



## Von Braun Center's Mike Vojticek Announces Retirement After 34 Years of Service

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**HUNTSVILLE, Ala. (October 31, 2025)** – After more than three decades of dedicated service, Mike Vojticek, Assistant Director of the Von Braun Center (VBC), has announced his retirement, effective October 31, 2025.

In honor of his many years of dedicated service and contributions to Huntsville's entertainment and tourism economy, Huntsville Mayor Tommy Battle proclaimed October 29, 2025 as Mike Vojticek Day in Huntsville during a retirement party held in the VBC's Mars Music Hall attended by friends, family, and industry partners.



A Huntsville native and 1978 Butler High School graduate, Vojticek earned his Bachelor of Science in Accounting from the University of Alabama in Huntsville and later became a Certified Public Accountant through the University of Alabama.

His professional journey began in the restaurant industry, working in a variety of roles at Cork 'n Cleaver, Darryl's, and Bennigan's. Those experiences sparked a lifelong passion for hospitality and service - one that ultimately led him back to the industry through the Von Braun Center.

After earning his CPA designation, Vojticek joined a local accounting firm before accepting the position of Director of Finance at the VBC in May 1991. His combination of financial expertise and hospitality-driven mindset made him an integral part of the Center's leadership. He was later promoted to Assistant Director, a position he has held for more than 25 years.

During his tenure, he played a significant role in the VBC's growth and evolution - helping the facility expand its footprint, enhance its offerings, and strengthen its position as a cornerstone of North Alabama's entertainment, convention, and hospitality industries.

"When I started in 1991, I never could have imagined all the changes this facility and this city would see," said Vojticek. "I've had the privilege of working with some of the most talented and dedicated people in this business, and I'm proud of what we've built together. The VBC has always been more than a building - it's a family and a vital part of this community. I'll always carry that with me."

Over the course of his 34-year career, Vojticek's leadership and financial expertise helped guide the VBC through several major projects, including the South Hall expansion (1997), Arena and Concert Hall renovations (2010-2011), and the creation of Mars Music Hall and Rhythm on Monroe in 2020. He also played a critical role in securing a \$5.7 million Shuttered Venue Operators Grant during the COVID-19 pandemic, ensuring that all full-time staff remained employed despite industry-wide closures.

Additionally, his passion for live events helped expand the VBC's impact across North Alabama, bringing thousands of concerts, sporting events, and conventions to the region and contributing significantly to Huntsville's economic and cultural development.

Beyond his leadership at the VBC, he has remained active in numerous professional and community organizations throughout his career. He is a member of the International Association of Venue Managers (IAVM), the International Entertainment Buyers Association (IEBA), the National Independent Venue Association (NIVA), the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA), and the Alabama Society of Certified Public Accountants.

Vojticek is also a graduate of Leadership Huntsville's Flagship Program (Class L-30), reflecting his commitment to continued professional growth and community engagement.

His professional excellence has been recognized through numerous honors, including Cornell University's Senior Executive Symposium Achievement Award, the Huntsville-Madison County Hospitality Association's 2016 Red Ribbon Award for Lodging/Conference Center, and the Huntsville Heritage Foundation Award for Big Spring Jam.

Beyond his fiscal and operational leadership, Vojticek has been known for his calm demeanor, sharp wit, and genuine care for the people he works with - qualities that have earned him respect and admiration from colleagues, promoters, and community partners alike.

"Mike has been part of the heart and backbone of the Von Braun Center since the day he started," said Steve Maples, Executive Director of the Von Braun Center. "His guidance, wisdom, and humor have shaped not only how we operate but also who we are as a team. We will deeply miss working with him but celebrate the incredible mark he's left on this organization, and the days of relaxation and travel ahead."

"It's hard to imagine the Von Braun Center without Mike," said Dr. Bill Sullins, Chair of the VBC Board of Control. "His steady leadership and deep understanding of the business side of entertainment have helped guide the Center through growth and change, ensuring that Huntsville continues to have one of the most successful and respected venues in the Southeast."

As the VBC prepares for this transition, Vojticek's responsibilities will be distributed among several department directors and senior staff to ensure a seamless continuation of leadership and operations.

In retirement, Mike plans to enjoy traveling with his wife, Angie, and spending more time with their children and six grandchildren who call him "Papa." An avid Alabama football fan, he's also looking forward to cheering on the Crimson Tide.

"This job has been a huge part of my life, and I'll always be grateful for the friendships and memories made here," Mike added. "The VBC's future is bright, and I'm proud to have been part of its story."

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## **About Von Braun Center**

For nearly 50 years, the Von Braun Center has been a space for people to gather and create shared experiences. As a multi-purpose facility located in downtown Huntsville, Alabama, the VBC offers multiple venues for presenting cultural, educational, entertainment, sporting and social events. Venue spaces include the Propst Arena, Mark C. Smith Concert Hall, The Playhouse, Mars Music Hall, South Hall, East Hall, and Saturn Ballroom. Additionally, the VBC has an on-site restaurant and rooftop bar – Rhythm on Monroe. With over 170,000 square feet of flexible meeting space, the VBC accommodates events of all types and sizes. As technology evolves, the Von Braun Center continues to bring people together for in-person moments.