As Banking Director for the North Carolina Department of State Treasurer, Brandon Watson oversees the State's depository accounts, disbursing operations and banking services. He began his financial career at Merrill Lynch and transitioned to banking with the former Central Carolina Bank. It was there that he developed a passion for banking and the impact it can have on people's lives. He rose through the ranks into management at SunTrust Bank, which acquired Central Carolina Bank. Prior to joining the Department, he also worked for First Citizens Bank where he focused primarily on small business development, working with clients who were intent on growing their business or implementing efficiency solutions. Brandon graduated from Duke University with a degree in economics. He is also an alumnus of Leadership North Carolina where he gained an in-depth perspective of issues impacting North Carolinians daily. A resident of Durham, Brandon enjoys photography and spending time with his wife and two kids.