

**The Fourth Annual  
Raymond E. Mason Jr.  
Leadership  
Symposium**

**Chester Jourdan**  
**Executive Director**  
**Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission**

Chester Jourdan is the Executive Director of the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC). Chester began his duties as executive director on December 18, 2006. Prior to joining MORPC Jourdan was the Executive Director of the South East Texas Regional Planning Commission.

Under Chester's leadership in South East Texas, he developed effective working relationships with the region's state and congressional legislative delegation, federal and state agency heads, and administrative officials in Texas and Washington, D.C. Chester also built effective networks and alliances to address the many public, commercial, transportation, and industrial issues impacting the region. Additionally, Chester actively participated in the creation of the Texas Emission Reduction Plan (TERP). TERP serves as the model for the nation in how a state can provide leadership and funding to clean up older diesel fleets, trains and construction equipment.

Chester earned a Master of Arts in Urban and Regional Affairs from the University of Texas at Arlington and has completed doctoral course work focused on organizational management, urban economics, planning, public policy and public administration. He received a Bachelor of Science in political science at Stephen F. Austin State University.