

# Loving County Appraisal District

## 2018 Mass Appraisal Summary Report

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### INTRODUCTION

#### *Scope of Responsibility*

The Loving County Appraisal District has prepared and published this report to provide our citizens and taxpayers with a better understanding of the district's responsibilities and activities. This mass appraisal report was written in compliance with Standards Rule 5 and 6 of the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice (USPAP) as promulgated by the Appraisal Standards Board of The Appraisal Foundation. This report has several parts describing information specific to particular property types.

The Loving CAD is a political subdivision of the State of Texas created effective January 1, 1980. The provisions of the Texas Property Tax Code govern the legal, statutory and administrative requirements of the appraisal district. A member board of directors, appointed by the taxing units within the boundaries of Loving County, constitutes the district's governing body. Wink-Loving ISD and Loving County by resolution adopted September 10, 2007 have agreed to have the Loving County Commissioners Court appoint all board of director members. The chief appraiser, appointed by the board of directors, is the chief administrator and chief executive officer of the appraisal district.

The appraisal district is responsible for local property tax appraisal and exemption administration for three (3) jurisdictions or taxing units in the county, Loving County, Loving County Water Improvement District #1 and Wink-Loving ISD. Appraisals established by the appraisal district allocate the year's tax burden on the basis of each taxable property's January 1<sup>st</sup> market value. The appraisal district determines eligibility for various types of property tax exemptions; including exemptions for homeowners, the elderly, disabled veterans, and charitable and religious organizations.

The **2018** mass appraisal was prepared under the provisions of the Texas Property Tax Code. Taxing jurisdictions that participate in the district must use the appraisals as the basis for imposition of property taxes. The State of Texas allocates state funds to school districts based upon the district's appraisals, as tested and modified by the state comptroller of public accounts.

The **2018** mass appraisal results in an estimate of the market value of each taxable property within the district's boundaries. Where required by law, the district also estimates value on basis other than market value. These are described where applicable later in this report.

All documentation is **not** contained in this report. Other documentation may be in the form of property records, sales ratios and other statistical studies, appraisal manuals and documentation, market studies, model building documentation, regulations, statutes and other acceptable forms.

### ***General Assumptions and Limiting Conditions***

The appraised value estimates provided by the district are subject to the following conditions:

- The appraisals were prepared exclusively for ad valorem tax purposes.
- The property characteristic data upon which the appraisals are based is assumed to be correct.
- Physical inspections of the property appraised were performed as resources and time allowed.
- Validation of sales transactions occurred through questionnaires to buyer and seller, telephone survey and field review and was considered reliable unless otherwise noted.
- No responsibility is assumed for the legal description or for matters including legal or title considerations. Title to any property is assumed to be good and marketable, unless otherwise stated.
- All property is appraised as if free and clear of any and all liens or encumbrances, unless otherwise stated. All taxes are assumed to be current.
- All property is appraised as though under responsible, adequately capitalized ownership and competent property management.
- All plot and/or illustrative material contained with the appraisal records are included only to assist in visualizing the property.
- It is assumed that there is full compliance with all applicable federal, state and local environmental regulations and laws unless noncompliance is stated, defined and considered in this mass appraisal report.
- It is assumed that the utilization of the land and improvements of the properties described are within the boundaries or property lines, and that there are no encroachments or trespasses unless noted on the appraisal cards.

Loving County has only one (1) unincorporated town in the county. The county has not experienced much residential growth for many years. The population of the county in the 2010 Census was 82. As of 2009 there is potable water but no public sewer system. There is a small gas station and a small café which opened in 2015, but no grocery or department store. Arms length sales in the county are very limited; the few residential sales have been estate sales or sales to family members or close friends.

### ***Effective Date of Appraisal and Date of the Report***

All appraisals are as of **January 1, 2018**. The date of this report is **July 23, 2018**.

### ***Definition of Value***

Except as otherwise provided by the Texas Property Tax Code (hereafter "Tax Code"), all taxable property is appraised at its "market value" as of January 1. Under the tax code, "market value" means the price at which a property would transfer for cash or its equivalent under prevailing market conditions if:

- exposed for sale in the open market with a reasonable time for the seller to find a purchaser;
- both the seller and the buyer know of all the uses and purposes to which the property is adapted and for which it is capable of being used and of the enforceable restrictions on its use, and;
- both the seller and buyer seek to maximize their gains and neither is in a position to take advantage of the exigencies of the other.

The Texas Property Tax Code defines special appraisal provisions for the valuation of residential homestead property (Sec 23.23), agricultural and timber property (Chapter 23, Subchapters C, D and E), real and personal property inventory (Sec 23.12), certain types of dealer inventory (Sec 23.121, 23.124, 23.1241 and 23.127), oil and gas interests (Sec 23.175) and nominal (Sec 23.18) or restricted use properties (Sec 23.83). The owner of real property inventory may elect to have the inventory appraised at its market value as of September 1<sup>st</sup> of the year proceeding the tax year to which the appraisal applies by filing an application with the chief appraiser requesting that the inventory be appraised as of September 1<sup>st</sup>.

### ***Properties Appraised***

The mass appraisal, appraised all taxable real and personal property known to the district as of the date of this report. The description and identification of each property appraised is included in the appraisal records submitted to the Loving County Appraisal Review Board on **May 14, 2018**. If any taxable property is discovered to have been left off the roll it will be appraised and supplemented to the jurisdictions after certification.

### ***Scope of Work Used to Develop the Appraisal***

The Texas Property Tax Code, under Sec. 25.18, requires each appraisal district to implement a plan to update appraised values for real property at least once every three years. The district's current policy is to conduct a general reappraisal of all property every year.

The district contracts with Pritchard & Abbott Inc. to perform the appraisals of all properties located within the county. The contracted firm is required to follow the standards of the International Association of Assessing Officers (IAAO) regarding its appraisal practices and procedures, and subscribe to the standards promulgated by The Appraisal Foundation, known as USPAP, to the extent they are applicable. The Written Mass Appraisal Report of Pritchard & Abbott, Inc. is an attachment to this report.

This mass appraisal, appraised all taxable real and income producing tangible personal property within the boundaries of the Loving CAD, which encompasses all of Loving County, Texas, covering approximately 664 square miles. This involves approximately **25,001** accounts. There are **22,381** mineral accounts, **2,587** real property, **11** mobile home and **22** personal property accounts.

The Loving CAD has a networked property tax software program which stores the district's data. Data may be queried and manipulated by signing into the program via internet access. This is a hosted site which is kept and maintained in Ft. Worth by Pritchard & Abbott Inc.

The chief appraiser, who is the chief executive officer of the appraisal district, manages the district. The chief appraiser is responsible for the oversight of all operations of the appraisal district including the overall planning, organizing, staffing, coordinating and controlling of district operations. In addition the chief appraiser directs and controls the business support functions related to human resources, budget, finance, records management, purchasing, facilities and postal services. The staff appraiser is responsible for assisting the contract appraiser with field appraisals, property records maintenance, and ARB and taxpayer assistance. Administrative support is responsible for various administrative related duties and taxpayer assistance. Pritchard and Abbott, Inc., under the supervision of the chief appraiser, reappraised all real and personal property in **2018**. The property types appraised included mineral, industrial, utilities and related personal properties, land, agricultural, farm and ranch improvements, commercial, residential and business personal property. The district's appraisers and any contract appraisers are subject to the provisions of the Property Taxation Professional Certification Act and must be duly registered with the TDLR (Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation).

The quality of data used is extremely important in establishing accurate values of taxable property. Quality of data is emphasized as the goal and responsibility of the appraiser. Accuracy and validity in property descriptions and characteristics data is the highest goal and is stressed throughout the appraisal process from year to year. Appraisal opinion and validity relies on data accuracy as its foundation. The chief appraiser rides with the field appraisers to randomly selected properties to verify the procedures and practices being used by the appraiser.

The quality assure activity is for ensuring correct data as it is received from the field appraiser. This includes verifying proper codes, balancing and vectoring sketches, and ensuring proper data entry. Quality control, in the form of chief appraiser review of submitted inspection data and further review of the accuracy of the data when entered, is necessary to ensure accuracy and uniformity of valuations. Various steps are taken though out the appraisal process to attain this goal.

The appraisal district staff consists of 3 employees with the following classifications:

- 1- Official/Administrator (Executive level administration)
- 1- Appraiser III/Administrative Support (professional, customer service and clerical)
- 1- Office Clerk (customer service and clerical)

### ***Determination of Highest and Best Use for Real Property***

The district's market value appraisals are performed pursuant to Article VIII, Sec. 1., Texas Constitution, which provides that property must be taxed in proportion to its value as determined by law, Sec. 23.01, Tax Code implements this provision as follows:

**§ 23.01. Appraisals Generally**

- (a) Except as otherwise provided by this chapter, all taxable property is appraised at its market value as of January 1.
- (b) The market value of property shall be determined by the application of generally accepted appraisal methods and techniques. If the appraisal district determines the appraised value of a property using mass appraisal standards, the mass appraisal standards must comply with the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice. The same or similar appraisal methods and techniques shall be used in appraising the same or similar kinds of property. However, each property shall be appraised based upon the individual characteristics that affect the property's market value, and all available evidence that is specific to the value of the property shall be taken into account in determining the property's market value.
- (c) Notwithstanding Section 1.04(7)(C), in determining the market value of a residence homestead, the chief appraiser may not exclude from consideration the value of other residential property that is in the same neighborhood as the residence homestead being appraised and would otherwise be considered in appraising the residence homestead because the other residential property
  - 1) was sold at a foreclosure sale conducted in any of the three years preceding the tax year in which the residence homestead is being appraised and was comparable at the time of sale based on relevant characteristics with other residence homesteads in the same neighborhood, or
  - 2) has a market value that has declined because of a declining economy.
- (d) The market value of a residence homestead shall be determined solely on the basis of the property's value as a residence homestead, regardless of whether the residential use of the property by the owner is considered to be the highest and best use of the property.
- (e) Notwithstanding any provision of this subchapter to the contrary, if the appraised value of property in a tax year is lowered under Subtitle F, the appraised value of the property as finally determined under that subtitle is considered to be the appraised value of the property for that tax year. In the following tax year, the chief appraiser may not increase the appraised value of the property unless the increase by the chief appraiser is reasonably supported by substantial evidence when all of the reliable and probative evidence in the record is considered as a whole. If the appraised value is finally determined in a protest under Section 41.41(a)(2) or an appeal under Section 42.26, the chief appraiser may satisfy the requirement to reasonably support by substantial evidence an increase in the appraised value of the property in the following tax year by presenting evidence showing that the inequality in the appraisal of the property has been corrected with regard to the properties that were considered in determining the value of the subject property. The burden of proof is on the chief appraiser to support an increase in the appraised value of the property under the circumstances described by this subsection.
- (f) The selection of comparable properties and the application of appropriate adjustments for the determination of an appraised value of property by any person under Section 41.43(b)(3) or 42.26(a)(3) must be based on the application of

generally accepted appraisal methods and techniques. Adjustments must be based on recognized methods and techniques that are necessary to produce a credible opinion.

- (g) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, property owners representing themselves are entitled to offer an opinion of and present argument and evidence related to the market and appraised value or the inequality of appraisal of the owner's property.

While there is no specific statute defining highest and best use as it applies in appraisals conducted under the Tax Code, Texas courts have acknowledged that highest and best use is a factor that must be considered in determining market value. *King v. Real* 466 S.W.2d 1 TEX.Civ.App. 1971, *Exxon Pipeline Co. v. Zwahr* 2002 WL 1027003 Tex., 2002. In an unpublished opinion, the Houston Court of Appeals approved the following definition of highest and best use:

"Highest and best use" is the reasonably probable and legal use of vacant land or an improved property, which is physically possible, appropriately supported, financially feasible, and results in the highest value. The four criteria the highest and best use must meet are legal permissibility, physical possibility, financial feasibility, and maximum profitability. *Clear Creek Drainage Dist. of Galveston County v. Manison* Not Reported in S.W.3d Tex.App.-Houston [14 Dist.], 1997.

### ***Appraisal Performance Tests and Performance Measures Attained***

In **2016** the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts conducted a biennial study to determine the degree of uniformity of and the median level of appraisals by the Loving CAD, as required by Tax Code Section 5.10. The preliminary findings, based on the district's **2016** appraisal roll, were reported to the district in **January 2017**. The overall median appraisal ratio for Loving CAD was reported at **1.01**. The final results of this study are certified to the Education Commissioner of the Texas Education Agency in the following July of each year for the year of appraisal.

**2018** is a Property Value Study year for the district.

In **2017** the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts conducted a biennial review of the governance of the district, taxpayer assistance provided, and the operating and appraisal standards, procedures, and methodology used by the Loving CAD, to determine compliance with generally accepted standards, procedures, and methodology, as required by Tax Code Section 5.102 and Comptroller Rule 9.301. The final Methods and Assistance Program (MAP) report was issued **January 2018**. The district had **no** recommendations to be implemented within one year from release of the final report. The sections of the study were scored as follows, **Mandatory Requirements – All 4 Pass; Governance – Meets All - 100, Taxpayer Assistance – Meets All - 100, Operating Procedures – Meets All - 100, and Appraisal Standards, Procedures and Methodology – Meets All - 100.**

## **Business Personal Property Valuation**

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### **INTRODUCTION**

#### ***Scope of Work***

The contracted residential real estate and related personal property appraiser is responsible for developing fair and uniform market values for business personal property located within the district. There are approximately **22** business personal property accounts located in Loving County. The district reappraises all business personal property annually.

#### ***Procedure for Collecting and Validating Data***

The district mails renditions to all known business personal property accounts and the contracted appraiser goes out into the field to look at the businesses.

#### ***Sources of Data***

##### ***Business Personal Property***

Business personal property data has been collected by Loving CAD since the inception of the district in the early 1980's. Each year personal property data is collected through field inspections and renditions. The tax assessor, property owners and the public often provide the district information regarding new personal property and other relevant facts related to property valuation.

##### ***Vehicles***

Vehicles that are used by contract pumpers and fence builders are picked up by renditions.

#### ***Highest and Best Use Analysis***

The highest and best use of property is the reasonable and probable use that supports the highest present value as of the date of the appraisal. The highest and best use must be physically possible, legal, financially feasible, and productive to its maximum. The highest and best use of personal property is normally its current use.

#### ***Model Calibration***

##### ***Cost Schedules***

The latest State Comptroller's personal property schedule, as adjusted, is referenced when analyzing data from property owner renditions and field reviews.

## ***Final Models: Depreciation Schedule and Trending Factors***

### ***Business Personal Property***

Loving CAD's primary approach to the valuation of business personal property is the cost approach. The RCN (replacement cost new) is developed from property owner reported historical cost or from state developed valuation models. Loving CAD uses the depreciation schedule provided by the State Comptroller's Office.

The appraiser inspects each property on an annual basis and lists all taxable property. Market value is estimated from the current rendition submitted by owner. Value of each property is compared to the most recent personal property manual furnished by the comptroller's office or an outside vendor's valuation cost guide. The property owners rendered estimate of market value may be used if the appraiser agrees with the value estimate. Values are adjusted if the appraiser feels an adjustment is warranted.

### ***Vehicles***

Value estimates for vehicles are based on NADA published book values and property owner renditions.

## ***How Estimates are Reviewed***

### ***Business Personal Property***

Property owner renditions, accounts with field or other data changes, accounts with property hearings and new accounts are all considered.

### ***Vehicles***

Vehicles are rendered by hard copy and matched to existing accounts. Existing account values are compared to current values for appropriate depreciation. New accounts are created as needed and vehicles no longer in service are deleted. Vehicles are valued by the appraiser using rendered values and published guides.



**Certification Statement:**

I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief:

- The statements of fact contained in this report are true and correct.
- The reported analyses, opinions and conclusions are limited only by the reported assumptions and limiting conditions, and are my personal, impartial, and unbiased professional analyses, opinions and conclusions.
- I have no present or prospective interest in the properties that are the subject of this report and no personal interest with respect to the parties involved.
- I have no bias with respect to the properties that are the subject of this report or to the parties involved in these assignments.
- My involvement in these assignments was not contingent upon developing or reporting predetermined results.
- My compensation for completing this assignment is not contingent upon the reporting of a predetermined value or direction in value that favors the cause of the client, the amount of the value opinion, the attainment of a stipulated result, or the occurrence of a subsequent event directly related to the intended use of this appraisal.
- My analyses, opinions and conclusions were developed, and this report has been prepared, in conformity with the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice.
- I have not made a personal inspection of all the properties that are the subject of this report.

"I, Sherlene Burrows, Chief Appraiser for the Loving County Appraisal District, solemnly swear that I have made or caused to be made a diligent inquiry to ascertain all property in the district subject to appraisal by me, and that I have included in the records all property that I am aware of at an appraised value which, to the best of my knowledge and belief, was determined as required by law."



Sherlene Burrows RPA RTA CTA  
Chief Appraiser – Executive Director  
TDLR # 70451

**INDIVIDUALS PROVIDING SIGNIFICANT  
MASS APPRAISAL ASSISTANCE**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>TDLR NO.</b>	<b>TYPE of ASSISTANCE</b>
Sherlene Burrows	Chief Appraiser / Executive Director	70451	Overall District Oversight & Operations & Appraisals
Tyler Halfmann	Contract Appraiser	72311	Residential, Land, Commercial Real & Personal Property Appraisals
Mack Jourdan	Contract Sr. Appraiser	62118	Mineral Appraisals
Shane Marsh	Contract IUP Supervisor	70169	Industrial, Utilities & Personal Property Appraisals
Buffy Wilson	Contract IUP Appraiser	71059	Industrial, Utilities & Personal Property Appraisals



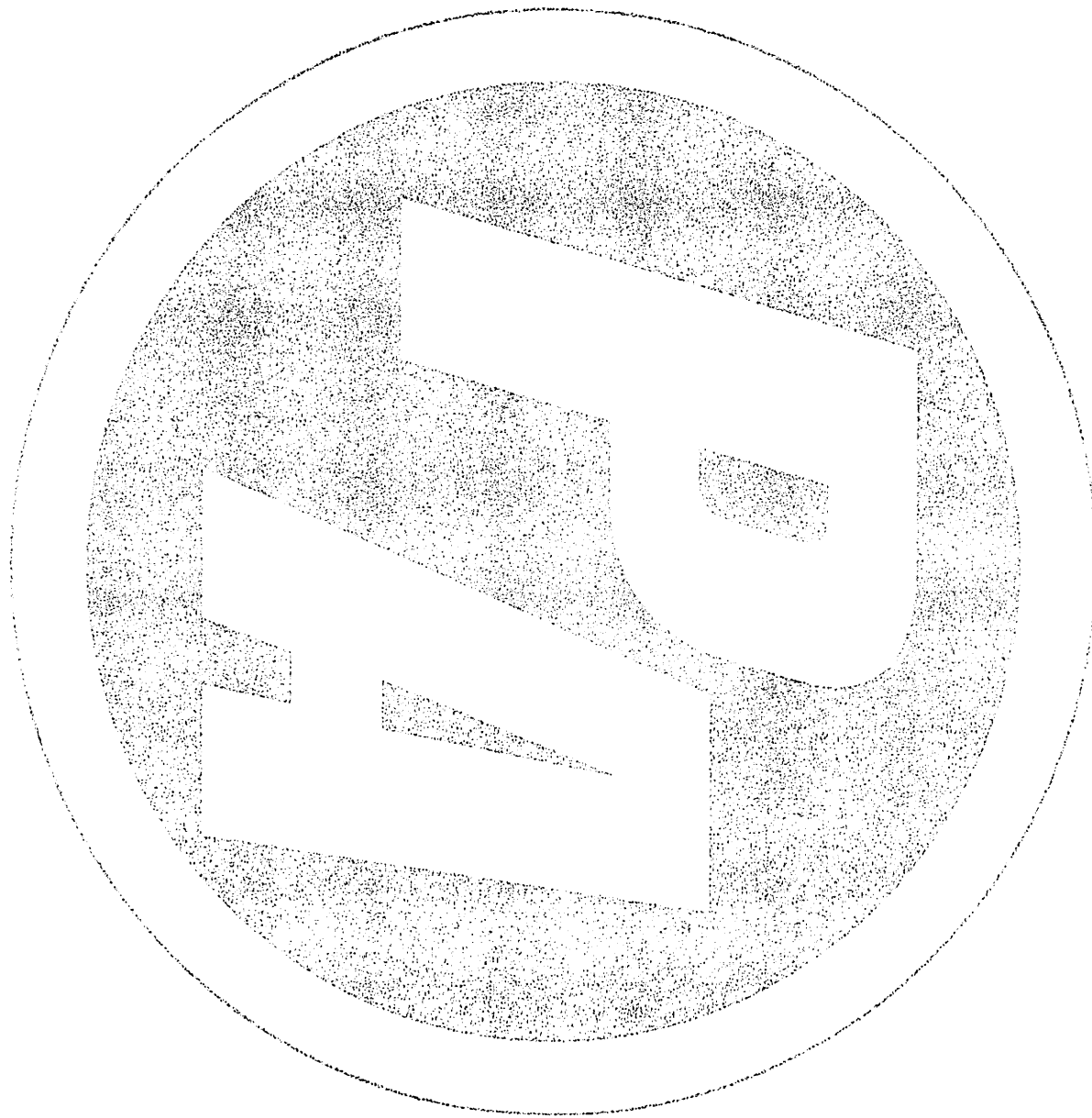
**PRITCHARD & ABBOTT, INC.  
VALUATION CONSULTANTS**

**THE APPRAISAL OF  
MINERAL, INDUSTRIAL, UTILITY, PERSONAL PROPERTY  
AND  
RESIDENTIAL REAL ESTATE  
AS PER  
UNIFORM STANDARDS OF  
PROFESSIONAL APPRAISAL PRACTICE  
(USPAP)**

**Effective January 1, 2018  
(Applicable for Tax Years 2018 and 2019)**

**Includes, in part, the Written Mass Appraisal Report and Certification as promulgated by USPAP Standards Rule 6-1 and Rule 6-2. This report was assembled in part with direct reference to the 2018-2019 Edition of USPAP as published by the Appraisal Standards Board of The Appraisal Foundation, authorized by United States Congress as the Source of Appraisal Standards and Appraiser Qualifications.**

*This report is intended to satisfy the requirements of S.B. 841, enacted by Acts 1997, 75th Leg., ch. 1039, § 22, effective January 1, 1998; amended by Acts 1999, 76th Leg., ch. 1295 (S.B. 1641), § 1, effective January 1, 2000, when performing mass appraisals for ad valorem (property) tax purposes. This report is a work product of Pritchard & Abbott, Inc., Valuation Consultants (P&A), developed on behalf of, and for exclusive use by, P&A's valuation clients. Written permission must be obtained before reproduction of these contents or distribution to outside parties.*



## **Table of Contents**

<b><u>Item</u></b>	<b><u>Page</u></b>
<b>P&amp;A POLICY STATEMENT .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>CHANGES FROM 2016-17 EDITION OF USPAP .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>DEFINITIONS .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>PREAMBLE .....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>ETHICS RULE .....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>RECORD KEEPING RULE .....</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>COMPETENCY RULE .....</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>SCOPE OF WORK RULE .....</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>JURISDICTIONAL EXCEPTION RULE .....</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>USPAP STANDARDS 5 &amp; 6: MASS APPRAISAL, DEVELOPMENT AND REPORTING (General) .....</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>STANDARDS RULE 6-1: MINERAL INTERESTS .....</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>STANDARDS RULE 6-1: INDUSTRIAL, UTILITY, AND RELATED PERSONAL PROPERTY .....</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>STANDARDS RULE 6-1: RESIDENTIAL REAL ESTATE .....</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>STANDARDS RULE 6-2: CERTIFICATION .....</b>	<b>36</b>

**POLICY STATEMENT OF PRITCHARD & ABBOTT, INC., ON THE  
UNIFORM STANDARDS OF PROFESSIONAL APPRAISAL PRACTICE**

Pritchard & Abbott, Inc., (P&A), a privately held company engaged primarily, but not wholly, in the ad valorem tax valuation industry endorses Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice (USPAP) as the basis for the production of sound appraisals. Insofar as the statutory requirement to appraise groups (or a “universe”) of real and personal property within an established period of time using standardized procedures—and subjecting the resulting appraisals to statistical measures—is the definition of mass appraisal, P&A subscribes to USPAP Standards 5 and 6 (Mass Appraisal, Development and Reporting) whenever applicable in the development and defense of values. When circumstances clearly dictate the use of single property appraisal procedures, P&A adheres to the spirit and intent of the remaining USPAP Standards within all appropriate, practical, and/or contractual limitations or specifications.

The USPAP definition of “appraiser” is one who is expected to perform valuation services competently and in a manner that is independent, impartial, and objective. USPAP Advisory Opinion 21 states that this expectation (by clients and intended users of appraisal reports) is the basis that creates an ethical obligation to comply with USPAP, even if not legally required.

The majority of property types that P&A typically appraises for ad valorem tax purposes are categorized as unique, complex, and/or “special purpose” properties (mineral interests, industrial, utility, and related personal property). These categories of properties do not normally provide sufficient market data of reliable quality and/or quantity to support the rigorous use of all USPAP-prescribed mass appraisal development mandates (Standard 5: Mass Appraisal, Development), particularly with regards to some, but not all, of the *model calibration* and *statistical performance testing* confines. However, P&A does strive to employ all or most elements of mass appraisal techniques with regards to the *definition* and *identification of property characteristics* and *model specification* and application.

Residential real estate property appraisers most frequently apply mass appraisal methods within the sales comparison (market) approach to value. Through the use of standardized data collection (i.e., actual market sales), specification and calibration of mass appraisal models, tables, and schedules are possible. Through ratio study analysis and other performance measures, a cumulative summary of valuation accuracy can thus be produced in order to calibrate the appraisal model(s). Where sufficient data of reliable quality exists, mass appraisal is also used for other types of real estate property such as farms, vacant lots, and some commercial uses (e.g., apartments, offices, and small retail).

Regarding mass appraisal reports due the client and other intended users per USPAP (Standard 6 (Mass Appraisal, Reporting), P&A will clearly state or otherwise make known all extraordinary assumptions, hypothetical conditions, limitations imposed by assignment conditions, and/or jurisdictional exceptions in its appraisal reports as they are conveyed to our clients. **Intended users of our reports are typically the client(s) for which we are under direct contract.** Although taxpayers or their agents who own and/or represent the subject property being appraised often receive these reports either by law or as a courtesy of the client or P&A, this receipt does not mean these parties automatically become Intended Users as defined by USPAP. **A party receiving a copy of a report in order to satisfy disclosure requirements does not become an intended user of the appraisal or mass appraisal unless the appraiser specifically identifies such party as an intended user.** Potential other users include parties involved in adjudication of valuation disputes (review board members, lawyers, judges, etc.), governmental agencies which periodically review our appraisals for various statutory purposes (such as the Texas Comptroller’s Office) and private parties who may obtain copies of our appraisals through Open Records Requests made to governmental agencies.

USPAP does not currently address communications of assignment results prior to completion of the assignment, thus such communications have no requirements other than to comply with the general requirements in the ETHICS RULE, the COMPETENCY RULE, and the JURISDICTIONAL EXCEPTION RULE. The client and all intended users should be aware that mass appraisals, as opposed to most “fee” appraisals, are somewhat inherently “limited” versus “complete” and that appraisal reports, unless otherwise contracted for by the client, will most often be of a “restricted” nature whereas explanations of appraisal methods and results are more concise versus lengthy in order to promote brevity, clarity, and transparency to the intended user(s).

Per USPAP, the appropriate reporting option and level of information in a report are dependant on the intended use and the intended users. Although the reporting verbiage in USPAP Standard 6 does not specifically offer or promulgate a “Restricted Appraisal Report” such as in Standard 2 (Real Property Appraisal, Reporting) and Standard 8 (Personal Property Appraisal, Reporting), it should be noted that: a) all mass appraisals and mass appraisal reports deal with real and personal property in some form or fashion; and b) P&A is a private consulting firm, a fact which may necessitate the withholding of certain data and/or appraisal models/techniques which are deemed confidential, privileged and/or proprietary in nature. *The use of “limited” appraisals in conjunction with “restricted” reports in no way implies non-compliance with USPAP.* The substantive content of a report determines its compliance.

P&A believes that, with its vast experience and expertise in these areas of appraisal, all concluded values and reports thereof are credible, competent, understandable, uniform and consistent; and most importantly for ad valorem tax purposes, accomplished in a cost-efficient and timely manner.

Per previous ASB comments under Standard 6-2(b) [*scope of work... special limiting conditions*]:

*“Although appraisers in ad valorem taxation should not be held accountable for limitations beyond their control, they are required by this specific requirement to identify cost constraints and to take appropriate steps to secure sufficient funding to produce appraisals that comply with these standards. Expenditure levels for assessment administration are a function of a number of factors. Fiscal constraints may impact data completeness and accuracy, valuation methods, and valuation accuracy. Although appraisers should seek adequate funding and disclose the impact of fiscal constraints on the mass appraisal process, they are not responsible for constraints beyond their control.”*

In any event, however, it is not P&A’s intent to allow constraints, fiscal or otherwise, to limit the scope of work to such a degree that the mass appraisal results provided to our clients are not credible within the context of the intended use(s) of the appraisal.

## **CHANGES FROM 2016-17 EDITION OF USPAP**

The Appraisal Foundation, through its Appraisal Standards Board, constantly seeks to clarify and improve where possible the previously published edition of USPAP. Below is a summary of the changes applicable to the current edition as they apply to P&A's mass appraisal assignments and reports:

### **Definition of Report and Edits to the ETHICS RULE and the RECORD KEEPING RULE**

The ASB has revised the definition of Report, including associated edits to the ETHICS RULE and RECORD KEEPING RULE, to clarify that the client may authorize other parties to receive a report. The Board has revised the RECORD KEEPING RULE to clarify that the workfile for a Restricted Appraisal Report or Oral Report must be sufficient for the appraiser to produce an Appraisal Report.

### **Definitions of Assignment, Assignment Conditions, Intended Use, and Intended User, and related edits to the COMPETENCY RULE**

The Board has revised the definition of Assignment to remove the portion of the definition involving the agreement to provide services, so that the term now refers only to the valuation services themselves (clarification of the former phrase "at the time of assignment"). In addition, the ASB has added a definition of Assignment Conditions, a term that was formerly referenced only in the SCOPE OF WORK RULE. Lastly, the Board has revised the COMPETENCY RULE to address the appraiser's obligations prior to accepting an assignment. These changes confirm that the appraiser must meet the requirements of the COMPETENCY RULE, yet still have flexibility to modify the scope of work based upon information or conditions discovered during a valuation service. USPAP requires that the appraiser take responsibility to ensure that the scope of work for each assignment is sufficient to produce credible assignment results for the intended use and intended users.

### **Definitions of Assumption and Extraordinary Assumption**

The Board has deleted the definition of the term Assumption. The Board has revised the definition of Extraordinary Assumption, to clarify that it is assignment-specific, and that an extraordinary assumption may be used despite signals that it may be false.

### **Dividing STANDARD 6, Mass Appraisal, into STANDARD 5, Mass Appraisal, Development and STANDARD 6, Mass Appraisal, Reporting**

The Board has revised the existing STANDARD 6, including dividing it into two standards for improved consistency in USPAP. The Board has also changed the current mass appraisal reporting standard to reflect changes previously made to the other reporting standards when the Self-Contained Appraisal Report option was eliminated.

### **Edits to Advisory Opinion 32, Ad Valorem Property Tax Appraisal and Mass Appraisal Assignments**

The ASB has revised AO-32 to reflect the proposed changes to STANDARDS 5 and 6.



## DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of *Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice*, the following definitions apply:

**APPRAISAL:** (noun) an estimate of value; the act or process of estimating value; (adjective) of or pertaining to appraising and related functions, e.g. appraisal practice, appraisal services.

Comment: An appraisal must be numerically expressed as a specific amount, as a range of numbers, or as a relationship (e.g., not more than, not less than) to a previous value opinion or numerical benchmark (e.g., assessed value, collateral value).

**APPRAISAL PRACTICE:** valuation services performed by an individual acting as an appraiser, including but not limited to appraisal or appraisal review.

Comment: Appraisal practice is provided only by appraisers, while valuation services are provided by a variety of professionals and others. The terms appraisal, appraisal review, and appraisal consulting are intentionally generic and are not mutually exclusive.

**APPRAISAL REVIEW:** the act or process of developing and communicating an opinion about the quality of another appraiser's work.

Comment: The subject of an appraisal review assignment may be all or part of an appraisal report, workfile, or a combination of these.

**APPRAISER:** one who is expected to perform valuation services competently and in a manner that is independent, impartial, and objective.

Comment: Such expectation occurs when individuals, either by choice or by requirement placed upon them or upon the service they provide by law, regulation, or agreement with the client or intended users, represent that they comply.

**APPRAISER'S PEERS:** other appraisers who have expertise and competency in a similar type of assignment.

**ASSIGNMENT:** a valuation service that is provided by an appraiser as a consequence of an agreement with a client.

**ASSIGNMENT CONDITIONS:** Assumptions, extraordinary assumptions, hypothetical conditions, laws and regulations, jurisdictional exceptions, and other conditions that affect the scope of work.

Comment: Laws include constitutions, legislative and court-made law, administrative rules, and ordinances. Regulations include rules or orders, having legal force, issued by an administrative agency.

**ASSIGNMENT RESULTS:** an appraiser's opinions or conclusions developed specific to an assignment.

Comment: Assignment results include an appraiser's: a) opinions or conclusions developed in an appraisal assignment, not limited to value; b) opinions or conclusions developed in an appraisal review assignment, not limited to an opinion about the quality of another appraiser's work; or c) opinions or conclusions developed when performing a valuation service other than an appraisal or appraisal review assignment. Physical characteristics are not ASSIGNMENT RESULTS.

**BIAS:** a preference or inclination that precludes an appraiser's impartiality, independence, or objectivity in an assignment.

**BUSINESS ENTERPRISE:** an entity pursuing an economic activity.

**BUSINESS EQUITY:** the interests, benefits, and rights inherent in the ownership of a business enterprise or a part thereof in any form (including but not limited to capital stock, partnership interests co-operatives, sole proprietorships, options, and warrants).

**CLIENT:** the party or parties who engage, by employment or contract, an appraiser in a specific assignment.

Comment: The client may be an individual, group, or entity, and may engage and communicate with the appraiser directly or through an agent.

**CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION:** information that is either: (a) identified by the client as confidential when providing it to an appraiser and that is not available from any other source; or (b) classified as confidential or private by applicable law or regulation.\*

\*Notice: For example, pursuant to the passage of the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act in November 1999, some public agencies have adopted privacy regulations that affect appraisers. The Federal Trade Commission issued two rules. The first rule (16 CFR 313) focused on the protection of “non-public personal information” provided by consumers to those involved in financial activities “found to be closely related to banking or usual in connection with the transaction of banking.” These activities include “appraising real or personal property.” The second rule (16 CFR 314) required appraisers to safeguard customer non-public personal information. Significant liability exists for appraisers should they fail to comply with these FTC rules.

**COST:** the amount required to create, produce, or obtain a property.

Comment: Cost is either a fact or an estimate of fact.

**CREDIBLE:** worthy of belief.

Comment: Credible assignment results require support, by relevant evidence and logic, to the degree necessary for the intended use.

**EXPOSURE TIME:** estimated length of time that the property interest being appraised would have been offered on the market prior to the hypothetical consummation of a sale at market value on the effective date of the appraisal.

Comment: Exposure time is a retrospective opinion based on an analysis of past events assuming a competitive and open market.

**EXTRAORDINARY ASSUMPTION:** an assignment-specific assumption as of the effective date that is used in an analysis despite indications that the assumption could be false, and which, if found to be false, could alter the appraiser’s opinions or conclusions.

Comment: Extraordinary assumptions presume as fact otherwise uncertain information about physical, legal, or economic characteristics of the subject property; or about conditions external to the property, such as market conditions or trends; or about the integrity of data used in an analysis.

**FEASIBILITY ANALYSIS:** a study of the cost-benefit relationship of an economic endeavor.

**HYPOTHETICAL CONDITION:** a condition, directly related to a specific assignment, which is contrary to what is known by the appraiser to exist on the effective date of the appraisal results, but is used for the purpose of analysis.

Comment: Hypothetical conditions assume conditions contrary to known facts about physical, legal, or economic characteristics of the subject property; or about conditions external to the property, such as market conditions or trends, or about the integrity of data used in an analysis.

**INTANGIBLE PROPERTY (INTANGIBLE ASSETS):** non-physical assets, including but not limited to franchises, trademarks, patents, copyrights, goodwill, equities, mineral rights, securities, and contracts, as distinguished from physical assets such as facilities and equipment.

**INTENDED USE:** the anticipated use(s) of assignment results as identified by the appraiser based on communication with the client.

**INTENDED USER:** the client and any other party as identified, by name or type, as users of the appraisal or appraisal review report by the appraiser based on communication with the client.

Per Advisory Opinion 32: In ad valorem taxation assignments, the client is typically the government or taxing authority that engages the appraiser. As defined in USPAP, the client is an intended user. Through communication with the client, the appraiser may identify other intended users. A party [such as a taxpayer] receiving a copy of a report in order to satisfy disclosure requirements does not become an Intended user of the appraisal or mass appraisal unless the appraiser identifies such party as an intended user.

**JURISDICTIONAL EXCEPTION:** an assignment condition established by applicable law or regulation, which precludes an appraiser from complying with a part of USPAP.

**MARKET VALUE:** a type of value, stated as an opinion, that presumes the transfer of a property (a right of ownership or a bundle of such rights), as of a certain date, under specific conditions set forth in the definition of the term identified by the appraiser as applicable in an appraisal.

Comment: The conditions included in market value definitions establish market perspectives for development of the opinion. These conditions may vary from definition to definition by generally fall into three categories: 1) the relationship, knowledge, and motivation of the parties (i.e., sellers and buyers); 2) the terms of sale (e.g., cash, cash equivalent, or other terms); and 3) the conditions of sale (e.g., exposure in a competitive market for a reasonable time prior to sale).

*Appraisers are cautioned to identify the exact definition of market value, and its authority, applicable in each appraisal completed for the purpose of market value.*

**MASS APPRAISAL:** the process of valuing a universe of properties as of a given date utilizing standard methodology, employing common data, and allowing for statistical testing.

**MASS APPRAISAL MODEL:** a mathematical expression, tool, or formula that describes how supply and demand factors interact in a market.

**PERSONAL PROPERTY:** identifiable portable and tangible objects, which are considered by the general public as being "personal" - for example, furnishings, artwork, antiques, gems, collectibles, machinery, equipment; all property not classified as real estate.

**PRICE:** the amount asked, offered, or paid for a property.

Comment: Once stated, price is a fact, whether it is publicly disclosed or retained in private. Because of the financial capabilities, motivations, or special interests of a given buyer or seller, the price paid for a property may or may not have any relation to the value that might be ascribed to that property by others.

**REAL ESTATE:** an identified parcel or tract of land, including improvements, if any.

**REAL PROPERTY:** the interests, benefits, and rights inherent in the ownership of real estate.

Comment: In some jurisdictions, the terms real estate and real property have the same legal meaning. The separate definitions recognize the traditional distinction between the two concepts in appraisal theory.

**REPORT:** any communication, written or oral, of an appraisal or appraisal review that is transmitted to the client or a party authorized by the client upon completion of an assignment.

**SCOPE OF WORK:** the type and extent of research and analysis in an appraisal or appraisal review assignment.

**SIGNATURE:** personalized evidence indicating authentication of the work performed by the appraiser and the acceptance of the responsibility for content, analyses, and the conclusions in the report.

**VALUATION SERVICES:** services pertaining to aspects of property value.

Comment: Valuation services pertain to all aspects of property value and can be performed by appraisers and by others.

**VALUE:** the monetary relationship between properties and those who buy, sell, or use those properties.

Comment: Value expresses an economic concept. As such, it is never a fact but always an opinion of the worth of a property at a given time in accordance with a specific definition of value. In appraisal practice, value must always be qualified - for example, market value, liquidation value, or investment value.

**WORKFILE:** documentation necessary to support an appraiser's analysis, opinions, and conclusions.

## **PREAMBLE**

The purpose of USPAP is to establish requirements and conditions for ethical, thorough, and transparent property valuation services. Valuation services pertain to all aspects of property value and include services performed by appraisers and other professionals including attorneys, accountants, insurance estimators, auctioneers, or brokers. Valuation services include appraisal, appraisal review, and appraisal consulting. The primary intent of these Standards is to promote and maintain a high level of public trust in professional appraisal practice.

It is essential that professional appraisers develop and communicate their analyses, opinions, and conclusions to intended users of their services in a manner that is meaningful and not misleading. The importance of the role of the appraiser places ethical obligations upon those who serve in this capacity. These USPAP Standards reflect the current standards of the appraisal profession.

These Standards are for both appraisers and users of appraisal services. To maintain a high level of professional practice, appraisers observe these Standards. However, these Standards do not in themselves establish which individuals or assignments must comply. The Appraisal Foundation nor its Appraisal Standards Board is not a government entity with the power to make, judge, or enforce law. Compliance with USPAP is only required when either the service or the appraiser is obligated to comply by law or regulation, or by agreement with the client or intended users. When not obligated, individuals may still choose to comply.

USPAP addresses the ethical and performance obligations of appraisers through DEFINITIONS, Rules, Standards, Standards Rules, and Statements (if any). USPAP Standards deal with the procedures to be followed in performing an appraisal or appraisal review and the manner in which each is communicated. A brief description of the USPAP Standards are as follows:

- **Standards Rules 1 and 2:** establish requirements for the development and communication of a real property appraisal.
- **Standards Rules 3 and 4:** establishes requirements for the development and communication of an appraisal review.
- **Standards Rules 5 and 6:** establishes requirements for the development and communication of a mass appraisal.
- **Standards Rules 7 and 8:** establish requirements for the development and communication of a personal property appraisal.
- **Standards Rules 9 and 10:** establish requirements for the development and communication of a business or intangible asset appraisal.

Section 23.01(b) [*Appraisals Generally*] of the Texas Property Tax Code states:

*“The market value of property shall be determined by the application of generally accepted appraisal methods and techniques. If the Appraisal District determines the appraised value of a property using mass appraisal standards, the mass appraisal standards must comply with the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice....”* (underline added for emphasis)

Consequently, USPAP Standards Rules 5 and 6 are assumed to be the applicable standard for ad valorem tax purposes in Texas, if mass appraisal practices are in fact being used to appraise the subject property. USPAP Advisory Opinion 32 suggests several USPAP standards other than Standards 5 or 6 can or should apply in ad valorem tax work. However, it appears that an appraiser engaged in ad valorem tax work in Texas is not specifically required by law to follow these USPAP standards if in fact mass appraisal practices have not been used to appraise the subject property. In this case it could be deemed appropriate to invoke the Jurisdictional Exception Rule which is applicable when there is a contradiction between the requirements of USPAP and the law or regulation of a jurisdiction. Please see the P&A Policy Statement on USPAP as provided elsewhere in this report for a more detailed discussion regarding this matter.

## ETHICS RULE

Because of the fiduciary responsibilities inherent in professional appraisal practice, the appraiser must observe the highest standards of professional ethics. This Ethics Rule is divided into three sections:

- Conduct;
- Management;
- Confidentiality.

This Rule emphasizes the personal obligations and responsibilities of the individual appraiser. However, it should be noted that groups and organizations *which are comprised of individual appraisers engaged in appraisal practice* effectively share the same ethical obligations. To the extent the group or organization does not follow USPAP Standards when legally required, individual appraisers should take steps that are appropriate under the circumstances to ensure compliance with USPAP.

Compliance with these Standards is required when either the service or the appraiser is obligated by law or regulation, or by agreement with the client or intended users, to comply. Compliance is also required when an individual, by choice, represents that he or she is performing the service as an appraiser.

An appraiser must not misrepresent his or her role when providing valuation services that are outside of appraisal practice.

Honesty, impartiality, and professional competency are required of all appraisers under USPAP Standards. To document recognition and acceptance of his or her USPAP-related responsibilities in communicating an appraisal or appraisal review completed under USPAP, an appraiser is required to certify compliance with these Standards.

### CONDUCT

An appraiser must perform assignments with impartiality, objectivity, and independence, and without accommodation of personal interests.

An appraiser:

- must not perform an assignment with bias;
- must not advocate the cause or interest of any party or issue;
- must not accept an assignment that includes the reporting of predetermined opinions and conclusions;
- must not misrepresent his or her role when providing valuation services that are outside of appraisal practice;
- must not communicate assignment results with the intent to mislead or to defraud;
- must not use or communicate a report or assignment results known by the appraiser to be misleading or fraudulent;
- must not knowingly permit an employee or other person to communicate a report or assignment results that are misleading or fraudulent report;
- must not use or rely on unsupported conclusions relating to characteristics such as race, color, religion, national origin, gender, marital status, familial status, age, receipt of public assistance income, handicap, or an unsupported conclusion that homogeneity of such characteristics is necessary to maximize value;
- must not engage in criminal conduct;
- must not willfully or knowingly violate the requirements of the RECORD KEEPING RULE; and must not perform an assignment in a grossly negligent manner.

If known prior to accepting an assignment, and/or if discovered at any time during the assignment, an appraiser must disclose to the client, and in each subsequent report certification:

- any current or prospective interest in the subject property or parties involved; and

- any services regarding the subject property performed by the appraiser within the three year period immediately preceding acceptance of the assignment, as an appraiser or in any other capacity.

The appraiser can agree with the client to keep the mere occurrence of a prior appraisal assignment confidential. If an appraiser has agreed with the client not to disclose that he or she has appraised a property, the appraiser must decline all subsequent assignment that fall with the three year period. In assignments in which there is no report, only the initial disclosure to the client is required.

Presumably all parties in ad valorem tax appraisal will be aware of the ongoing yearly nature of the appraisal assignments performed by valuation consulting firms like Pritchard & Abbott, Inc. — i.e., it will not be confidential — so that this particular conduct instruction is more or less a moot point (regarding the three year period discussed) if the prior service is in fact the ad valorem tax appraisals performed in previous tax years.

### MANAGEMENT

The payment of a fee, commission, or a thing of value by the appraiser in connection with the procurement of an assignment must be disclosed. This disclosure must appear in the certification and in any transmittal letter in which conclusions of value are stated; however, the disclosure of the amount paid is not required. Intra-company payments to employees of groups or organizations involved in appraisal practice for business development do not require disclosure.

It is unethical for an appraiser to accept compensation for performing an assignment when it is contingent upon the reporting of a predetermined result, a direction in assignment results that favors the cause of the client, the amount of a value opinion, the attainment of a stipulated result, or the occurrence of a subsequent event directly related to the appraiser's opinions and specific to the assignment's purpose.

Advertising for or soliciting assignments in a manner that is false, misleading, or exaggerated is unethical. Decisions regarding finder or referral fees, contingent compensation, and advertising may not be the responsibility of an individual appraiser, but for a particular assignment it is the responsibility of the individual appraiser to ascertain that there has been no breach of ethics, that the assignment consulting assignment has been prepared in accordance with USPAP Standards, and that the report can be properly certified when required by USPAP Standards Rules 2-3, 3-3, 5-3, 6-9, 8-3, or 10-3.

An appraiser must affix, or authorize the use of, his or her signature to certify recognition and acceptance of his or her USPAP responsibilities in an appraisal or appraisal review assignment. An appraiser may authorize the use of his or her signature only on an assignment-by-assignment basis.

In addition, an appraiser must not affix the signature of another appraiser without his or her consent. An appraiser must exercise due care to prevent unauthorized use of his or her signature. However, an appraiser exercising such care is not responsible for unauthorized use of his or her signature.

### CONFIDENTIALITY

An appraiser must protect the confidential nature of the appraiser-property owner relationship.

An appraiser must act in good faith with regard to the legitimate interests of the client in the use of confidential information and in the communication of assignment results.

An appraiser must be aware of, and comply with, all confidentiality and privacy laws and regulations applicable in an assignment.

An appraiser must not disclose confidential factual data obtained from a property owner to anyone other than:

1. The client;
2. Parties specifically authorized by the client;

3. State appraiser regulatory agencies;
4. Third parties as may be authorized by due process of law; or
5. A duly authorized professional peer review committee except when such disclosure to a committee would violate applicable law or regulation.

An appraiser must take reasonable steps to safeguard access to confidential information and assignment results by unauthorized individuals, whether such information or results are in physical or electronic form. In addition, an appraiser must ensure that employees, co-workers, sub-contractors, or others who may have access to confidential information or assignments results, are aware of the prohibitions on disclosure of such information or results.

It is unethical for a member of a duly authorized professional peer review committee to disclose confidential information presented to the committee.

When all confidential elements of confidential information are removed through redaction or the process of aggregation, client authorization is not required for the disclosure of the remaining information, as modified.



## **RECORD KEEPING RULE**

An appraiser must prepare a workfile for each appraisal or appraisal review assignment. A workfile must be in existence prior to the issuance of any report or other communication of assignment results. A written summary of an oral report must be added to the workfile within a reasonable time after the issuance of the oral report.

The workfile must include the name of the client and the identity, by name or type, of any other intended users, and true copies of all written reports, documented on any type of media. (A true copy is a replica of the report transmitted to the client. A photocopy or an electronic copy of the entire report transmitted to the client satisfies the requirement of a true copy.) A workfile must contain summaries of all oral reports or testimony, or a transcript of testimony, including the appraiser's signed and dated certification; and all other data, information, and documentation necessary to support the appraiser's opinions and conclusions and to show compliance with USPAP, or references to the location(s) of such other data, information, and documentation.

A workfile in support of a Restricted Appraisal Report or an oral appraisal report must be sufficient for the appraiser to produce an Appraisal Report. A workfile in support of an oral appraisal review report must be sufficient for the appraiser to produce an Appraisal Review Report.

An appraiser must retain the workfile for a period of at least five years after preparation or at least two years after final disposition of any judicial proceeding in which the appraiser provided testimony related to the assignment, whichever period expires last.

An appraiser must have custody of the workfile, or make appropriate workfile retention, access, and retrieval arrangements with the party having custody of the workfile. This includes ensuring that a workfile is stored in a medium that is retrievable by the appraiser throughout the prescribed record retention period. An appraiser having custody of a workfile must allow other appraisers with workfile obligations related to an assignment appropriate access and retrieval for the purpose of:

- submission to state appraiser regulatory agencies;
- compliance with due process of law;
- submission to a duly authorized professional peer review committee; or
- compliance with retrieval arrangements.

A workfile must be made available by the appraiser when required by a state appraiser regulatory agency or due process of law.

An appraiser who willfully or knowingly fails to comply with the obligations of this Record Keeping Rule is in violation of the Ethics Rule.

## COMPETENCY RULE

An appraiser must: (1) be competent to perform the assignment; (2) acquire the necessary competency to perform the assignment; or (3) decline or withdraw from the assignment. In all cases, the appraiser must perform competently when completing the assignment.

### BEING COMPETENT

The appraiser must determine, prior to agreeing to perform an assignment, that he or she can perform the assignment competently. Competency requires:

- the ability to properly identify the problem to be addressed;
- the knowledge and experience to complete the assignment competently; and
- the recognition and compliance with all laws and regulations that apply to the appraiser or the assignment.

Competency applies to factors such as, but not limited to, an appraiser's familiarity with a specific type of property, a market, a geographic area, or an analytical method. The background and experience of appraisers varies widely, and a lack of knowledge or experience can lead to inaccurate or inappropriate appraisal practice. The Competency Rule requires an appraiser to have both the knowledge and the experience required to perform a specific appraisal service competently. If an appraiser has been deemed to not have the required competency, the following steps must be taken in acquiring competency in order for that appraiser to perform the assignment under USPAP requirements.

For assignments with retrospective opinions and conclusions (which are allowed under certain prescribed circumstances in property tax work), the appraiser must meet the requirements of this Competency Rule at the time the assignment is performed, rather than the effective date of the appraisal.

### ACQUIRING COMPETENCY

If an appraiser determines he or she is not competent prior to accepting an assignment, the appraiser must:

- disclose the lack of knowledge and/or experience to the client before accepting the assignment;
- take all steps necessary or appropriate to complete the assignment competently; and
- describe, in the report, the lack of knowledge and/or experience and the steps taken to complete the assignment competently.

Competency can be acquired in various ways, including, but not limited to, personal study by the appraiser, association with an appraiser reasonably believed to have the necessary knowledge and/or experience, or retention of others who possess the necessary knowledge and/or experience.

In an assignment where geographic competency is required (certainly useful if not outright necessary in property tax appraisal assignments), an appraiser who is not familiar with the relevant market characteristics must acquire an understanding necessary to produce credible assignment results for the specific property type and market involved. Pritchard & Abbott, Inc., takes great pride in assigning and retaining appraisers who gain and then employ local knowledge and geographic competency in their appraisal assignments.

When an appraiser determines in the course of the assignment that he or she lacks the required knowledge and/or experience to complete the assignment competently, the appraiser must:

- notify the client;
- take all steps necessary or appropriate under the circumstances to complete the assignment competently; and
- describe, in the report, the lack of knowledge and/or experience and the steps taken to complete the assignment competently.

**LACK OF COMPETENCY**

If the appraiser cannot complete the assignment competently, the appraiser must decline or withdraw from the assignment.

## **SCOPE OF WORK RULE**

For each appraisal or appraisal review assignment, an appraiser must:

1. Identify the problem to be solved;
2. Determine and perform the scope of work necessary to develop credible assignment results; and
3. Disclose the scope of work in the report.

An appraiser must properly identify the problem to be solved in order to determine the appropriate scope of work. The appraiser must be prepared to demonstrate that the scope of work is sufficient to produce credible assignment results.

Scope of work includes, but is not limited to:

- the extent to which the property is identified;
- the extent to which tangible property is inspected;
- the type and extent of data researched; and
- the type and extent of analyses applied to arrive at opinions or conclusions.

Appraisers have broad flexibility and significant responsibility in determining the appropriate scope of work for an appraisal or appraisal review assignment. Credible assignment results require support by relevant evidence and logic. The credibility of assignment results is always measured in the context of the intended use.

### **PROBLEM IDENTIFICATION**

An appraiser must gather and analyze information about those assignment elements that are necessary to properly identify the appraisal, appraisal review or appraisal consulting problem to be solved. The assignment elements necessary for problem identification are addressed in the Standards Rule 6-2:

- client and any other intended users;
- intended use of the appraiser's opinions and conclusions;
- type and definition of value;
- effective date of the appraiser's opinions and conclusions;
- subject of the assignment and its relevant characteristics; and
- assignment conditions.

This information provides the appraiser with the basis for determining the type and extent of research and analyses to include in the development of an appraisal. Similar information is necessary for problem identification in appraisal review and appraisal consulting assignments. Assignment conditions include:

- assumptions;
- extraordinary assumptions;
- hypothetical conditions;
- laws and regulations;
- jurisdictional exceptions; and
- other conditions that affect the scope of work.

### **SCOPE OF WORK ACCEPTABILITY**

The scope of work must include the research and analyses that are necessary to develop credible assignment results. The scope of work is acceptable when it meets or exceeds:

- the expectations of parties who are regularly intended users for similar assignments; and

- what an appraiser's peers' actions would be in performing the same or a similar assignment.

Determining the scope of work is an ongoing process in an assignment. Information or conditions discovered during the course of an assignment might cause the appraiser to reconsider the scope of work. An appraiser must be prepared to support the decision to exclude any investigation, information, method, or technique that would appear relevant to the client, another intended user, or the appraiser's peers.

An appraiser must not allow assignment conditions to limit the scope of work to such a degree that the assignment results are not credible in the context of the intended use. In addition, the appraiser must not allow the intended use of an assignment or a client's objectives to cause the assignment results to be biased.

#### DISCLOSURE OBLIGATIONS

The report must contain sufficient information to allow intended users to understand the scope of work performed. Proper disclosure is required because clients and other intended users may rely on the assignment results. Sufficient information includes disclosure of research and analyses performed or not performed.

## **JURISDICTIONAL EXCEPTION RULE**

If any applicable law or regulation precludes compliance with any part of USPAP, only that part of USPAP becomes void for that assignment. When compliance with USPAP is required by federal law or regulation, no part of USPAP can be voided by a law or regulation of a state or local jurisdiction. *When an appraiser properly follows this Rule in disregarding a part of USPAP, there is no violation of USPAP.*

In an assignment involving a jurisdictional exception, an appraiser must:

- identify the law or regulation that precludes compliance with USPAP;
- comply with that law or regulation;
- clearly and conspicuously disclose in the report the part of USPAP that is voided by that law or regulation; and
- cite in the report the law or regulation requiring this exception to USPAP compliance.

The purpose of the Jurisdictional Exception Rule is strictly limited to providing a saving or severability clause intended to preserve the balance of USPAP if one or more of its parts are determined as contrary to law or public policy of a jurisdiction. By logical extension, there can be no violation of USPAP by an appraiser who disregards, with proper disclosure, only the part or parts of USPAP that are void and of no force and effect in a particular assignment by operation of legal authority.

It is misleading for an appraiser to disregard a part or parts of USPAP as void and of no force and effect in a particular assignment without identifying the part or parts disregarded and the legal authority justifying this action in the appraiser's report.

“Law” includes constitutions, legislative and court-made law, and administrative rules (such as from the Office of the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts) and ordinances. “Regulations” include rules or orders having legal force, issued by an administrative agency. Instructions from a client or attorney do not establish a jurisdictional exception.

A jurisdictional exception prevalent in Texas is that appraisers are seeking to establish “fair market value” as defined by the Texas Property Tax Code instead of “market value” as found in the USPAP definitions section.

## USPAP STANDARDS 5 AND 6: MASS APPRAISAL, DEVELOPMENT AND REPORTING (General Discussion)

In developing a mass appraisal, an appraiser must be aware of, understand, and correctly employ those recognized methods and techniques necessary to produce and communicate credible mass appraisals.

Standards 5 and 6 apply to all mass appraisals of real and personal property regardless of the purpose or use of such appraisals. It is directed toward the substantive aspects of developing and communicating competent analyses, opinions, and conclusions in the mass appraisal of properties, whether real property or personal property. Standard 5 is directed toward the substantive aspects of developing credible analyses, opinions, and conclusions in the mass appraisal of properties, while Standard 6 addresses the content and level of information required in a report that communicates the results of a mass appraisal. The reporting and jurisdictional exceptions applicable to public mass appraisals prepared for purposes of ad valorem taxation do not apply to mass appraisals prepared for other purposes.

A mass appraisal includes:

- identifying properties to be appraised;
- defining market areas of consistent behavior that applies to properties;
- identifying characteristics (supply and demand) that affect the creation of value in that market area;
- developing (specifying) a model structure that reflects the relationship among the characteristics affecting value in the market area;
- calibrating the model structure to determine the contribution of the individual characteristics affecting value;
- applying the conclusions reflected in the model to the characteristics of the properties being appraised; and
- reviewing the mass appraisal results.

**The Jurisdictional Exception Rule may apply to several sections of Standards 5 and 6 because ad valorem tax administration is subject to various state, county, and municipal laws.**

As previously stated in the P&A Policy Statement (page 2), it may not be possible or practicable for all the mass appraisal attributes listed above to be rigorously applied to the many types of complex and/or unique properties that P&A typically appraises. Often there are contractual limitations on the scope of work needed or required. More prevalently, these types of properties do not normally provide a reliable database of market transactions (or details of transactions) necessary for statistically supportable calibration of appraisal models and review of appraisal results. Generally these two functions are effectively accomplished through annual extended review meetings with taxpayers (and clients) who provide data, sometimes confidentially, that allows for appraisal models to be adjusted where necessary. Nevertheless, and notwithstanding whether P&A implicitly or explicitly employs or reports all attributes listed above, in all cases P&A at the minimum employs tenants of “generally accepted appraisal methods” which are the genesis of USPAP Standards.

Per USPAP guidelines, P&A will make known all departures and jurisdictional exceptions when invoked (if an appraisal method or specific requirement is applicable but not necessary to attain credible results in a particular assignment).

The various sections of Standard 5 (development of mass appraisal) and Standard 6 (communication of the mass appraisal results) are briefly summarized below:

- **Standard 5-1:** Establishes the appraiser’s technical and ethical framework. Specifically, appraisers must recognize and use established principles, methods and techniques of appraisal in a careful manner while not committing substantial errors of fact or negligence that would materially affect the appraisal results and not give a credible estimate of fair market value. To this end appraisers must continuously improve his or her skills to maintain proficiency and keep abreast of any new developments in the real and personal property appraisal profession. This Standards Rule does not imply that competence requires perfection, as perfection is impossible to attain. Instead, it requires appraisers to employ every reasonable effort with regards to due diligence and due care.

- **Standard 5-2:** Defines the introductory framework requirements of developing a mass appraisal, focusing on the identification and/or definition of: client(s), intended users, effective date, appraisal perspective, scope of work, extraordinary assumptions, hypothetical conditions, the type and definition of value being developed (typically “fair market value” for ad valorem tax purposes), characteristics of the property being appraised in relation to the type and definition of value and intended use, the characteristics of the property’s market, the property’s real or personal attributes, fractional interest applicability, highest and best use analysis along with other land-related considerations, and any other economic considerations relevant to the property.
- **Standard 5-3:** Defines requirements for developing and specifying appropriate mass appraisal data and elements applicable for real and personal property. For real property, the data and elements include: existing land use regulations, reasonably probable modification of such regulations, economic supply and demand, the physical adaptability of the real estate, neighborhood trends, and highest and best use analysis. For personal property, the relevant data and elements include: identification of industry trends, trade level, highest and best use, and recognition of the appropriate market consistent with the type and definition of value.
- **Standard 5-4:** Further defines requirements for developing mass appraisal models, focusing on development of standardized data collection forms, procedures, and training materials that are used uniformly on the universe of properties under consideration. This rule specifies that appraisers employ recognized techniques for specifying and calibrating mass appraisal models. Model specification is the formal development of a model in a statement or mathematical equation, including all due considerations for physical, functional, and external market factors as they may affect the appraisal. These models must accurately represent the relationship between property value and supply and demand factors, as represented by quantitative and qualitative property characteristics. Models must be calibrated using recognized techniques, including, but not limited to, multiple linear regression, nonlinear regression, and adaptive estimation. Models may be specified incorporating the income, market, and/or cost approaches to value and may be tabular, mathematical, linear, nonlinear, or any other structure suitable for representing the observable property characteristics such as adaptive estimation. Model calibration refers to the process of analyzing sets of property and market data to determine the specific parameters of a model.
- **Standard 5-5:** Defines requirements for collection of sufficient factual data, in both qualitative and quantitative terms, necessary to produce credible appraisal results. The property characteristics collected must be contemporaneous with the effective date of the appraisal. The data collection program should incorporate a quality control procedure, including checks and audits of the data to ensure current and consistent records. This rule also calls for an appraiser, in developing income and expense statements and cashflow projections, to weigh historical information and trends, current market factors affecting such trends, and reasonably anticipated events, such as competition from developments either planned or under construction. Terms and conditions of any leases should be analyzed, as well as the need for and extent of any physical inspection of the properties being appraised.
- **Standard 5-6:** Defines requirements for application of a calibrated model to the property being appraised. This rule calls for: the appraiser to recognize methods or techniques based on the cost, market, and income approaches for improved parcels; the appraiser to value sites by recognized methods or techniques such as allocation method, abstraction method, capitalization of ground rent, and land residual; the appraiser to develop value of leased fee or leasehold estates with consideration for terms and conditions of existing leases, and, when applicable by law, as if held in fee simple whereas market rents are substituted for actual contract rents; the appraiser to analyze the effect on value, if any, of the assemblage of the various parcels, divided interests, or component parts of a property; the appraiser to analyze anticipated public or private improvements located on or off the site, and analyze the effect on value, if any, of such anticipated improvements to the extent they are reflected in market actions.
- **Standard 5-7:** Defines the reconciliation process of a mass appraisal. Specifically, appraisers must analyze the results and/or applicability of the various approaches used while ensuring that, on an overall basis, standards of reasonableness and accuracy are maintained with the appraisal model selected (underline added for emphasis). It is implicit in mass appraisal that, even when properly specified and calibrated models are used, some individual value conclusions will not meet standards of reasonableness, consistency, and accuracy. Appraisers have a professional responsibility to ensure that, on an overall basis, models produce value conclusions that meet attainable standards of accuracy.



- **Standard 6-1:** Defines requirements of a mass appraisal written report by addressing the content and level of information required in a report that communicates the results of a mass appraisal (elements of which are further detailed in the next three sections of this report that discuss P&A appraisal procedures with regards to specific categories of property).
- **Standard 6-2:** Defines requirements for appraiser certification of the mass appraisal written report.

The following sections of this report discuss in detail the various elements of the mass appraisal written report as required by USPAP Standard 6-1, with regards to P&A appraisal of Mineral Interests, Industrial-Utility-Personal Property, and Real Estate.

## USPAP STANDARDS RULE 6-1: MASS APPRAISAL OF MINERAL INTERESTS

*Note: This section, in conjunction with any attached or separately provided P&A-generated appraisal reports specific to the subject property or properties, constitutes the "mass appraisal written report" as required by USPAP Standards Rule 6-1. USPAP Standards Rule 6-2 (certification) can be found at the end of this report. USPAP Standards Rules 5-1 through 5-7 (instructions and explanations regarding the development, application, and reconciliation of mass appraisal values), as they apply to P&A mass appraisal procedures, are discussed below. USPAP DOES NOT DICTATE THE FORM, FORMAT, OR STYLE OF APPRAISAL REPORTS, WHICH ARE FUNCTIONS OF THE NEEDS OF USERS AND PROVIDERS OF APPRAISAL SERVICES. USPAP ALSO DOES NOT MANDATE THAT EACH APPRAISAL REPORT BE LENGTHY AND FULL OF DISCLAIMERS. Readers should note that all P&A reports, unless stated otherwise, are of a "restricted" nature whereas additional documentation and detail may be available per certain Texas Property Tax Code provisions.*

### INTRODUCTION

**Definition of Appraisal Responsibility (Scope of Effort):** The Mineral Valuation Department of Pritchard & Abbott, Inc. ("P&A" hereinafter), is responsible for developing credible values for mineral interests (full or fractional percentage ownership of oil and gas leasehold interest, the amount and type of which are legally and/or contractually created and specified through deeds and leases, et.al.) associated with producing (or capable of producing) leases. Mineral interests are typically considered real property because of their derivation from the bundle of rights associated with original fee simple ownership of land. Typically all the mineral interests that apply to a single producing lease are consolidated by type (working vs. royalty) with each type then appraised for full value which is then distributed to the various fractional decimal interest owners prorata to their individual type and percentage amount.

P&A's typical client is a governmental entity charged with appraisal responsibility for ad valorem tax purposes, although other types of clients (private businesses, individuals, etc.) occasionally contract for appraisal services which are strictly for various non-ad valorem tax purposes so that no conflicts of interest are created with P&A's core ad valorem tax work.

P&A hereby makes the assumption that, in all appraisal assignments performed for governmental entities in satisfaction of contractual obligations related to ad valorem tax, the client does not wish to or cannot legally request the appraisal report not identify the client.

Intended users of our reports are typically the client(s) for which we are under direct contract. Although taxpayers or their agents who own and/or represent the subject property being appraised often receive these reports either by law or as a courtesy of the client or P&A, this receipt does not mean these parties automatically become Intended Users as defined by USPAP. **A party receiving a copy of a report in order to satisfy disclosure requirements does not become an intended user of the appraisal or mass appraisal unless the appraiser specifically identifies such party as an intended user.** Potential other users include parties involved in adjudication of valuation disputes (review board members, lawyers, judges, etc.), governmental agencies which periodically review our appraisals for various statutory purposes (such as the Texas Comptroller's Office) and private parties who may obtain copies of our appraisals through Open Records Requests made to governmental agencies.

***This section of P&A's USPAP report is not applicable to any mineral or mineral interest property that an appraisal district appraises outside of P&A's appraisal services, in which case the appraisal district's overall USPAP report should be referenced.***

P&A makes the **Extraordinary Assumption** that all properties appraised for ad valorem tax purposes are marketable whereas ownership and title to property are free of encumbrances and other restrictions that would affect fair market value to an extent

not obvious to the general marketplace. If and/or when we are made aware of any encumbrances, etc., these would be taken into account in our appraisal in which case the extraordinary assumption stated above would be revoked.

P&A is typically under contract to determine current market value or “fair market value” of said mineral interests. Fair market value is typically described as the price at which a property would sell for if:

- exposed in the open market with a reasonable time for the seller to find a purchaser;
- both the buyer and seller know of all the uses and purposes to which the property is, or can be, adapted and of the enforceable restrictions on its use; and
- both the buyer and seller seek to maximize their gains and neither is in a position to take advantage of the exigencies of the other. [Exigencies are pressing or urgent conditions that leave one party at a disadvantage to the other.]

For ad valorem tax purposes the effective date is usually legislatively specified by the particular State in which we are working - for example, in Texas the lien date is January 1 per the Texas Property Tax Code. For ad valorem tax purposes, the date of the appraisals and reports are typically several months past the effective date, thereby leaving open the possibility that a retrospective approach is appropriate under limited and prescribed circumstances (information after the effective date being applicable only if it confirms a trend or other appraisal condition that existed and was generally known as of the effective date).

P&A believes this section of this report, in conjunction with any attached or separately provided P&A-generated report(s), meets the USPAP definition of “typical practice”; i.e., it satisfies a level of work that is consistent with:

- the expectations of participants in the market for the same or similar appraisal services; and
- what P&A’s peers’ actions would be in performing the same or similar appraisal services in compliance with USPAP.

**Legal and Statutory Requirements:** In Texas, the provisions of the Texas Property Tax Code and other relevant legislative measures involving appraisal administration and procedures control the work of P&A as an extension of the Appraisal District. Other states in which P&A is employed will have similar controlling legislation, regulatory agencies, and governmental entities. P&A is responsible for appraising property on the basis of its fair market value as of the stated effective date (January 1 in Texas) for ad valorem tax purposes for each taxing unit that imposes ad valorem taxes on property in the contracted Appraisal District. All mineral properties (interests) are reappraised annually. The definition of Fair Market Value is provided and promulgated for use in ad valorem tax work in Texas by the Texas Property Tax Code, and therefore as a **Jurisdictional Exception** supercedes the definition of “market value” as found in USPAP definitions.

NOTE: IN TEXAS, P&A BELIEVES THE PROPERTY BEING APPRAISED AND PLACED ON THE TAX ROLL IS THE INTEREST AND NOT THE OIL OR GAS MINERAL ITSELF, PER PROPERTY TAX CODE SECTION 1.04(2)(F). WHILE OIL AND GAS RESERVES CERTAINLY HAVE VALUE, THE FACT IS THAT IT IS THE INTERESTS IN THESE MINERALS THAT ARE BOUGHT AND SOLD, NOT THE MINERALS THEMSELVES. THE SALE OF MINERALS AS THEY ARE EXTRACTED FROM THE SUBSURFACE OF THE LAND WHERE THEY RESIDE AS MINERALS IN PLACE “MONETIZES” THE INTEREST AND THUS GIVES THE INTEREST ITS VALUE. WHENEVER P&A REFERS TO “MINERAL PROPERTIES” IN THIS REPORT OR IN ANY OTHER SETTING, IT IS THE MINERAL INTEREST, AND NOT THE MINERAL ITSELF, THAT IS THE SUBJECT OF THE REFERENCE.

**Administrative Requirements:** P&A endorses the principals of the International Association of Assessing Officers (IAAO) regarding its appraisal practices and procedures. P&A also endorses, and follows when possible, the standards promulgated by the Appraisal Foundation known as the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice (USPAP). In all cases where IAAO and/or USPAP requirements cannot be satisfied for reasons of practicality or irrelevancy, P&A subscribes to “generally accepted appraisal methods and techniques” so that its value conclusions are credible and defensible. P&A submits annual or biannual contract bids to the Appraisal District Board of Directors or the Office of the Chief Appraiser and is bound to produce appraisal estimates on mineral properties within the cost constraints of said bid. Any appraisal practices and procedures followed by P&A not explicitly defined or allowed through IAAO or USPAP requirements are specified by the Texas Property Tax Code or at the specific request or direction of the Office of the Chief Appraiser.

## **Appraisal Resources**

**Personnel:** The Mineral Valuation Division staff consists of competent Petroleum Engineers, Geologists, and Appraisers. All personnel are Registered Professional Appraisers with the State of Texas, or are progressing towards this designation within the allowable time frames prescribed by the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR) and/or other licensing and regulatory agencies as applicable.

**Data:** For each mineral property a common set of data characteristics (i.e. historical production, price and expense data) is collected from various sources and entered into P&A's mainframe computer system. Historical production data and price data is available through state agencies (Texas Railroad Commission, Texas Comptroller, et al.) or private firms who gather, format and repackage such data for sale commercially. Each property's characteristic data drives the computer-assisted mass appraisal approach to valuation.

**Information Systems:** The mainframe systems are augmented by the databases that serve the various in-house and 3<sup>rd</sup>-party applications on desktop personal computers. In addition, communication and dissemination of appraisals and other information is available to the taxpayer and client through electronic means including internet and other phone-line connectivity. The appraiser supervising any given contract fields many of the public's questions or redirects them to the proper department personnel.

## **VALUATION APPROACH (MODEL SPECIFICATION)**

**Concepts of Value:** The valuation of oil and gas properties is not an exact science, and exact accuracy is not attainable due to many factors. Nevertheless, standards of reasonable performance do exist, and there are usually reliable means of measuring and applying these standards.

Petroleum properties are subject to depletion, and capital investment must be returned before economic exhaustion of the resource (mineral reserves). The examination of petroleum properties involves understanding the geology of the resource (producing and non-producing), type of reservoir energy, the methods of secondary and enhanced recovery (if applicable), and the surface treatment and marketability of the produced petroleum product(s).

Evaluation of mineral properties is a continuous process; the value as of the lien date merely represents a "snapshot" in time. The potential value of mineral interests derived from sale of minerals to be extracted from the ground change with mineral price fluctuation in the open market, changes in extraction technology, costs of extraction, and other variables such as the value of money.

### **Approaches to Value for Petroleum Property**

**Cost Approach:** The use of cost data in an appraisal for market value is based upon the economic principle of substitution. The cost approach typically derives value by a model that begins with replacement cost new (RCN) and then applies depreciation in all its forms (physical depreciation, functional and economic obsolescence). This method is difficult to apply to oil and gas properties since lease acquisition and development may bear no relation to present worth. Though very useful in the appraisal of many other types of properties, the cost approach is not readily applicable to mineral properties. [Keep in mind that the property actually being appraised is the mineral interest and not the oil and gas reserves themselves. Trying to apply the cost approach to evaluation of mineral interests is like trying to apply the cost approach to land; it is a moot point because both are real properties that are inherently non-replaceable.] **As a general rule, and for the reasons stated above, Pritchard & Abbott, Inc., does not employ the cost approach in the appraisal of mineral interests.**

**Market Approach:** This approach may be defined as one which uses data available from actual transactions recorded in the market place itself; i.e., sales of comparable properties from which a comparison to the subject property can be made. Ideally, this approach's main advantage involves not only an opinion but an opinion supported by the actual spending of money. Although at first glance this approach seems to more closely incorporate the aspects of fair market value per its classical definition, there are two factors that severely limit the usefulness of the market approach for appraising oil and gas

properties. First, oil and gas property sales data is seldom disclosed (in non-disclosure states such as Texas); consequently there is usually a severe lack of market data sufficient for meaningful statistical analysis. Second, all conditions of each sale must be known and carefully investigated to be sure one does have a comparative indicator of value per fair market value perquisites.

Many times when these properties do change hands, it is generally through company mergers and acquisitions where other assets in addition to oil and gas reserves are involved; this further complicates the analysis whereby a total purchase price must be allocated to the individual components - a speculative and somewhat arbitrary task at best. In the case of oil and gas properties, a scarcity of sales requires that every evidence of market data be investigated and analyzed. Factors relative to the sale of oil and gas properties are:

- current production and estimated declines forecast by the buyer;
- estimated probable and potential reserves;
- general lease and legal information which defines privileges or limitation of the equity sold;
- undeveloped potential such as secondary recovery prospects;
- proximity to other production already operated by the purchaser;
- contingencies and other cash equivalents; and
- other factors such as size of property, gravity of oil, etc.

In the event that all these factors are available for analysis, the consensus effort would be tantamount to performing an income approach to value (or trying to duplicate the buyer's income approach to value), thereby making the market approach somewhat moot in its applicability. **As a general rule, and for the reasons stated above, Pritchard & Abbott, Inc., rarely employs a rigorous application of the market approach in the appraisal of mineral interests.**

**Income Approach:** This approach to value most readily yields itself to the appraisal of mineral interests. Data is readily available whereby a model can be created that reasonable estimates a future income stream to the property. This future income may then be converted (discounted) into an estimate of current value. Many refer to this as a capitalization method, because capitalization is the process of converting an income stream into a capital sum (value). As with any method, the final value is no better than the reliability of the input data. The underlying assumption is that people purchase the property for the future income the property will yield. If the land or improvements are of any residual value after the cessation of oil and gas production, that value should also be included (if those components are also being appraised).

The relevant income that should be used is the expected future net income. Assumptions of this method are:

- Past income and expenses are not a consideration, except insofar as they may be a guide to estimating future net income.
- That the producing life as well as the reserves (quantity of the minerals) are estimated for the property.
- Future income is less valuable than current income, and so future net income must be discounted to make it equivalent to the present income. This discount factor reflects the premium of present money over future money, i.e., interest rate, liquidity, investment management, and risk.

**As a general rule, and for the reasons stated above, Pritchard & Abbott, Inc., relies predominantly on the income approach to value in the appraisal of mineral interests.**

## **DATA COLLECTION/VALIDATION**

**Sources of Data:** The main source of P&A's property data is data from the Railroad Commission of Texas as reported by operators. As a monthly activity, the data processing department receives data tapes or electronic files which have updated and new well and production data. Other discovery tools are fieldwork by appraisers, financial data from operators, information from chief appraisers, tax assessors, trade publications and city and local newspapers. Other members of the public often provide P&A information regarding new wells and other useful facts related to property valuation.

Another crucial set of data to obtain is the ownership of these mineral interests. Typically a mineral lease is fractionated and executed with several if not many owners. This information is typically requested (under a promise of confidentiality concerning owners' personal information) from pipeline purchasers and/or other entities (such as operators) who have the responsibility of disbursing the income to the mineral interest owners. Another source of ownership information is through the taxpayers themselves who file deeds of ownership transfer and/or correspond with P&A or the appraisal district directly.

Data Collection Procedures: Electronic and field data collection requires organization, planning and supervision of the appraisal staff. Data collection procedures for mineral properties are generally accomplished globally by the company; i.e., production and price data for the entire state is downloaded at one time into the computer system. Appraisers also individually gather and record specific and particular information to the appraisal file records, which serves as the basis for the valuation of mineral properties. P&A is divided into four district offices covering different geographic areas. Each office has a district manager, appraisal and ownership maintenance staff, and clerical staff as appropriate. While overall standards of performance are established and upheld for the various district offices, quality of data is emphasized as the goal and responsibility of each appraiser.

### **VALUATION ANALYSIS (MODEL CALIBRATION)**

Appropriate revisions and/or enhancements of schedules or discounted cash flow software are annually made and then tested prior to the appraisals being performed. Calibration typically involves performing multiple discounted cash flow tests for leases with varying parameter input to check the correlation and relationship of such indicators as: Dollars of Value Per Barrel of Reserves; Dollars of Value Per Daily Average Barrel Produced; Dollars of Expense Per Daily Average Barrel Produced; Years Payout of Purchase Price (Fair Market Value). In a more classical calibration procedure, the validity of values by P&A's income approach to value is tested against actual market transactions, if and when these transactions and verifiable details of these transactions are disclosed to P&A. Of course these transactions must be analyzed for meeting all requisites of fair market value definition. Any conclusions of this analysis are then compared to industry benchmarks for reasonableness before being incorporated into the calibration procedure.

### **INDIVIDUAL VALUE REVIEW PROCEDURES**

Individual property values are reviewed several times in the appraisal process. P&A's discounted cashflow software dynamically generates various benchmark indicators that the appraiser reviews concurrent with the value being generated. These benchmarks often prompt the appraiser to reevaluate some or all of the parameters of data entry so as to arrive at a value more indicative of industry standards. Examples of indicators are dollars of value per barrel of oil reserve, years payout, etc. In addition to appraiser review, taxpayers are afforded the opportunity to review the appraised values, either before or after Notices of Appraised Value are prepared. Operators routinely meet with P&A's appraisers to review parameters and to provide data not readily available to P&A through public or commercial sources, such as individual lease operating expense and reserve figures. And of course, all property values are subject to review through normal protest and Appraisal Review Board procedures, with P&A acting as an extension of the Office of the Chief Appraiser.

### **PERFORMANCE TESTS**

An independent test of the appraisal performance of properties appraised by P&A is conducted by the State of Texas Comptroller's Office through the annual Property Value Study for school funding purposes. This study determines the degree of uniformity and the median level of appraisal for mineral properties. School jurisdictions are given an opportunity to appeal any preliminary findings. After the appeal process is resolved, the Comptroller publishes a report of the findings of the study, including in the report the median level of appraisal, the coefficient of dispersion around the median level of appraisal and any other standard statistical measures that the Comptroller considers appropriate.

## USPAP STANDARDS RULE 6-1: MASS APPRAISAL OF INDUSTRIAL, UTILITY AND RELATED PERSONAL PROPERTY

*Note: This section, in conjunction with any attached or separately provided P&A-generated appraisal reports specific to the subject property or properties, constitutes the "mass appraisal written report" as required by USPAP Standards Rule 6-1. USPAP Standards Rule 6-2 (certification) can be found at the end of this report. USPAP Standards Rules 5-1 through 5-7 (instructions and explanations regarding the development, application, and reconciliation of mass appraisal values), as they apply to P&A mass appraisal procedures, are discussed below. USPAP DOES NOT DICTATE THE FORM, FORMAT, OR STYLE OF APPRAISAL REPORTS, WHICH ARE FUNCTIONS OF THE NEEDS OF USERS AND PROVIDERS OF APPRAISAL SERVICES. USPAP ALSO DOES NOT MANDATE THAT EACH APPRAISAL REPORT BE LENGTHY AND FULL OF DISCLAIMERS. Readers should note that all P&A reports, unless stated otherwise, are of a "restricted" nature whereas additional documentation and detail may be available per certain Texas Property Tax Code provisions.*

### INTRODUCTION

**Definition of Appraisal Responsibility:** The Engineering Services Department of Pritchard & Abbott, Inc. (P&A) is responsible for developing fair and uniform market values for industrial, utility and personal properties.

P&A's typical client is a governmental entity charged with appraisal responsibility for ad valorem tax purposes, although other types of clients (private businesses, individuals, etc.) occasionally contract for appraisal services which are strictly for various non-ad valorem tax purposes so that no conflicts of interest are created with P&A's core ad valorem tax work.

P&A hereby makes the assumption that, in all appraisal assignments performed for governmental entities in satisfaction of contractual obligations related to ad valorem tax, the client does not wish to or cannot legally request the appraisal report not identify the client.

Intended users of our reports are typically the client(s) for which we are under direct contract. Although taxpayers or their agents who own and/or represent the subject property being appraised often receive these reports either by law or as a courtesy of the client or P&A, this receipt does not mean these parties automatically become Intended Users as defined by USPAP. **A party receiving a copy of a report in order to satisfy disclosure requirements does not become an intended user of the appraisal or mass appraisal unless the appraiser specifically identifies such party as an intended user.** Potential other users include parties involved in adjudication of valuation disputes (review board members, lawyers, judges, etc.), governmental agencies which periodically review our appraisals for various statutory purposes (such as the Texas Comptroller's Office) and private parties who may obtain copies of our appraisals through Open Records Requests made to governmental agencies.

P&A believes this section of this report, in conjunction with any attached or separately provided P&A-generated report(s), meets the USPAP definition of "typical practice"; i.e., it satisfies a level of work that is consistent with:

- the expectations of participants in the market for the same or similar appraisal services; and
- what P&A's peers' actions would be in performing the same or similar appraisal services in compliance with USPAP.

***This section of P&A's USPAP report is not applicable to any Industrial, Utility, or related Personal Property that an appraisal district appraises outside of P&A's appraisal services, in which case the appraisal district's overall USPAP report should be referenced.***

P&A makes the **Extraordinary Assumption** that all properties appraised for ad valorem tax purposes are marketable whereas ownership and title to property are free of encumbrances and other restrictions that would affect fair market value to an extent not obvious to the general marketplace. If and/or when we are made aware of any encumbrances, etc., these would be taken into account in our appraisal in which case the extraordinary assumption stated above would be revoked.

**Legal and Statutory Requirements:** The provisions of the Texas Property Tax Code and relevant legislative measures involving appraisal administration and procedures control the work of P&A as a subcontractor to the Appraisal District. P&A is responsible for appraising property on the basis of its market value as of January 1 for ad valorem tax purposes for each taxing unit that imposes ad valorem taxes on property in the contracted Appraisal District. All industrial, utility and personal properties are reappraised annually. The definition of Fair Market Value is provided and promulgated for use in ad valorem tax work in Texas by the Texas Property Tax Code, and therefore as a **Jurisdictional Exception** supercedes the definition of "market value" as found in USPAP definitions.

**Administrative Requirements:** P&A follows generally accepted and/or recognized appraisal practices and when applicable, the standards of the International Association of Assessing Officers (IAAO) regarding its appraisal practices and procedures. P&A, when applicable, also subscribes to the standards promulgated by the Appraisal Foundation known as the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice (USPAP). P&A submits annual or biannual contract bids to the Office of the Chief Appraiser and is bound to produce appraisal estimates on industrial, utility and personal properties within the cost constraints of said bid. Any appraisal practices and procedures followed by P&A not explicitly defined through IAAO or USPAP requirements are specified by the Texas Property Tax Code and/or at the specific request or direction of the Office of the Chief Appraiser.

#### **Appraisal Resources**

**Personnel:** The Engineering Services Department and P&A's appraisal staff consists of appraisers with degrees in engineering, business and accounting. All personnel are Registered Professional Appraisers with the State of Texas, or are progressing towards this designation as prescribed by the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR).

**Data:** A set of data characteristics (i.e. original cost, year of acquisition, quantities, capacities, net operating income, property description, etc.) for each industrial, utility and personal property is collected from various sources. This data is maintained in either hard copy or computer files. Each property's characteristic data drives the appropriate computer-assisted appraisal approach to valuation.

**Information Systems:** P&A's mainframe computer system is composed of in-house custom software augmented by schedules and databases that reside as various applications on personal computers (PC). P&A offers a variety of systems for providing property owners and public entities with information services.

#### **VALUATION APPROACH (MODEL SPECIFICATION)**

**Concepts of Value:** The valuation of industrial, utility and personal properties is not an exact science, and exact accuracy is not attainable due to many factors. These are considered complex properties and some are considered Special Purpose properties. Nevertheless, standards of reasonable performance do exist, and there are reliable means of measuring and applying these standards.

The evaluation and appraisal of industrial, utility and personal property relies heavily on the discovery of the property followed by the application of recognized appraisal techniques. The property is subject to inflation and depreciation in all forms. The appraisal of industrial and personal property involves understanding petroleum, chemical, steel, electrical power, lumber and paper industry processes along with a myriad of other industrial processes. Economic potential for this property usually follows either the specific industry or the general business economy. The appraisal of utility properties involves understanding telecommunications, electrical transmission and distribution, petroleum pipelines and the railroad industry.



Utility properties are subject to regulation and economic obsolescence. The examination of utility property involves the understanding of the present value of future income in a regulated environment.

The goal for valuation of industrial, utility and personal properties is to appraise all taxable property at "fair market value". The Texas Property Tax Code defines Fair Market value as the price at which a property would transfer for cash or its equivalent under prevailing market conditions if:

- exposed for sale in the open market with a reasonable time for the seller to find a purchaser;
- both the seller and the purchaser know of all the uses and purposes to which the property is adapted and for which it is capable of being used and of the enforceable restrictions on its use; and
- both the seller and purchaser seek to maximize their gains and neither is in a position to take advantage of the exigencies of the other.

### **Approaches to Value for Industrial, Utility, and Personal Property**

**Cost Approach:** The use of cost data in an appraisal for market value is based upon the economic principle of substitution. This method is most readily applicable to the appraisal of industrial and personal property and some utility property. Under this method, the market value of property equals the value of the land plus the current cost of improvements less accrued depreciation. An inventory of the plant improvements and machinery and equipment is maintained by personally inspecting each facility every year. **As a general rule, and for the reasons stated above, Pritchard & Abbott, Inc., relies predominantly on the cost approach to value in the appraisal of industrial, utility, and personal property.**

**Market Approach:** This approach is characterized as one that uses sales data available from actual transactions in the market place. There are two factors that severely limit the usefulness of the market approach for appraising industrial, utility and personal properties. First, the property sales data is seldom disclosed; consequently there is insufficient market data for these properties available for meaningful statistical analysis. Second, all conditions of sale must be known and carefully investigated to be sure one does have a comparative indicator of value. Many times when these properties do change hands, it is generally through company mergers and acquisitions where other assets and intangibles in addition to the industrial, utility and personal property are involved. The complexity of these sales presents unique challenges and hindrances to the process of allocation of value to the individual components of the transaction.

In the case of industrial, utility and personal properties, a scarcity of sales requires that all evidence of market data be investigated and analyzed. Factors relative to the sale of these properties are:

- plant capacity and current production; terms of sale, cash or equivalent;
- complexity of property;
- age of property;
- proximity to other industry already operated by the purchaser; and
- other factors such as capital investment in the property.

**As a general rule, and for the reasons stated above, Pritchard & Abbott, Inc., rarely employs a rigorous application of the market approach in the appraisal of industrial, utility, and personal property.**

**Income Approach:** This approach to value most readily yields itself to all income generating assets, especially utility properties. Data for utility properties is available from annual reports submitted to regulatory agencies whereby future income may be estimated, and then this future income may be converted into an estimate of value. The valuation of an entire company by this method is sometimes referred to as a Unit Value. Many refer to this as a capitalization method, because capitalization is the process of converting an income stream into a capital sum (value). As with any method, the final value estimate is no better than the reliability of the input data. The underlying assumption is that people purchase the property for the future income the property will yield.

The relevant income that should be used in the valuation model is the expected future net operating income after depreciation but before interest expense (adjustments for Federal Income Taxes may or may not be required). Assumptions of this method are:

- Past income and expenses are a consideration, insofar as they may be a guide to future income, subject to regulation and competition.
- The economic life of the property can be estimated.
- The future production, revenues and expenses can be accurately forecasted. Future income is less valuable than current income, and so future net income must be discounted to make it equivalent to the present income. This discount factor reflects the premium of present money over future money, i.e., interest rate, liquidity, investment management, and risk.

**As a general rule, and for the reasons stated above, Pritchard & Abbott, Inc., employs the income approach in the appraisal of industrial and utility property only when quantifiable levels of income are able to be reliably determined and/or projected for the subject property. P&A does not employ the income approach in the appraisal of personal property.**

## **DATA COLLECTION/VALIDATION**

Sources of Data: The main source of P&A's property data for industrial and personal property is through fieldwork by the appraisers and commercially/publicly available schedules developed on current costs. Data for performing utility appraisals is typically provided by the taxpayer or is otherwise available at various regulatory agencies (Texas Railroad Commission, Public Utilities Commission, FERC, et. al.). Other discovery tools are financial data from annual reports, information from chief appraisers, renditions, tax assessors, trade publications and city and local newspapers. Other members of the public often provide P&A information regarding new industry and other useful facts related to property valuation.

Data Collection Procedures: Electronic and field data collection requires organization, planning and supervision of the appraisal staff. Data collection procedures have been established for industrial and personal properties. Appraisers gather and record information in the mainframe system, where customized programs serve as the basis for the valuation of industrial, utility and personal properties. P&A is divided into multiple district offices covering different geographic zones. Each office has a district manager and field staff. While overall standards of performance are established and upheld for the various district offices, quality of data is emphasized as the goal and responsibility of each appraiser. Additionally, P&A's Engineering Services Department provides supervision and guidance to all district offices to assist in maintaining uniform and consistent appraisal practices throughout the company.

## **VALUATION ANALYSIS (MODEL CALIBRATION)**

The validity of the values by P&A's income and cost approaches to value is tested against actual market transactions, if and when these transactions and verifiable details of the transactions are disclosed to P&A. These transactions are checked for meeting all requisites of fair market value definition. Any conclusions from this analysis are also compared to industry benchmarks before being incorporated in the calibration procedure. Appropriate revisions of cost schedules and appraisal software are annually made and then tested for reasonableness prior to the appraisals being performed.

## **INDIVIDUAL VALUE REVIEW PROCEDURES**

Individual property values are reviewed several times in the appraisal process. P&A's industrial, utility, personal property programs and appraisal spreadsheets afford the appraiser the opportunity to review the value being generated. Often the appraiser is prompted to reevaluate some or all of the parameters of data entry so as to arrive at a value more indicative of industry standards. Examples of indicators are original cost, replacement cost, service life, age, net operating income,

capitalization rate, etc. In addition to appraiser review, taxpayers are afforded the opportunity to review the appraised values either before or after Notices of Appraised Value are prepared. Taxpayers, agents and representatives routinely meet with P&A's appraisers to review parameters and to provide data not readily available to P&A through public or commercial sources, such as investment costs and capitalization rate studies. And of course, all property values are subject to review through normal protest and Appraisal Review Board procedures, with P&A acting as a representative of the Office of the Chief Appraiser.

### **PERFORMANCE TESTS**

An independent test of the appraisal performance of properties appraised by P&A is conducted by the State of Texas Comptroller's Office through the annual Property Value Study for school funding purposes. This study determines the degree of uniformity and the median level of appraisal for utility properties. School jurisdictions are given an opportunity to appeal any preliminary findings. After the appeal process is resolved, the Comptroller publishes a report of the findings of the study, including in the report the median level of appraisal, the coefficient of dispersion around the median level of appraisal and any other standard statistical measures that the Comptroller considers appropriate.

## USPAP STANDARDS RULE 6-1: MASS APPRAISAL OF RESIDENTIAL REAL ESTATE

*Note: This section, in conjunction with any attached or separately provided P&A-generated appraisal reports specific to the subject property or properties, constitutes the "mass appraisal written report" as required by USPAP Standards Rule 6-1. USPAP Standards Rule 6-2 (certification) can be found at the end of this report. USPAP Standards Rules 5-1 through 5-7 (instructions and explanations regarding the development, application, and reconciliation of mass appraisal values), as they apply to P&A mass appraisal procedures, are discussed below. USPAP DOES NOT DICTATE THE FORM, FORMAT, OR STYLE OF APPRAISAL REPORTS, WHICH ARE FUNCTIONS OF THE NEEDS OF USERS AND PROVIDERS OF APPRAISAL SERVICES. USPAP ALSO DOES NOT MANDATE THAT EACH APPRAISAL REPORT BE LENGTHY AND FULL OF DISCLAIMERS. Readers should note that all P&A reports, unless stated otherwise, are of a "restricted" nature whereas additional documentation and detail may be available per certain Texas Property Tax Code provisions.*

### INTRODUCTION

**Definition of Appraisal Responsibility:** The Residential Division of Pritchard & Abbott, Inc. ("P&A" hereinafter), is responsible for developing fair and uniform market values for real estate parcels within certain Appraisal Districts. P&A contractually provides a wide degree of professional services depending upon each contract requirement.

P&A's typical client is a governmental entity charged with appraisal responsibility for ad valorem tax purposes, although other types of clients (private businesses, individuals, etc.) occasionally contract for appraisal services which are strictly for various non-ad valorem tax purposes so that no conflicts of interest are created with P&A's core ad valorem tax work.

P&A hereby makes the assumption that, in all appraisal assignments performed for governmental entities in satisfaction of contractual obligations related to ad valorem tax, the client does not wish to or cannot legally request the appraisal report not identify the client.

Intended users of our reports are typically the client(s) for which we are under direct contract. Although taxpayers or their agents who own and/or represent the subject property being appraised often receive these reports either by law or as a courtesy of the client or P&A, this receipt does not mean these parties automatically become Intended Users as defined by USPAP. **A party receiving a copy of a report in order to satisfy disclosure requirements does not become an intended user of the appraisal or mass appraisal unless the appraiser specifically identifies such party as an intended user.** Potential other users include parties involved in adjudication of valuation disputes (review board members, lawyers, judges, etc.), governmental agencies which periodically review our appraisals for various statutory purposes (such as the Texas Comptroller's Office) and private parties who may obtain copies of our appraisals through Open Records Requests made to governmental agencies.

***This section of P&A's USPAP report is not applicable to any real estate property that an appraisal district appraises outside of P&A's appraisal services, in which case the appraisal district's overall USPAP report should be referenced.***

**Legal and Statutory Requirements:** The provisions of the Texas Property Tax Code and relevant legislative measures involving appraisal administration and procedures control the work of P&A as an extension of the Appraisal District. P&A is responsible for appraising property on the basis of its market value as of January 1 for ad valorem tax purposes for each taxing unit that imposes ad valorem taxes on property in the contracted Appraisal District. The definition of Fair Market Value is provided and promulgated for use in ad valorem tax work in Texas by the Texas Property Tax Code, and therefore as a **Jurisdictional Exception** supercedes the definition of "market value" as found in USPAP definitions.

Administrative Requirements: P&A follows the standards of the International Association of Assessing Officers (IAAO) regarding its appraisal practices and procedures. P&A also subscribes to the standards promulgated by the Appraisal Foundation known as the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice (USPAP). P&A submits annual or biannual contract proposals to the Office of the Chief Appraiser and is bound to produce mass appraisal estimates on real estate properties within the cost constraints of said proposals. Any appraisal practices and procedures followed by P&A not explicitly defined through IAAO or USPAP requirements are specified by the Texas Property Tax Code or at the specific request or direction of the Office of the Chief Appraiser.

P&A believes this section of this report, in conjunction with any attached or separately provided P&A-generated report(s), meets the USPAP definition of “typical practice”; i.e., it satisfies a level of work that is consistent with:

- the expectations of participants in the market for the same or similar appraisal services; and
- what P&A’s peers’ actions would be in performing the same or similar appraisal services in compliance with USPAP.

P&A makes the **Extraordinary Assumption** that all properties appraised for ad valorem tax purposes are marketable whereas ownership and title to property are free of encumbrances and other restrictions that would affect fair market value to an extent not obvious to the general marketplace. If and/or when we are made aware of any encumbrances, etc., these would be taken into account in our appraisal in which case the extraordinary assumption stated above would be revoked.

## **Appraisal Resources**

Personnel: The Real Estate staff consists of licensed Registered Professional Appraisers through the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR), and are qualified to provide the complete range of professional appraisal services required.

Data: Common data characteristics (within each county) for each property are collected in the field and entered into each respective district’s computer data base. This property data drives the computer-assisted mass appraisal (CAMA) approach to valuation.

Information Systems: The mainframe systems are augmented by the databases that reside as various applications on personal computers (PC). P&A offers a variety of systems for providing property owners and public entities with information services. The appraiser supervising any given contract fields many of the public’s questions or redirects them to the proper division.

## **VALUATION APPROACH (MODEL SPECIFICATION)**

Area Analysis: Data involving economic forces such as demographic, patterns, employment and income patterns, trends in real estate property prices and rents, interest rates, availability of property, economic and climatic factors that may affect production of rural lands, are collected from various sources. Any information particular to a given region or appraisal district helps the appraisal staff determine market conditions or trends that may affect market value.

Neighborhood and Market Analysis: Neighborhood analysis involves the examination of how physical, economic, governmental and social forces and other influences affect property values. The effect of these forces are also used to identify, classify, and organize comparable properties into smaller, manageable subsets of the universe of properties known as neighborhoods. A neighborhood is defined by natural, man-made, or political boundaries and is established by a commonality based on land users, types and age of buildings or population, the desire for homogeneity, or similar factors.

Each neighborhood may be characterized as being in a stage of growth, stability, or decline. The growth period is a time of development and construction. In the period of stability, or equilibrium, the forces of supply and demand are about equal. The period of decline reflects diminishing demand or desirability. During decline general property use may change.

Declining neighborhoods may become economically desirable again and experience renewal, reorganization, rebuilding, or restoration, marked by modernization and increasing demand. The appraisal staff must analyze whether a particular neighborhood is in a period of growth, stability, or decline and predict changes that will affect future use and value. In mass appraisal applications the information can be useful for comparing or combining neighborhoods or for developing neighborhood ratings, which are introduced as adjustments in mass appraisal models.

Site descriptions and analysis provide a description of the subject property and an analysis of factors that affect the market value of the site. Site analysis also provides a basis for allocating values to land and improvements, for analyzing comparable sales to determine the highest and best use of the site, and for estimating locational obsolescence. A description of the subject building and other improvements provides a basis for analysis of comparable sales and rents; for the development of capitalization rates or multipliers; for highest and best use analysis of the site as improved; and for estimation of reproduction or replacement cost new and physical and functional depreciation. The analysis should show how the factors relate to the utility and marketability of the subject property, and, ultimately, its market value. The improvement analysis and the neighborhood analysis focus on similar considerations; for example, whether the improvements represent highest and best use and conform to the neighborhood.

The improvement analysis describes relationships among items and compares them to those in competing properties and to neighborhood standards. Items that will be treated as functional obsolescence in the cost approach need through analysis. The condition of building components is particularly important because it provides the basis for estimates of effective age and remaining economic life.

Currently P&A provides most of its real estate appraisal services in primarily rural areas. The ability to perform detailed neighborhood and market analysis is somewhat limited in these areas where the necessary data is sometimes nonexistent.

**Highest and Best Use Analysis:** Highest and best use analysis is the culmination of regional, neighborhood, and site analysis. All three are used to help the appraisal staff understand the factors affecting property values in the market being analyzed and the most probable use of the site in long-run economic equilibrium. Highest and best use is the reasonable and probable use that supports the highest present value as of the date of the appraisal. The highest and best use must be physically possible, legal, financially feasible, and productive to the maximum, that is, highest and best use. The analysis should be done as of the date of appraisal. Just as real estate values change, the highest and best use of a property may change over time.

## **DATA COLLECTION/VALIDATION**

**Data Collection Manuals:** Appraisal manuals are developed and distributed to all appraisers involved in the appraisal and valuation of real estate properties. The appraisal manual is reviewed and revised to meet the changing requirements of field data collection.

**Sources of Data:** Each District's appraisal manual and schedules are adopted and maintained by the P&A appraisal staff. Data used to perform appraisals are generally collected with a joint effort among appraisers and Appraisal District staff. Physical inspections are performed by the appraisers for various situations whether it be a normal reappraisal, a reinspection requested by the District, working building permits, etc.

**Data Collection Procedures:** Field data collection is coordinated and organized by the field appraisers to insure uniformity in appraisal technique. The staff conducts field inspections and record information on a particular property field worksheet. This data is entered into the respective computer database and serves as the basis for the valuation.

## **VALUATION ANALYSIS**

**Cost Schedules:** P&A generally adopts existing cost schedules within each Appraisal District in which we provide appraisal services. These schedules are maintained and adjusted as needed to reflect the current market value conditions that are present in each respective district.

**Sales Information:** Sales are generally collected by the Appraisal District staff and provided to P&A appraisal personnel for sales ratio analysis.

**Statistical Analysis:** Appraisers perform statistical analysis annually to evaluate whether values are equitable and consistent with market conditions. Appraisal statistics, central tendency and dispersion generated from sales are available for each class of property. These summary statistics include mean and median ratios, standard deviation, and coefficient of dispersion. They provide the analysis information to determine both the level and uniformity of the appraised values involved in the study.

**Market Adjustment:** Depending upon the data provided by the sales ratio analysis, market value tables may be adjusted accordingly to reflect accurate market values within a particular class of property.

## **INDIVIDUAL VALUE REVIEW PROCEDURES**

**Field Review:** P&A provides field inspections depending upon the contractual arrangement with the appraisal district. In most cases field inspections are done within the outline of the respective Appraisal District's Reappraisal Plan.




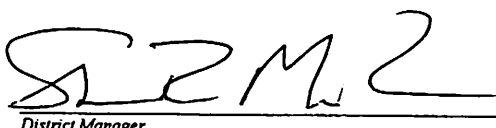
## **PERFORMANCE TESTS**

An independent test of the appraisal performance of properties appraised by P&A is conducted by the State of Texas Comptroller's Office through the annual Property Value Study for school funding purposes. This study determines the degree of uniformity and the median level of appraisal for real estate properties. School jurisdictions are given an opportunity to appeal any preliminary findings. After the appeal process is resolved, the Comptroller publishes a report of the findings of the study, including in the report the median level of appraisal, the coefficient of dispersion around the median level of appraisal and any other standard statistical measures the Comptroller considers appropriate.

USPAP STANDARDS RULE 6-2: CERTIFICATION

I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief:

- The statements of fact contained in this report are true and correct.
- The reported analyses, opinions, and conclusions are limited only by the reported assumptions and limiting conditions, and are my personal, impartial, and unbiased professional analyses, opinions, and conclusions.
- I have no (or the specified) present or prospective interest in the property that is the subject of this report, and I have no (or the specified) personal interest with respect to the parties involved.
- I have performed no (or the specified) services, as an appraiser or in any other capacity, regarding the property that is the subject of this report within the three-year period immediately preceding acceptance of this assignment.
- I have no bias with respect to any property that is the subject of this report or the parties involved with this assignment.
- My engagement in this assignment was not contingent upon developing or reporting predetermined results.
- My compensation for completing this assignment is not contingent upon the reporting of a predetermined value or direction in value that favors the cause of the client, the amount of the value opinion, the attainment of a stipulated result, or the occurrence of a subsequent event directly related to the intended use of this appraisal.
- My analyses, opinions, and conclusions were developed, and this report has been prepared, in conformity with the *Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice*.
- I have (or have not) made a personal inspection of the properties that are the subject of this report. *(If more than one person signs the report, this certification must clearly specify which individual(s) did and which individual(s) did not make a personal inspection of the appraised property.)*
- No one provided significant mass appraisal assistance to the person signing this certification. *(If there are exceptions, the name of each individual providing significant mass appraisal assistance must be stated.)*

	Inspected Property?	Provided Significant Appraisal Assistance?
 Appraiser (a) _____ Date 6/29/18	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes / <input type="radio"/> No	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes / <input type="radio"/> No
 Appraiser (b) _____ Date 6/29/18	<input type="radio"/> Yes / <input checked="" type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes / <input checked="" type="radio"/> No
 Supervising Appraiser / Dept. Manager _____ Date	<input type="radio"/> Yes / <input checked="" type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes / <input checked="" type="radio"/> No
 District Manager _____ Date 6/29/18	<input type="radio"/> Yes / <input checked="" type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes / <input checked="" type="radio"/> No

List of other individuals who provided significant mass appraisal assistance in this assignment:

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**A signed certification is an integral component of the appraisal report.**

- **When a signing appraiser has relied on work done by appraisers and others who do not sign the certification, the signing appraiser is responsible for the decision to rely on their work. The signing appraiser is required to have a reasonable basis for believing that those individuals performing the work are competent and that the work of those individuals is credible.**
- **An appraiser who signs any part of the mass appraisal report, including a letter of transmittal, must also sign this certification. This certification applies to all assignment results and well as all contents of the appraisal report(s).**
- **The names of individuals providing significant mass appraisal assistance who do not sign a certification must be stated in the certification. It is not required that the description of this assistance be contained in the certification, but disclosure of their assistance is required in accordance with Standards Rule 6-2(g).**
- **The above certification is not intended to disturb an elected or appointed assessor's work plans or oaths of office.**