

THE BULLETIN

A Publication of the Texas School Assessors Association
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Let me begin with a huge THANK YOU to our board members, committee members and our 49th President Monica Madrigal for an outstanding 2016 conference. The time and dedication that all of you put into the planning and execution of our conference is most appreciated. Many, many thanks to each and every one of you that attended this year (especially our FIRST timers) and I hope that you will be back next year for the 50th Golden Annual Conference. Now a SHOUT OUT to our wonderful sponsors and vendors! Conference would not take place without you! THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!!!

Wow! I want to say THANK YOU to the members of the association for the opportunity to serve as the 50th President of TSAA. You would never have convinced me about six years ago that I would ever, ever be serving as President of such an amazing group. I am deeply honored.

Our 2017 conference will be held March 26th through March 29th at the Austin Hilton Airport Hotel. This will be the association's 50th annual conference and it's going to be a "golden" blow out! You have no idea of the "golden" ideas that have been running around in my head!! I challenge you to invite other property tax professionals to join TSAA so we can see our membership soar as we approach this milestone.

Our Board of Directors will meet in October to plan next year's conference. I would like to encourage you to share your thoughts regarding speakers and/or topics with any of the board members or myself. You can reach me at dwehner@kleinisd.net or 832-249-4720. Our website is www.tsaatx.org and lists your board members and committee members. On a special note, I have read all of your survey questionnaires and I will be sharing your comments with the board at the October meeting.

In conclusion, again I "Thank You" for the opportunity to serve this outstanding association. Have a Great, Safe Summer! I look forward to seeing everyone in 2017!

Deb Wehner, President TSAA



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Also a great big Thank You to Norma Farabough & Monica Madrigal for acquiring and bringing all the door prizes!

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We would like to give a Thank You to the Exhibitors.

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2017 TSAA CONFERENCE SITE

MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND INCLUDE THIS IN YOUR BUDGET

2017

Hilton Austin Airport

March 26 - March 29



PAST PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

What a great conference we had this year!!!

I was honored to serve as your TSAA President.

I would like to take the time to thank Board Members, Trustees, Committee Members and Executive Director for their hard work and dedication in making this year's conference a great success.

Also, a "BIG THANKS" to all our Vendors and Sponsors for their continuous support to this great Organization.

And lastly I want to thank my Delinquent Attorney's, Alacon & Saenz, PLLC for providing me all their support in my tenure as President of TSAA.

I look forward to seeing everyone at next year's conference.

Have a great summer,

Monica Madrigal



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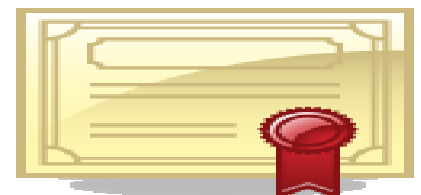
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972/494-8570
281/357-3100
832/249-4724

NEW CSTA'S

**Congratulations to this year's new
Certified School Tax Administrators.**

**Sheila Marie Bennett - Andrews ISD
Linda Gay Bridge - Bee County
Kathy L. Maier - Newton CAD
Laura G. Silguero - Jim Hogg County ISD**



Legislative Changes & Your Appraisal District Budgets

By Kyle Dickson

Perdue, Brandon, Fielder, Collins & Mott, LLP.

Appraisal districts across the state are currently preparing proposed budgets to submit to taxing units in June. Will your 2016 CAD budget increase?

Recent legislative changes have required appraisal districts to update operations in several areas. This article will briefly outline recent bills that may affect appraisal district costs as well as appraisal district budgets.

HB 394 restricts appraisal districts from posting information that indicates the age of a property owner, including information that a property owner is 65 years of age or older, on the appraisal district's website. This change may require some districts to increase website maintenance cost.

SB 1394 requires appraisal districts to accept electronic evidence during ARB hearings. Additionally, if the appraisal district uses a computer and or audio/video equipment during the protest, it also must make the electronic equipment available to the protester during the hearing. Protecting district information from malware may require additional equipment or software to prevent software viruses on appraisal district equipment.

SB 788 requires appraisal districts with Internet-based phone systems to have direct access to the 9-1-1 emergency service without dialing an additional code, digit or prefix.

SB 849 increases the jurisdictional limits for binding arbitration of an ARB order from \$1 million to \$3 million, which may result in additional arbitration for appraisal districts.

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HB 1463 adds additional notice requirements before an appraisal district may cancel an over-65 homestead exemption. HB 1463 requires the appraisal district to send a notice by certified mail before cancelling an over-65 homestead exemption, and the notice must include a self-addressed, postage prepaid envelope with instructions for returning the form to the chief appraiser. If the chief appraiser does not receive a response, a second notice of the cancellation is sent before the exemption may be removed.

HB 1464 requires appraisal districts to send notices in the same manner as HB 1463 before determining land owned by a landowner 65 years of age or older is no longer eligible for an agricultural exemption.

As you can see, the legislative requirements may increase appraisal district costs in administering notices to over-65 property owners. The changes also may require your appraisal district to invest in new electronic equipment or upgrade older systems. However, those changes may result in greater efficiencies and cost savings in the future, so the overall impact on appraisal district budgets remains to be seen.

If you have questions about any of the bills highlighted above, please feel free to contact Attorney Kyle Dickson at kdickson@pbfc.com.

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SCHOOL
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