



TDLR Lowers Application, Renewal Fees

On November 21, 2013, the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation approved a reduction in the initial license and renewal fees for the Property Tax Professionals program. TDLR estimates this fee reduction will result in a savings for licensees of \$36,333 annually, with an estimated five-year savings of \$181,665.

» The following fee reductions take effect **January 1, 2014** for **INITIAL APPLICATIONS**:

Appraiser	Current Initial Application Fee	\$105	Reduced Initial Application Fee (1/1/2014)	\$100	Savings	5%
Collector	Current Initial Application Fee	\$105	Reduced Initial Application Fee (1/1/2014)	\$100	Savings	5%
Assessor/Collector	Current Initial Application Fee	\$105	Reduced Initial Application Fee (1/1/2014)	\$100	Savings	5%

» The following fee reductions take effect **February 1, 2014** for **RENEWALS**:

Appraiser	Current Renewal Fee	\$55	Reduced Renewal Fee (2/1/2014)	\$45	Savings	18%
Collector	Current Renewal Fee	\$55	Reduced Renewal Fee (2/1/2014)	\$45	Savings	18%
Assessor/Collector	Current Renewal Fee	\$55	Reduced Renewal Fee (2/1/2014)	\$45	Savings	18%

"These savings result from the fee review we conduct each year, as part of our vision of 'Smaller, Smarter Government', " said TDLR Executive Director William Kuntz. "TDLR ensures that our license fees are reasonable and only cover the actual cost of administering our programs. With these fee reductions, our licensees and the public will receive the same high level of service but now at a lower cost."

At their November 21st meeting, the Commission lowered fees for more than 400,000 TDLR licensees. TDLR estimates the total savings for all licensees will amount to nearly \$6 million each year, with an estimated five year savings of \$29,661,245.

"I'm proud that TDLR is leading the way to lower economic barriers for entry into the Texas workforce while helping businesses grow and keep more money in their pockets," said Commission Chairman Mike Arismendez. "With these fee reductions, TDLR licensees will save real money now and for years to come."

Questions? Contact TDLR at cs.tax.professionals@tdlr.texas.gov or call 800.803.9202.



TAAD 33rd Annual Conference on Appraisal Administration Registration and Program Information Inside!

Features

3 » New Trustees Appointed to TCDRS | 3 » Vela Appointed to TDLR Tax Professional Advisory Committee
4/5 » TAAD's 2014 State Certification Course Schedule and Registration Form | 6/7 » TAAD 2014 IAAO Course/Workshop
Schedule & Registration Form | 8 » TAAD's 2014 Level III and IV RPA Review and Registration Form | 10 » A TAAD of Info... | 11 » TAAD Classifieds
12 » Real Estate Notes of Interest | 15 » Attorney General Request | 17-22 » TAAD 2014 Conference Registration and Program Information

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New Trustees Appointed to Texas County & District Retirement System Board

Gov. Rick Perry has appointed two new trustees to serve on the Texas County & District Retirement System (TCDRS) nine-member board of trustees.

Deborah Hunt is the Williamson County Tax Assessor-Collector, a position she's held since 1997. She has previously fulfilled terms as Justice of the Peace and as Williamson County Magistrate. She earned her Registered Texas Assessor/Collector certification in 1986 and her designation as a Certified Tax Administrator in 1988. She replaces board member Dan Haggerty, who passed away this year. Her term as a TCDRS trustee expires on Dec. 31, 2015.

Mary Louise Garcia has been County Clerk of Tarrant County since 2011. She joined Tarrant County in 2002 as a senior administrator for the sheriff's department. Prior to her county service, she owned the Garcia Group, a public relations firm serving a variety of businesses, non-profits and political clients. She replaces board member Ed Miles, Jr., who passed away in 2012. Her term as a TCDRS trustee expires on Dec. 31, 2017.

Trustees oversee all aspects of the retirement system's operations, including the annual budget, policy determination, governance policy, legislative proposals and investment policy. Contributing members or retirees of the system are eligible to serve on the board of trustees. Board members are appointed by the governor and confirmed by the Texas Senate.



Deborah Hunt TCDRS Trustee

Joseph Sidney Vela, TDLR Tax Professional Advisory Committee

Joseph Sidney Vela, chief appraiser of the Jim Wells CAD, has been appointed to a term expiring March 1, 2017, on the **Texas Tax Professional Advisory Committee** of the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR).

The committee is composed of seven members appointed by the TDLR presiding officer, with the commission's approval. The advisory board consists of the following members: two members who are certified under this chapter as registered professional appraisers; two members who are certified under this chapter as registered Texas collectors or registered Texas assessors; and three members who represent the public.

Vela occupies one of the spots for a member who is a certified registered Texas collector (RTC) or registered Texas assessor (RTA).

A 30-year employee of Jim Wells CAD, he has spent the past 23 years as the district's chief appraiser, as well as the tax assessor-collector for 13 taxing entities in JWCAD.

"I feel very honored to have been appointed by the TDLR Commissioners to serve on the Tax Professional Advisory Committee," Vela said. "This gives me an opportunity to give something back to a profession that I have spent my entire adult life working in."



Joseph Sidney Vela TCDRS Trustee

TAAD's 2014 State Certification Course Schedule

NOTE: Schedule is tentative – length of classes may change!

<i>Month</i>	<i>Course Number-Name</i>	
JANUARY 2014		
January 13-14	Course 30	Ethics
January 13-16	Course 5	Mass Appraisal
January 13-16	Course 3	Income Approach to Value
January 13-15	Course 101	Intro to Texas Property Tax System
January 15-17	Course 102	Intro to Appraisal
MARCH 2014		
March 10-12	Course 9	Adv. Assessment and Collections
March 10-13	Course 7	Property Tax Law
March 10-13	Course 4	Personal Property Appraisal
March 10-13	Course 10	Analyzing a Real Property Appraisal
March 10-14	Course 2	Appraisal of Real Property
APRIL 2014		
April 14-16	Course 8	Assessment and Collections
April 17-18	Course 28	TNT
April 14-16	Course 32	USPAP (new registrants)
April 17	Course 31	USPAP Refresher
AUGUST 2014		
August 18-21	Course 7	Property Tax Law
August 18-21	Course 10	Analyzing a Real Property Appraisal
August 18-22	Course 2	Appraisal of Real Property
SEPTEMBER 2014		
September 8-11	Course 3	Income Approach to Value
September 8-11	Course 4	Personal Property Appraisal
September 8-11	Course 5	Mass Appraisal
OCTOBER 2014		
October 13-14	Course 30	Ethics
October 13-15	Course 101	Intro to Texas Property Tax System
October 15-17	Course 102	Intro to Appraisal
NOVEMBER 2014		
November 3-5	Course 32	USPAP (new registrants)
November 6	Course 31	USPAP Refresher
DECEMBER 2014		
December 8-11	Course 7	Texas Property Tax Law
December 8-11	Course 10	Analyzing a Real Property Appraisal
December 8-11	Course 3	Income Approach to Value
December 8-11	Course 4	Personal Property Appraisal
December 8-10	Course 101	Intro to Texas Property Tax System
December 10-12	Course 102	Intro to Appraisal
December 8-12	Course 2	Appraisal of Real Property

Course Registration on next page

TAAD's 2014 State Certification Course Registration Form

- Class Hours:** Unless otherwise specified, course hours are from 8:30 am - 5 pm. Registration on day one of class is 8 - 8:30 am.
- Class Location/Hotel Accommodations:** Courses will be held at the **Marriott North**, 2600 La Frontera Blvd., Round Rock, TX 78681, 512.733.6767 or 800.865.0546. Lodging is \$117/single or double per night (free parking). Call at least **three** weeks in advance, ask for the TAAD block.
- CEs:** All of TAAD's state certification courses are approved by PTAD and TDLR for certification and for continuing education (CE) hours.
- Certificate:** All member districts will receive a certificate for \$50-off Member District Course Fee. Certificates are valid for one individual registration. To redeem, please enclose certificate with remaining registration fee.
- Class Materials:** Your class materials will be waiting for you at registration. If you want them sooner, enclose \$10 with your registration. TAAD must receive payment at least three weeks prior to class.
- Cancellations:** There will be a **\$75 fee** charged for cancellations. Written request for a refund must be received at TAAD at least seven days **before** class begins or entire registration is forfeited.

Cost for Courses:

Courses 101 & 102 (each):

\$180 for TAAD Member Districts
 \$230 for TAAD Associate/Affiliate Members
 \$280 for Nonmembers

Course 2:

\$305 for TAAD Member Districts
 \$355 for TAAD Associate/Affiliate Members
 \$405 for Nonmembers

Courses 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, & 10:

\$280 for TAAD Member Districts
 \$330 for TAAD Associate/Affiliate Members
 \$380 for Nonmembers

Courses 28, 30 & 32:

\$230 for TAAD Member Districts
 \$280 for TAAD Associate/Affiliate Members
 \$330 for Nonmembers

Course 31:

\$175 for TAAD Member Districts
 \$225 for TAAD Associate/Affiliate Members
 \$275 for Nonmembers

Course # _____ Course Date _____ TDLR # (if applicable) _____

Name _____ Nickname _____ Title _____

Jurisdiction/Firm _____

Mailing address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ Email address _____

confirmations are sent by email

Course Materials (please mark one)

- Please **email** my class materials (student responsible for printing and bringing materials to class)
- I will **pick up** my class materials at registration
- Please **mail** my class materials. I have enclosed the \$10 shipping and handling fee.*

Materials mailed only if registration and payment are received **three weeks prior to class.*

Note: Property Assessment Valuation book is ordered directly from IAAO (iaao.org). (Required for Courses 2, 3, 4 and 5.)

Course Registration Fee..... Registration Fee.....\$ _____

PTEC Glossary - optional (\$20) Enclosed.....\$ _____

Mail Course Materials - optional (\$10) Enclosed.....\$ _____

Member District Certificate (must enclose with payment) minus\$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____



Please complete the registration form and return it along with payment to:

TAAD | 7700 Chevy Chase Drive; Building One, Suite 425 | Austin, Texas 78752-1558

Office Use Only:

Certificate _____ Date _____ Check# _____ Paid _____ Glossary _____

DB _____ Materials mailed _____ Confirmation sent _____

TAAD 2014 IAAO Course/Workshop Schedule

Course 201: Appraisal of Land

Date: February 3-7, 2014

Site: Travis CAD, 8314 Cross Park Drive, Austin

Instructor: Rick Stuart, CAE

Fees: TAAD member districts \$425, TAAD associate/affiliate members \$475, Nonmembers: \$550

TDLR credit: 30 hours

Appraisal of Land is designed to provide the students with an understanding and working knowledge of the procedures and techniques required to estimate the market value of land. This course concentrates on the skills necessary for estimating land value primarily using the sales comparison approach.

Recommended: Course 101, Course 102

AQB Approved: 33.50 CE with exam/30 CE

Recommended text: *Property Assessment Valuation, 3rd edition* (obtain from IAAO)

Course 400: Assessment Administration

October 6-10, 2014

Site: Travis CAD, 8314 Cross Park Drive, Austin

Instructor: Rick Stuart, CAE

Fees: TAAD member districts \$425, TAAD associate/affiliate members \$475, Nonmembers: \$550

TDLR credit: 30 hours

Course 400 provides fundamental management concepts for management and supervisory personnel in the assessor's office. The course begins by emphasizing the need for management, and the various roles placed on the assessor and all supervisory personnel. The course then introduces the four major management functions (planning, organizing, directing, and controlling). Although the four functions are interrelated, a separate chapter is devoted to each one. This provides for a greater understanding of the major functions.

Recommended: Course 101, and The Appraisal Foundation's Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice (USPAP)

Recommended text: *Assessment Administration* (obtain from IAAO)

Course 101: Fundamentals of Real Property Appraisal

Date: October 13-17, 2014

Site: Travis CAD, 8314 Cross Park Drive, Austin

Instructor: Rick Stuart, CAE

Fees: TAAD member districts \$425, TAAD associate/affiliate members \$475, Nonmembers: \$550

TDLR credit: 30 hours

Course 101 is designed to provide the students with an understanding and working knowledge of the procedures and techniques required to estimate the market value of vacant and improved properties. This course concentrates on the skills necessary for estimating the market value of

properties using two approaches to value: the cost approach and the sales comparison approach. The Fundamentals of Real Property Appraisal utilizes lectures, classroom discussion, and homework problems to emphasize the main concepts and procedures taught in the course.

Recommended text: *Property Assessment Valuation, 2nd edition* (obtain from IAAO)

Course 300: Fundamentals of Mass Appraisal

November 3-7, 2014

Site: Travis CAD, 8314 Cross Park Drive, Austin

Instructor: Rick Stuart, CAE

Fees: TAAD member districts \$425
TAAD associate/affiliate members \$475
Nonmembers: \$550

TDLR credit: 30 hours

This course provides an introduction to mass appraisal and is a prerequisite for the 300 series of courses offered by the IAAO. Topics covered include single-property appraisal versus mass appraisal, components of a mass appraisal system, data requirements and analysis, introduction to statistics, use of assessment ratio studies in mass appraisal, modeling of the three approaches to value, and selection of a mass appraisal system.

Recommended: Course 101, 102

Recommended text: *Mass Appraisal of Real Property textbook (MARP)* (obtain from IAAO)

Course 102: Income Approach to Valuation

Date: December 8-22, 2013

Site: Travis CAD, 8314 Cross Park Drive, Austin

Instructor: Rick Stuart, CAE

Fees: TAAD member districts \$425, TAAD associate/affiliate members \$475, Nonmembers: \$550

TDLR credit: 30 hours

Covers the theory and techniques of estimating value by the income, or capitalized earnings, approach. The material includes selection of capitalization rates, analysis of income and expenses to estimate operating income, and capitalization methods and techniques. This course also covers rental units of comparison, as well as real estate finance and investment.

Recommended: Course 101

Required text: *Property Assessment Valuation, 2nd edition* (obtain from IAAO)

IAAO Registration Form on following page

**Check back...
more courses and
workshops will be added!**

Continued on following page

TAAD 2014 IAAO Course Registration Form

- Class Hours:** Unless otherwise specified, course hours are from 8:30 am - 5 pm. Registration on class day 1 is 8-8:30 am.
- Location/Hotel Accommodations:** Check registration materials for announced location:
 - **Harris County Appraisal District**
13013 Northwest Freeway, Houston
 - **North Austin/Round Rock Marriott Hotel**
2600 LaFrontera Blvd., Round Rock
 - **Travis Central Appraisal District**
8314 Cross Park Drive, Austin
 - **Dallas Central Appraisal District**
2949 North Stemmons Freeway, Dallas

For lodging information, please contact TAAD or refer to TAAD's website for suggestions.
- Registration Requirement:** Payment must be received by TAAD for an individual to be officially registered. *There is no on-site registration.*
- Cancellations:** For all course cancellations there will be a \$100 administrative charge deducted. This includes faxed registrations. *Refund requests must be received by TAAD in writing no later than one week prior to the first day of the course.* There are no refunds for cancellations received by TAAD less than one week prior to first day of class.
- Cost for Courses:** Please refer to the registration materials for cost of registration for TAAD members and nonmembers. Cost of registration is based on *TAAD membership*, not IAAO membership.
- Additional Texts:** Please refer to the registration materials for possible additional IAAO texts needed for the class. *Each student is responsible for ordering and obtaining them from IAAO. No texts will be available at the class.*
- Registration Deadline:** IAAO requires that registrations be processed *at least three weeks prior to the course* in order to allow sufficient time for mailing materials.
- Course Materials:** Students will pick up course materials at registration on the first day of class.

IAAO Course/Workshop # _____ Course Date _____ TDLR # (if applicable) _____

Name _____ Nickname _____ Title _____

Jurisdiction/Firm _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ Email Address _____

Course Registration Fee\$ _____
(Fee is based on TAAD membership, not on IAAO membership)

Please submit this course for Continuing Education credit with TDLR

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED\$ _____

Please complete the registration form and return it along with payment to:
TAAD | 7700 Chevy Chase Drive; Building One, Suite 425 | Austin, Texas 78752-1558

Office Use Only:

Date _____ Check# _____ Paid _____ PC _____

DB _____ ADV _____ Materials Date _____



TAAD's 2014 Level III and IV RPA Review/Registration Form

TAAD offers a **Level III/Level IV RPA Review** for TDLR registrants preparing to take the state certification exam. Sessions will be four comprehensive days of course review and working problems. An optional exam will prepare registrants for the TDLR exam.

Registrants should be familiar with the outline, and should ensure they have up to date course materials for review.

Daily sessions will be from 8:30 am - 5 pm. Students attending should be aware that this is a *review* session, not a primary instruction. The instructor will cover basic methodologies, definitions, etc., as outlined in course materials, but will not "reteach" the course.

Time will be provided for working on students' areas of specific concern.

Note: Sessions will be offered at two locations – TAAD Office and Marriott:

TAAD Classes Location/Lodging

TAAD Office, 7700 Chevy Chase Drive; Building One, Suite 425; Austin, TX 78752-1558. Call TAAD for lodging suggestions.

Marriott Classes Location/Lodging

North Austin/Round Rock Marriott Hotel
2600 La Frontera Blvd., Round Rock, TX 78681
\$117 single or double (*reserve at least three weeks before class, ask for TAAD block*). 800.865.0546

Registration Deadline: One week prior to class

Class Hours: Registration, Day 1, 8-8:30; class 8:30-5

Session I Plan to Attend

» Level III RPA

- February 24-27, 2014 (Mon-Thurs, @TAAD)
- September 15-18, 2014 (Mon-Thurs, @TAAD)
- October 27-30, 2014 (Mon-Thurs, @TAAD)
- December 2-5, 2014 (Tues-Fri, @Marriott)

» Level IV RPA

- February 24-27, 2014 (Mon-Thurs, @TAAD)
- September 15-18, 2014 (Mon-Thurs, @TAAD)
- October 27-30, 2014 (Mon-Thurs, @TAAD)
- December 2-5, 2014 (Tues-Fri, @Marriott)

Level III or Level IV Review Fees

- TAAD member district\$330
- TAAD associate or affiliate member \$380
- Non-member \$430

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

Name _____ Title _____

Jurisdiction/Firm _____ TDLR# _____

Mailing address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ Fax _____

Email address _____

confirmations are sent by email

Registration fees must reflect current membership status. Written request for refund must be received at TAAD at least seven days *before* class begins or entire registration is forfeited. There will be a \$75 fee charged for timely-received cancellations.



Please complete the registration form and return it along with payment to:
TAAD | 7700 Chevy Chase Drive; Building One, Suite 425 | Austin, Texas 78752-1558

Office Use Only:

Date _____

Check# _____

Paid _____

DB _____



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Workshop Topics:

- USPAP
- Rates and levies
- Effective tax rates
- Economic principles
- Property definitions
- Ownerships and rights
- Three approaches to value
- Attributes in an effective tax system
- Role of the assessor
- Ratio studies
- Tax policy
- Reassessment Planning
- Assessment Administration

Included are multiple problems associated with the assessment and valuation processes, and the workshop concludes with a 4-hour case study exam followed by a review of the answers. *This is not an IAAO workshop but one developed by TEAM.*

AAS Case Study Review Workshop

December 3–5, 2013 • Harris County Appraisal District
13013 Northwest Freeway • Houston, Texas

Did you know that an IAAO designation makes you eligible to be appointed chief appraiser in certain counties even if you don't yet have an RPA? According to HB 585, if you have a population over 100,000, you can be appointed to the position by obtaining the AAS designation, and then you have five years to obtain the RPA. Let TEAM help you earn the AAS and expand your career options.

On December 3–5, 2013, TEAM Consulting LLC will present *AAS Case Study Review*, at the Harris County Appraisal District in Houston, Texas. This 2½-day workshop provides a review of materials and an understanding of the composition of a case study to help prepare for the AAS Case Study Exam. The focus will be on the most prevalent items to study for but will not be all-inclusive of what may actually be on the exam.

Cost for the workshop is only \$300, which includes course materials. Find more information, including a registration form, on the TEAM website (below). For questions, contact Rick Stuart, CAE, rstuart17@cox.net or 785.259.1379.

<http://www.teamconsulting.cc/aasreview/december2013workshop.html>

A TAAD of Info...

- » **Janet Wilson** has left the chief appraiser spot at **Crane CAD**.
- » **Byron Bitner** retired September 30 as chief appraiser at **Reagan CAD**.
- » **Rhonda Stafford** has retired as chief appraiser for **Moore CAD**.
- » **Victor Perry** is retiring as chief appraiser at **Maverick CAD**, as of December 31. He leaves with 47 years in the ad valorem industry, starting long ago as a clerk in the City of Eagle Pass Tax Office.

...and Arrivals

- » **Byron Bitner** took over as the chief appraiser in **Crane CAD** as of October 1.
- » **Don Spencer** is the new deputy chief appraiser at **Grayson CAD**.
- » **Harrison CAD** welcomes its new chief appraiser, **Robert Lisman**.
- » **Maricel Gonzales** is the new chief appraiser at **Culberson CAD**.
- » **Stephanie Holland** is serving as the interim chief appraiser at **Reagan CAD**.
- » **Jackie Hayhurst** has taken over as chief appraiser at the **Moore CAD**.

Departures...

- » **Sally Carrasco** retired as **Culberson CAD** chief appraiser.
- » **Richard Petree** retires from the **Central Appraisal District of Taylor County** at the end of 2013, racking up 37½ years in the ad valorem industry.
- » **Karen McCord** will be retiring from the chief appraiser spot at **Ector CAD** at the end of the year.
- » **Jesse Hubbell** moving from the chief appraiser spot at **Live Oak CAD** to the chief appraiser spot at **Karnes CAD**.
- » **Patricia Moraw** has retired from the chief appraiser position at **Milam CAD**.

- » **Gary Earnest** will lead the **Central Appraisal District of Taylor County**, effective January 1.
- » **Dyann White** is serving as the interim chief appraiser at **Milam CAD**.
- » **Congratulations** to **Sidney Vela**, chief appraiser at **Jim Wells CAD**, appointed to the **Texas Tax Professionals Advisory Committee** of the **Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation** and **Deborah Hunt**, **Williamson County A/C** and **Williamson CAD** board member, appointed to the **Texas County and District Retirement System's Board of Trustees**.

TAAD Classifieds

RESIDENTIAL APPRAISER AUSTIN, TEXAS

The **Travis Central Appraisal District** has two positions open for **Residential Appraisers**. Must have thorough technical knowledge of advanced real property valuation techniques, including but not limited to: cost approach, sales comparison, and income approaches to value. State Certification (TALCB) highly desirable. Real estate sales, leasing, property management, building or development a plus. For more information visit our website at: www.traviscad.org

DIRECTOR BUSINESS PERSONAL PROPERTY

The **Travis Central Appraisal District** is seeking an experienced manager/director to join the district team. They will be under the direction and general supervision of the **Deputy Chief of Appraisal**, perform complex managerial work directing the activities of professional, technical, and clerical personnel engaged in establishing, defending, and providing information associated with business personal property. For more information regarding the position and requirements please visit our website at: www.traviscad.org

PROFESSIONAL APPRAISER

Perform appraisals of all property types within assigned area of the District. Prefer RPA or current TDLR appraiser registrant on certification path. Bachelor's degree or a combination of formal education/professional experience preferred. A comprehensive knowledge of accepted standards of appraisal methods and practices required. A valid Texas Driver's License and vehicle sufficient to support field appraisal duties. Ability to effectively communicate with the public in a manner that reflects positively on public service. Closing Date: December 15th, 2013. Send Resume to: Appraisal Director; **Ector County Appraisal District**; 1301 E. 8th St.; Odessa, TX 79761.

STAFF APPRAISER

Wharton CAD is accepting resumes for **Staff Appraiser**. Prefer experience in the TX Property Tax System, an RPA or Level III Appraiser. Duties include detailed data collection, field inspections and measurements. Position entails significant contact and explanations with property owners and presentations at ARB Hearings. Some training is provided. Excellent peer working environment and benefit package. Requires vehicle, valid driver's license, self-motivation and ability to work unsupervised. Must be able to walk/stand for long periods of time and work in inclement weather.

Position requires 8 hour days, 5 days a week and some after work hours and weekends during peak seasons. Salary expectations must be included. Send resume and references to 308 East Milam; Wharton, TX 77488 or email to whartoncad@sbcglobal.net. Wharton CAD is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

STAFF APPRAISER

Scurry County Appraisal District is currently accepting resumes for the position of **Staff Appraiser**. Resumes will be accepted till position is filled.

- » Position requires appraisal of residential, rural and commercial properties
- » Duties include data collection, inspections, measuring, analysis of market data, application of appraisal techniques and appropriate valuation approaches
- » Applicant must have good math background and computer skills
- » College degree or appraisal experience. Prefer RPA designation or working towards RPA. Minimum education is a high school diploma
- » Applicant must have dependable personal transportation and a valid Texas driver's license
- » Applicant must have ability to work productively with staff and general public
- » Salary is contingent on experience and qualifications of applicant
- » Scurry CAD offers a competitive benefits package

Please submit resumes to the Scurry County Appraisal District; 2612 College Avenue; Snyder, TX 79549. For questions please call 325.573.8549.

FIELD APPRAISER

The **Victoria Central Appraisal District** is accepting applications for the position of **Field Appraiser**. Responsibilities include office and field work associated with the appraisal of all types of real and personal property. Must be a high school graduate. Some college preferred. Computer skills required, good communications skills are a must. Prior experience in Real Estate, Insurance adjusting, Construction or Accounting a plus. TDLR certification preferred but not required. This position requires reliable transportation, a valid Texas driver's license, and proof of insurance. Salary is contingent upon experience and qualifications. Send resume and cover letter detailing appraisal experience to Victoria Central Appraisal District; 2805 N. Navarro Suite # 300; Victoria, Texas 77901. Resumes accepted until January 6, 2014. EOE

Real Estate Notes of Interest

Rick Stuart, CAE

Rick is a Senior Consultant with TEAM Consulting and lives in Topeka, Kansas.

Kermit Baker, Hon. AIA Chief Economist, www.aia.org, September 13, 2013

"With the national recovery of the housing market has come a return to larger and more expensive homes. Residential architects are reporting more specialized uses of space and the growing interest in special function rooms. Examples include outdoor living spaces, mud rooms, in-law suites, and safe rooms. With more specialized uses of space has come an increased interest in special features, many of which provide greater accessibility for an aging population. New technologies are also seeing a dramatic increase in popularity, both in new and remodeled homes. Popular new products offer greater energy efficiency and often provide households with fewer maintenance obligations."
www.aia.org/practicing/AIAB099983

hotelmanagement.net, September 20, 2013

Business travelers can expect to pay five to six percent more for hotel rooms next year, according to a New York University study. <http://bit.ly/17fgYBn>

Julie Schmit, USA Today, September 20, 2013

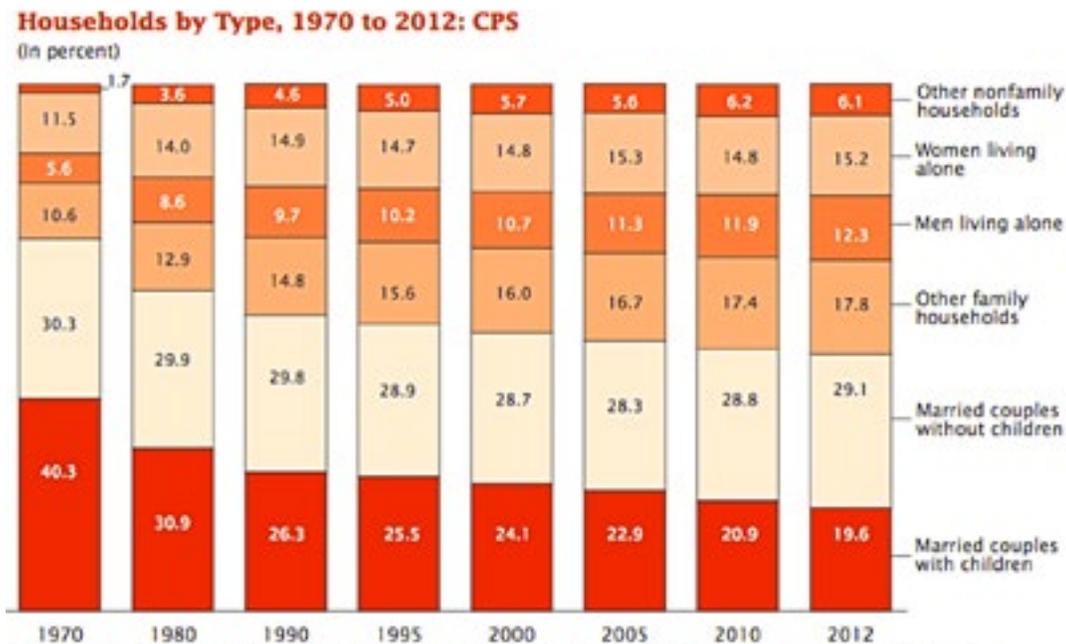
Existing home sales increased 1.7 percent in August over July and showed an increase in sales of more than 13 percent from one year ago. With the increase in mortgage rates, some experts are predicting that August was a peak and September sales will slow.

Jim Butler, www.htrends.com, September 19, 2013

"The number of hotel transactions is up by more than 50 percent for the first 6 months of 2013 over the comparable period last year, and is expected to top \$18 billion for 2013," according to Jones Lang LaSalle. And Hotel Valuation Services (HVS) reports that the sales transaction volume of hotels is now intersecting its 22-year moving average, and predicts that hotel values will continue to grow at an average of 12 percent for each of the next three years (substantially less than the past couple of years, but still a nice increase in value).
www.htrends.com/trends-detail-sid-73971.html

Barry Ritholtz, www.ritholtz.com, September 24, 2013

This is an interesting graph.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, Annual Social and Economic Supplement, selected years, 1970 to 2012.

Continued on following page

Real Estate Notes *continued*

**Nick Timiraos, *The Wall Street Journal*,
September 24, 2013**

"U.S. home prices rose by their fastest pace in more than seven years during July, according to an index released Tuesday, though more recent data suggest price gains could soon moderate. Prices are up most sharply in many of the Western and Southwestern markets that saw some of the biggest declines. Prices have jumped 27.5 percent in Las Vegas over the past year, while San Francisco gained 24.8 percent and Los Angeles, 20.8 percent."

Editor's Note: Here we go again.
<http://on.wsj.com/18n2MUD>

**Laura Vecsey, *Zillow blog contributor*,
September 24, 2013**

"The frenzy may be over right now, but for foreign buyers, U.S. residential real estate continues to be an alluring bet, especially as some stability returns to key markets like Miami, Las Vegas, Phoenix and coastal California. International sales of U.S. residential real estate dropped by \$14 billion to \$68.2 billion, according to the National Association of Realtors' analysis of data from March 2012 through March 2013. That's down slightly more than \$80 billion spent by foreign buyers the year before." <http://onforb.es/1gXEYYw>

Charlotte O'Malley, *www.builderonline.com*, September 24, 2013

This could be some interesting reading concerning the economy in Texas. Not sure anything here will surprise you.
<http://bit.ly/19A901H>

Dawn Wotapka, *The Wall Street Journal*, October 1, 2013

"Landlords passed along hefty rent increases to tenants this summer, an indication that rising home-buying costs are helping heat up demand for apartments. The rental increases were stronger than industry watchers expected and represent a turn-around from the past several quarters when it appeared that rent growth was slowing."

Eliot Brown, *The Wall Street Journal*, October 2, 2013

"The office vacancy rate in the third quarter nudged down to 16.9 percent from 17 percent three months earlier and a post-recession peak of 17.6 percent in 2010, according to real-estate research firm Reis, Inc."

***www.ccim.com*, October 7, 2013**

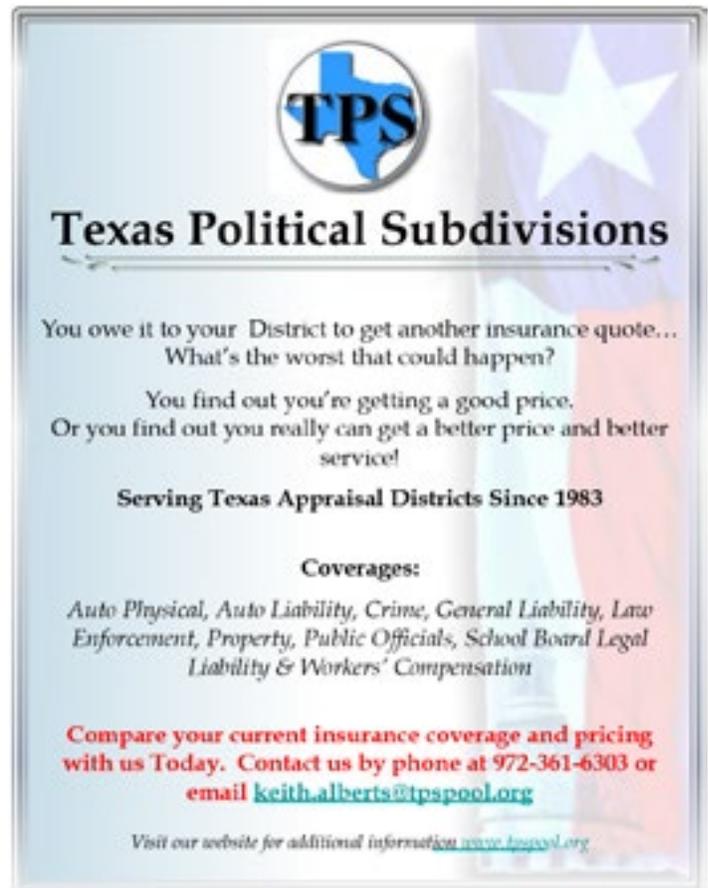
"Deal flow among members of the CCIM Institute increased 57 percent year over year according to an August 2013 intelligence survey conducted by the National Association of Realtors® in conjunction with the CCIM Institute." (See more at: <http://bit.ly/Hh8ZH2>)

Melvin Backman, *The Wall Street Journal*, October 8, 2013

"A Cushman & Wakefield report said that in the past year Austin has seen office-building investment volume increase in percentage terms more than in any other U.S. city. The total value of the properties sold in the 12 months ended June 30 was \$21 billion, a 304 percent increase over the previous year."

Sanette Tanaka, *The Wall Street Journal*, October 11, 2013

One more article about the value that trees add: "In an analysis of 2,608 real-estate transactions over 10 months, researchers found that homes with 'street trees,' those planted between the sidewalk and street, sold for \$7,130 more, on average, than homes without street trees and sold 17 days more quickly."



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Continued on following page

Real Estate Notes *continued*

Kris Hudson, *The Wall Street Journal*, October 14, 2013

Here is something that we have not seen for a few years. "Home builders have boosted cash incentives and upgrades to lure buyers, as sales lag in some markets due to rising prices and higher mortgage rates."

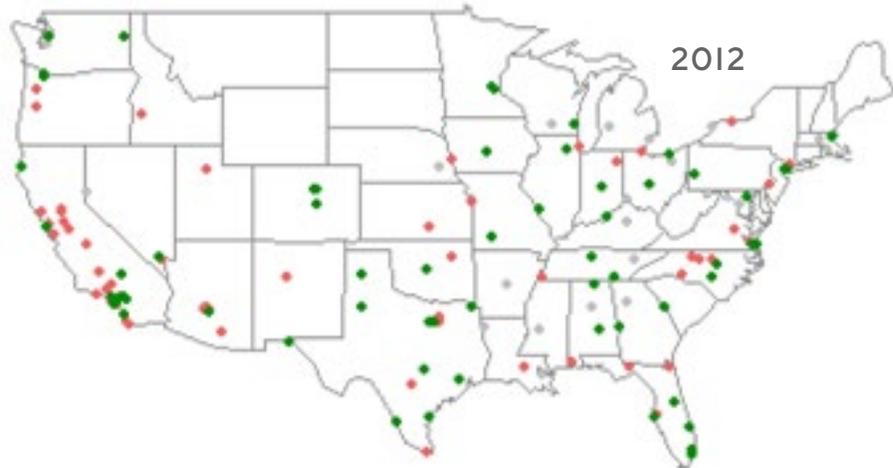
Andrew Johnson, *The Wall Street Journal*, October 15, 2013

"Many U.S. banks are starting to see new growth from the old business of commercial real-estate loans. The dollar volume of loans is up 3.3 percent from a year earlier."

**Thomas Hazinski,
MPP and Matthew O'Keefe,
September 2013 >>**

"As of 2012, the lodging revenues in 51 percent of the 117 cities for which HVS obtained data have recovered to pre-recession levels. As we expect continued recovery of average daily rate and occupancy in 2013 and 2014, the lodging revenues of most major metro areas are likely to recover to pre-recession levels. Cities marked in red recorded less taxable room revenue than they had in 2008.

Cities marked in green recorded more taxable room revenue than they had in 2008. Cities for which not enough information was available are marked in gray." <http://bit.ly/iidnrfn>



Smith Travel Research, October 18, 2013

"The U.S. hotel industry posted increases in the three key performance measurements during the week of 6-12 October, according to data from STR. In year-over-year measurements, the industry's occupancy increased 2.4 percent to 67.7 percent. Average daily rate rose 4.8 percent to finish the week at US\$114.50. Revenue per available room for the week was up 7.3 percent to finish at US\$77.54." www.hotelnewsresource.com/article74491.html

Patrick Mayock, *hotelnewsnow.com*, October 18, 2013

What was the cost of the government shutdown to the travel industry? "The U.S. Travel Association says travel-related economic output suffered a loss of \$152 million per day. The American Hotel & Lodging Association is more specific in their analysis of the hotel industry specifically, citing a total loss of \$115.2 million." <http://bit.ly/1a8Qikm>

Daily Real Estate News, October 18, 2013

Editor's Note: I do not ever remember seeing an article like this.

"As the housing market improves, more couples are protecting their real estate assets through prenuptial agreements, finds a new survey by the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyer members." <http://bit.ly/18vFogj>

Smith Travel Research, October 15, 2013

"The total active U.S. hotel development pipeline comprises 2,767 projects totaling 333,775 rooms, according to the September 2013 STR Pipeline Report. This represents a 15.6-percent increase in the number of rooms in the total active pipeline compared with September 2012 and a 29.5-percent increase in rooms under construction. The total active pipeline data includes projects in the In Construction, Final Planning and Planning stages but does not include projects in the Pre-Planning stage. Among the Chain Scale segments, the Upper Upscale segment reported the largest increase in rooms in the total active pipeline, rising 45.5 percent with 22,689 rooms." www.htrends.com/trends-detail-sid-74408.html

Julie Schmit and Barbara Hansen, *USA Today*, October 21, 2013

"At least a fifth of all occupied single-family homes were rentals last year in 32 of the nation's top metropolitan regions, according to a USA Today analysis of U.S. Census Bureau data. That's up from seven metros in 2006."

Continued on following page

Real Estate Notes *continued***cnnmoney.com, September 30, 2013**

The top 10 areas for investors in single-family rentals indicated Wichita Falls #1, Lubbock #2 and Austin #6.
<http://cnmmon.ie/ia4Esn3>

builderonline.com, October 25, 2013

"Redfin analyzes listed, for-sale time on the market for its 23 markets, and compiles data on the percentage of homes that go from listed for-sale to contract within a two-week period in each metro in its coverage." <http://bit.ly/ichmDZB>

Speed Ranking	Market	September 2013	August 2013	September 2012
#4	Austin, TX	32.9 percent	33.4 percent	23.1 percent
#13	Dallas, TX	28.6 percent	27.6 percent	19.7 percent
#15	Houston, TX	26.7 percent	28.0 percent	18.2 percent

Julie Schmit, USA Today, October 29, 2013

"Last month, institutional investors, who largely buy single-family homes to turn into rentals, accounted for about one in four home sales in Atlanta, Las Vegas, St. Louis and Jacksonville, data from RealtyTrac shows. In September, institutional investors accounted for 14 percent of home sales nationally but more in some markets."

Atlanta	29 percent	Las Vegas	27 percent
St. Louis	25 percent	Jacksonville	23 percent
Charlotte	17 percent	Memphis	16 percent
Richmond, VA	15 percent	Dallas & San Antonio	15 percent

Randy Drummer, www.costar.com, October 30, 2013

"A leading indicator of future nonresidential construction spending hit a seven-month high in September, lending weight to construction forecasts calling for a greater-than-expected 17 percent boost in commercial construction next year. The Architecture Billings Index (ABI) produced by the American Institute of Architects continued to accelerate in September, reaching its highest level since February and second-highest mark of the year." <http://bit.ly/19iljSj>

» *Editor's Note: A new book was released the first part of November relating to fracking. Some information about the book is shown below.*

**"The Frackers: The Outrageous Inside Story of the New Billionaire Wildcatters
 The riveting, untold story of the men who are transforming global energy**

In five years, the United States has seen a historic burst of oil and natural gas production, easing our insatiable hunger for energy. A new drilling process called fracking has made us the world's fastest growing energy power, on track to pass Saudi Arabia by 2020. But despite headlines and controversy, no previous book has shown how the revolution really happened." <http://bit.ly/1gmGAYU>

Ron Demeropolis, Cincinnati Business Courier, November 1, 2013

Editor's Note: Now, tell me the last time you remember something like this.

"A new residential development in the city of Mason is expecting so much interest from buyers that homebuilder M/I Homes of Cincinnati LLC scheduled a lottery drawing for those who want to purchase a home in the community. There aren't any parcels of land like this left in the city of Mason, Dan Tartabini, vice president of sales and marketing for M/I Homes, said in a news release." <http://bit.ly/18T9oX5>

Attorney General Request

Request No. 1168-GA RE: Whether a county may contract with a private entity to purchase groundwater for residents in the county and whether it may use ad valorem tax revenues to do so.

Opinion requested by Honorable Sherri K. Tibbe, Hays County Criminal District Attorney

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Tarrant Appraisal District

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Chief Appraiser

Hunt County Appraisal District

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Chief Appraiser

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Editor: **Doris M. Koch**

TAAD Executive Director

dkoch@taad.org

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Region 2 » **Kevin Jamison** Chief Appraiser Aransas CAD

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Texas Association of Appraisal Districts
33rd Annual Conference on Appraisal Administration

Fort Worth Renaissance Worthington Hotel
February 9-12, 2014

Registration and Program Information



FORT WORTH
TARRANT CO. TEXAS

Compliments of

2014 **TAAD** Conference Agenda *(Subject to change)*

Sunday, February 9

2 - 4 pm	Conference Registration
3 - 4:20 pm	<i>The Economic Outlook for Texas, 2014 and Beyond</i> Join TAAD and Dr. James Gaines of The Real Estate Center at Texas A&M for an afternoon of information about a topic of major concern for CADs.
4:30 - 5 pm	TAAD Annual Delegate Assembly and Business Meeting
5 - 6:30 pm	Grand Opening of the 33rd Annual TAAD Trade Show / President's Reception Join us as we celebrate and honor 2013 President Jeff Law. Then we'll kick off the trade show with a reception. Join us for refreshments, music and prize drawings, and best of all, meet our exhibitors and view their new products and services.

Monday, February 10

7 am - 4:30 pm	Conference Registration
7:45 - 8:30 am	Continental Breakfast Buffet
8:30 - 9:55 am	33rd Annual Conference Opening Session Presentation of Colors, Opening Remarks Keynote: <i>Getting To Wow, The Power Of Extraordinary Customer Service</i> Jim Jacobus
9:30 am - 4:30 pm	TAAD's Trade Show and Exhibits
9:45 - 10:15 am	Refreshment Break with the Exhibitors
10:20 - 11:20 am	<i>Managing and Leading ... for MAPs Efficiency</i> Rick Stuart
11:20 - 12:15 pm	<i>Implementing HB 585's TLO Responsibilities: ARB Surveys, Model Hearing Procedures, and More</i> Deborah Cartwright
12:15 - 1 pm	TAAD presents <i>A Trade Show Lunch</i> <i>Join TAAD for lunch and drawings!</i>
1 - 2:20 pm	<i>Connecting with Clients/Taxpayers</i> Scott Friedman
2:20 - 2:35 pm	Refreshment Break with the Exhibitors <i>Who will be the winner of Trade Show Bingo Bonanza? Warning: must be present to win!</i>
2:35 - 3:55 pm	<i>2014's Rural Land Outlook</i> Dr. Charles Gilliland, TREC
3:55 - 4:45 pm	<i>Business Ethics</i> Keith Hughey

Tuesday, February 11

7 am - 4:30 pm	Conference Registration
7:30 - 8:30 am	Continental Breakfast (all attendees)

Tuesday continued on following page

2014 **TAAD** Conference Agenda *continued*

Tuesday, February 11 *continued*

8:30 - 9:25 am	Concurrent Sessions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » The Secure Workplace » Outdoor Living in Texas: The Contributory Value of Outdoor Kitchens, Pools, Spas, Cabanas » BOD Forum: Managing CAD Finances
9:30 - 10:30 am	Concurrent Sessions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » The Three Approaches to Value for Small CADs » Highest and Best Use » BOD Forum: Legislation Affecting BODs
10:30 - 11 am	Refreshment Break
11 - 12 noon	Concurrent Sessions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Data Mining – Yours, Mine, and Others » USPAP, Ethics and Equity** (CEs for CAs) » ARB: Lessons Learned » BOD Forum: How to Hire, Evaluate and Retain a Chief Appraiser
12 - 1:45 pm	TAAD Annual Awards Luncheon Join TAAD as we salute the winners – the award winners, the graduates of the 2013 Chief Appraiser Institute, and the sponsors, vendors and groups who support the association.
1:45 - 3:05 pm	The Impact of Mineral Rights and Oil and Gas Activities on Agricultural Land Values <i>Dr. John Baen</i>
3:05 - 3:35 pm	Refreshment Break
3:35 - 4:45 pm	<i>Customer Service, Inspired by Southwest Airlines</i> Tony Brigmon
6:30 - 10 pm	Evening Gala at the Renaissance Worthington <i>Join TAAD for an evening of food and fun!</i>

Wednesday, February 12

8 - 8:30 am	Farewell Breakfast Buffet
8:30 - 9:25 am	<i>Workplace Safety is No Accident</i> Vern Holder
9:25 - 9:50 am	TAAD's Legislative Future
9:50 - 11:20 am	Other Public Laws** (CEs for CAs)
9:50 - 11:20 am	BOD Forum: The Big Picture: Responsibilities and Limitations of CAD Boards
11:20 am	Conference Wrap-up
1 - 3 pm	Ethics for Tax Professionals 2014** [CEs for CAs] (optional session, meets TDLR recertification requirements, will include new requirements for “a professional ethics specific to the chief appraiser of an appraisal district, including a program on the importance of maintaining the independence of an appraisal office from political pressure”) Adjourn/Farewell Fort Worth 2014/Hello, Austin 2015

Texas Association of Appraisal Districts
33rd Annual Conference on Appraisal Administration
February 9-12, 2014, Fort Worth Renaissance Worthington Hotel



Step One: Registration Information

First Name _____ (Nickname) _____ Last Name _____

Employer _____ TDLR # _____

Mailing address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ Fax _____

Email address _____

Emergency contact (name & phone) _____

Step Two: Job Title

Step Three: Information for Ribbon (check all that apply)

- Chief Appraiser Institute grad
 Trade Show Exhibitor
 TAAD Regional Trustee
 TAAD Conference Sponsor
 TAAD Committee member
 CAD Board Member

Step Four: Guest Registration

Guest registration provides a name badge which will be required for entrance to all education sessions and social functions and includes all meal functions as a regular registration. **See below for fee information.** *Guest* refers to a spouse or relative, **not** a business associate or staff colleague. **A guest registration does not qualify for CEUs with TDLR.**

Name for guest badge _____

Step Five: Registration Fees

A full registration provides a name badge required for entrance to **all education sessions and social functions** including the Trade Show Reception, President's Breakfast, Trade Show Lunch, Awards Luncheon, Tuesday Continental Breakfast, Tuesday Evening Gala, and Wednesday Breakfast. **No Refunds for tickets ordered.**

CHECK OFF ✓	Category	Member Districts only postmarked by 1/10/14	Regular postmarked between 1/11/14 - 1/23/14	On-Site postmarked 1/24/14 and after/on-site
	TAAD Member District (employees, BOD, ARB)	\$275	\$350	\$400
	TAAD Associate OR Affiliate Member		\$400	\$475
	Contractor (a trade show vendor or conference sponsor, or an employee of either)		\$475	\$500
	Nonmember		\$1,250	\$1,500
	Guest	\$200	\$250	\$300
	One day-Member District		\$125	\$150
	One day-Associate or Affiliate member		\$150	\$175
	One day-Contractor		\$175	\$200

Continued on following page

TAAD 2014 Conference Registration Continued

Please indicate day for one-day registration:

Monday Tuesday Wednesday Registration Subtotal \$ _____

Step Six: Extra Tickets

(Full and guest registrations provide entrance to each of these events. *One day registrations do not provide entrance.*) **No refunds for extra tickets ordered!**

	Member Districts only: postmarked by 1/10/14	Postmarked 1/11/14 - 1/23/14	Postmarked 1/24/14 and after/or on-site
Trade Show Reception	\$10	\$10	\$10
Monday President's Breakfast	\$30	\$35	\$40
Monday Trade Show Lunch	\$25	\$30	\$35
Tuesday Continental Breakfast	\$10	\$10	\$10
Tuesday Awards Luncheon	\$40	\$40	\$50
Tuesday Evening Gala	\$60	\$65	\$75
Wednesday Litigation Breakfast	\$30	\$35	\$40

Registration Subtotal \$ _____

Step Seven: Special Needs

Do you have any special needs? Please indicate any dietary/physical needs by sending an email description of your needs **by January 24** to Doris Koch, dkoch@taad.org.

Step Eight: Payment/Method of Payment

Full payment must accompany your registration form. TAAD accepts only checks and money orders. Registrations received after the cut-off date will be billed for the difference. All participants must pay in full prior to receiving on-site conference materials.

REGISTRATION TOTAL \$ _____

Cancellation and Refund Policy:

No refunds will be issued for extra tickets, one-day registrations or guest registrations. **Early registration fees** will be applicable to forms accompanied by registration fee(s) and postmarked **no later than January 10, 2014**. Review "Policies and Procedures" for cancellation penalties. If you have a potential scheduling conflict, please be sure you understand the policy before registering. TAAD will mail all refunds after the conclusion of the conference.

- » **Cancel by January 22: \$50 penalty**
- » **Cancel by January 23-30: \$100 penalty**
- » **Cancel January 31 or later: Total forfeiture of registration**
- » **No refunds for tickets ordered.**

Registration Confirmation: TAAD will send confirmation of registration by way of **email**.

Please be sure to include a current email address!

I authorize TAAD to send facsimiles regarding matters of educational and political interest, convention promotions, advertisements, and other commercial materials related to the Association.

Return form (with check payable to TAAD) to:

**7700 Chevy Chase Drive
Building One, Suite 425
Austin, Texas 78752-1558**

Questions? 512.467.0402



Office Use Only:

Date _____
 Check# _____
 Paid _____
 Notice _____ DB _____
 Notes _____

Texas Association of Appraisal Districts 2014 Annual Conference Policies & Procedures



Registration

Early registration is available ONLY to TAAD member districts and their registered guests and must be postmarked by no later than January 10, 2014.

(Faxed registrations will not be accepted.)

Registrations postmarked January 11 through January 23 will pay the higher-priced "regular registration" fees.

Registrations with a postmark of January 24 or later, as well as on-site registrations at the conference will use the "onsite registration" fee schedule.

Conference participants may pick up conference packets from 2 to 4pm on Sunday, February 9, and again from 7 am to 4:30pm on Monday, February 10.

NOTE: A full conference registration *includes admission* to the Monday Breakfast Buffet, Awards Luncheon, President's Reception/Trade Show Reception, continental breakfast, trade show lunch, Tuesday Night Gala, and Wednesday Breakfast.

A limited number of additional tickets to these catered events will be available at the conference registration desk.

Admittance to conference events will be by name badge only. Non-registered guests must have a ticket to any event they wish to attend.

One-Day OR Guest Registrations

Single day registrations *do not* include tickets to catered events, and there are no refunds for one-day registrations. Also available will be a **Guest registration**. It includes admission to all catered events. It *does not* qualify the registrant for CEs with TDLR, however.

Host Hotel

All conference sessions and trade show will be at the Fort Worth Renaissance Worthington Hotel, 200 Main Street, Fort Worth.

Trade Show & Exhibits

The trade show will open at 5 pm on Sunday, February 9 with a Welcome Reception in honor of TAAD's 2013 President Jeff Law. Back by popular demand, play *Bingo Bonanza* – visit the vendors and you may be a winner! A business interested in reserving a booth should call TAAD and request an *Exhibitor Prospectus*.

Tuesday Night Gala

Join TAAD for an evening of fun as we enjoy dinner and music at the Renaissance Worthington. Our entertainment will be Jeanne Robertson, an expert in humor, whether regaling audiences with her experiences as a 6'2" Miss Congeniality winner in the Miss America Pageant or outlining the steps to developing a sense of humor. She has been awarded every top honor in the speaking profession. You'll spend the evening laughing!

TDLR CEs for Chief Appraisers

HB 585 requires chief appraisers to earn at least one-half their continuing education hours in specific topics. TAAD will offer sessions that qualify for this designation. Please refer to the CE form and attend if you need this credit.

TDLR Ethics CE hours

TDLR requires two hours of ethics training for every registrant during his/her two-year recertification period. TAAD will offer a two-hour ethics session at the conclusion of the conference. Join us and keep your continuing education up to date!

Refund Policy

Individuals who register for the conference but are unable to attend **must submit a written refund request in advance.**

» **Cancel by January 22, 2014** \$50 penalty

» **Cancel January 23-30, 2014** \$100 penalty

If not cancelled by January 30, 2014, total forfeiture of registration. (Note: if another individual from the same office is substituted, there is no penalty.)

A refund will be issued according to postmarked date on the envelope. (No faxes will be accepted.)

No refunds will be issued for one-day registrations, guest registrations or extra meal tickets purchased. TAAD will process refunds after the conclusion of the conference.

Parking

Self-parking for guests at the Fort Worth Renaissance Worthington Hotel is \$18 per day, plus tax; valet parking is also available for \$22 per day, plus tax.

Conference Attire

Suggested dress for conference sessions is business casual attire. On Wednesday let's all "*Show Our Colors*" by wearing an item with your respective business or appraisal district's logo.

CE Credit

Each individual has the responsibility of signing and returning to TAAD the CE request form **prior to conference adjournment.** **TAAD cannot accept late requests for CE credit.**

