the food stamp program). I spent 6 years as the Regional SNAP Director. In addition to overseeing our internal operations, I worked to ensure compliance, integrity, and accurate state performance of the \$8 billion of program funding and \$400 million of administrative costs annually. I negotiated operational changes with State Commissioner in what was often a politically charged Program. Before retiring, I spent several years as the Deputy Regional Administrator where I was the equivalent of a Chief Operating Officer. In addition to other areas, I was responsible for Human Resources, union negotiations, agency budgets, external agency relations, and program oversight. My work experience was enhanced by my BS in Accounting and my MBA.

In addition to enjoying my new home at Hickory Woods, I have continued my life long volunteering by serving as a hospice volunteer.