**IMMEDIATE PRESS RELEASE**

The Galveston Central Appraisal District’s Chief Appraiser, Tommy Watson, has decided to retire. He announced his plan to retire in mid-March and plans to fill his free time enjoying his family and grandchildren. April 14th was his last day after 19 years with the Galveston Central Appraisal District, and 8 years serving as the district’s Chief Appraiser.

As Chief Appraiser, Mr. Watson was entrusted with overseeing a 53-person staff charged with appraising residential, commercial, and business personal properties in the county totaling more than $60.5 billion.

The district’s board voted, unanimously, in April to appoint Deputy Chief Appraiser, Krystal L. McKinney, as the Interim Chief Appraiser. GCAD is currently evaluating the official replacement for Mr. Watson. The position will be posted on the TAAD website, and the district will be accepting applications until the position is filled by the Board of Directors.