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St. Tammany Corporation Welcomes New Research Fellow to Support Research, Land & Sites, and Strategic Initiatives

Organization Continues to Invest in Emerging Young Professionals as Part of THRIVE2023 — St.

Tammany's Five-Year Economic Development Strategic Plan

MANDEVILLE, La – Today, Chris Masingill, CEO of the St. Tammany Corporation, is pleased to announce that, following a competitive application process, Abigail Chascin joins the economic development organization as its new Graduate Research Fellow.

The creation of the Research Fellowship Program was identified as an initiative in *THRIVE2023*, St. Tammany's Five-Year Economic Development Strategic Plan, and its main objective is to create an opportunity for emerging young professionals who have interest in the economic development field to gain versatile, immersive work experience in a high-performing economic development organization.

During the tenure of her 300-hour fellowship, Chascin will work under the direction of Research & Policy Analyst and Project Associate for Strategic Initiatives Elizabeth Lee, collecting, organizing, tracking, interpreting, and reporting on economic indicators for the purposes of marketing, educating, and promoting the community. Additionally, she will provide staff support for economic development and strategic initiatives activities using resources and tools such as Salesforce, GeoThinQ, Louisiana Commercial Database, Emsi, Entergy's Buildings and Sites database, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Census Bureau, Bureau of Economic Analysis, and others.

"As an economic development organization, it's important to us to invest in the training, professional edification, and mentorship of young and emerging professionals," said Masingill. "We are proud to host an economic development fellow for the third year in a row and look forward to working with Abigail as we continue to position St. Tammany Parish as the destination of choice for families, talent, and businesses."

"I am beyond grateful to have been offered such an amazing opportunity to be immersed in a professional environment that encompasses my biggest interests," said Chascin. "I am mostly looking forward to being a part of the growth and development of St. Tammany Parish—a place I have called home for many years. I am delighted to gain exposure that will broaden my skill set

and knowledge in the field of economic development throughout my work with St. Tammany Corporation."

Chascin graduated from Louisiana State University in May 2021 with a Bachelor of Science in Child and Family Studies. After graduation, she chose to continue her studies at LSU in the Master of Public Administration program, from which she will graduate in December 2022.

Chascin is a longtime resident of St. Tammany Parish and graduated from St. Scholastica Academy in 2017. She is excited to return to the community in which she has roots and is looking forward to continuing to grow professionally and work closely with policy, advocacy, business analytics, and data analysis.

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St. Tammany Corporation: As the lead economic development organization for St. Tammany, <u>St. Tammany Corporation</u> serves as the comprehensive resource center for business services throughout the parish. St. Tammany Corporation's services include business retention, site selection, workforce development, research and data services, state and local incentives, business attraction, talent retention, certified site development, relocation support, and marketing St. Tammany. Since the organization's launch in 2018, St. Tammany Corporation facilitated business expansion and attraction announcements representing over \$60 million in capital investment and 1,520 new and retained jobs in St. Tammany Parish.

