

# The Approach



**Appraisal  
Institute®**

Professionals Providing  
Real Estate Solutions

## 4th Quarter Chapter Meeting & Installation

Friday, November 6, 2020 - 3 PM

The 4th Quarter Chapter Meeting and Installation of our 2021 Leadership will be held virtually on **Friday, November 6, 2020** beginning at **3 PM**. The installation will be conducted by **2021 National President Rodman Schley, MAI, SRA** followed by his State of the Appraisal Institute presentation.

We are also fortunate to have Michael Twitty, MAI, CFA, Pinellas Property Appraiser and Robert Henriquez, CFA, Hillsborough County Property Appraiser join us to provide an overview of the present general trends and challenges we face in 2021. We hope you can join us for the 4th Quarter Meeting and the above presentations. Please register in advance for this FREE event. [CLICK HERE](#) Once registered, you will receive the link for the ZOOM meeting.

## 2021 Officers, Directors and Region X Representatives

The following members were recently elected to serve the chapter in 2021 and will be installed on November 6th.

**President:** Brian Zamorski, MAI  
**Vice President:** Patricia Staebler, SRA  
**Treasurer:** Timothy W. Sunyog, MAI  
**Secretary:** Michael Twitty, MAI  
**Ex. Officio:** Rachel Zucchi, MAI

### Directors 2019-2021

Michael Cliggitt, MAI  
 Byron Torres, MAI  
 Jennifer Marshall, SRA, AI-RRS  
 Devon Carter, MAI

### Directors 2020-2022

Martin Engelmann, MAI  
 James "Matt" Terry, SRA

### Directors 2021-2023

John Fabian, MAI  
 John Miller, MAI

### 2021 Region Representatives:

Jennifer Marshall, SRA, AI-RRS (2018—2021)  
 Michael Cliggitt, MAI (2019 -2022)  
 Michael Jonas, MAI (2019—2022)  
 James (Matt) Terry, SRA (2019—2022)  
 Julie Battaglia, MAI, AI-GRS (2019—2022)  
 Patricia Staebler, SRA (2021—2024)  
 Tim Sunyog, MAI (2021—2024)  
 Rachel Zucchi, MAI (2019—2022)  
 Michael Twitty, MAI (2021—2024)  
**Brian Zamorski, MAI — Chapter President**

### 2021 Alternate Region Reps:

Karen Goforth, MAI, John Fabian, MAI, Wesley Sanders, MAI, Caroline Sutton, MAI, Victor Torres, Justin Butler, Byron Torres, Joy Thomas

## 2020 Officers & Directors

### President

Rachel Zucchi, MAI

### Vice President

Brian Zamorski, MAI

### Treasurer

Patricia Staebler, SRA

### Secretary

Timothy Sunyog, MAI

### Directors

Devon Carter, MAI  
 Michael Cliggitt, MAI  
 Martin Engelmann, MAI  
 John Fabian, MAI  
 Jennifer Marshall, SRA, AI-RRS  
 Brad Saucier, MAI  
 James "Matt" Terry, SRA  
 Byron Torres, MAI  
 Julie Battaglia, MAI, Ex Officio

### Region X Representatives

Michael Cliggitt, MAI  
 Ned Palmer, MAI  
 Andrew Skinner, MAI, SRA  
 Jennifer Marshall, SRA, AI-RRS  
 Michael Jonas, MAI  
 Andrew Skinner, MAI  
 James "Matt" Terry, SRA  
 Julie Battaglia, MAI  
 Rachel Zucchi, MAI (President)

### Committee Chairs

Bylaws: Brad Saucier, MAI  
 Finance: Patricia Staebler, SRA  
 Guidance: Jennifer Marshall, SRA  
 Education: Julie Battaglia, MAI  
 Govt. Relations: Devon Carter, MAI  
 Univ. Relations: Bruce Cumming  
 Newsletter: T. Sunyog/ Nancy Bachor  
 Public Relations: Brian Zamorski

### Chapter Executive Director

Nancy Bachor  
 (813) 962-4003  
[info@gulfcostai.org](mailto:info@gulfcostai.org)

### Region X Officers

Nick Pilz, MAI, SRA, Chair  
 Elaine Liz-Ramirez, Vice Chair  
 Reggie Carter, MAI, 3rd Director  
 Lauren Dowling, Region ED



## President's Message, Rachel Zucchi, MAI



Wow, what a year! It has been an honor to serve as the 2020 President of the Florida Gulf Coast Chapter of the Appraisal Institute. Thank you all for your trust, confidence, and support in making 2020 a productive and successful year for the Chapter. We hope you can join us in welcoming and congratulating our incoming officers and directors at our upcoming 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Chapter Meeting! I am very excited to announce that we have the **2021 National Appraisal Institute President, Rodman Schley, MAI, SRA** joining us again to install our 2021 slate of officers and directors. Rodman is also going to talk about the Appraisal Institute's goals and priorities for 2021. If you weren't able to meet Rodman at our Installation meeting last year, I hope you take advantage of this opportunity to meet (albeit virtually) and interact with him this year. He is a dynamic leader, and I'm very excited to see what he has planned for our organization in 2021!

We are also very pleased to welcome back our guest speakers **Michael Twitty, MAI, CFA**, Pinellas County Property Appraiser (and 2021 Chapter Secretary) and **Robert Henriquez, CFA**, Hillsborough County Property Appraiser. Mike and Bob will give us an update of the market and county assessments as well as recent changes and issues affecting the Property Appraisers' office. You do not want to miss this presentation, please sign up early as space is limited! We look forward to seeing you there!

**[Click Here to Register for the free Zoom 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Chapter Meeting on November 6, 2020 from 3:00 – 5:00 PM](#)**

It is a pleasure to announce that **Sandra K. Adomatis, SRA** was honored with the **Appraisal Institute's Lifetime Achievement Award** on September 22, 2020. The Lifetime Achievement Award is presented to an Appraisal Institute professional who demonstrates high ethical standards; has volunteered several years of service and has contributed to the Appraisal Institute on the international, national, region and/or chapter level; has served his or her community; and has contributed to the appraisal profession for at least 20 years. What an amazing accomplishment. It is inspiring to see that Sandy's continuous service and contributions to the Appraisal Institute, and the appraisal profession, have been adequately recognized. Congratulations Sandy!!

It has certainly been a year of changes, and I would like to express my sincere gratitude to our **Executive Director, Nancy Bachor for successfully navigating us through all these changes. Thank you Nancy!** In the midst of completely overhauling our education schedule to virtual offerings, we have also fully transitioned to the Chapter Financial Management Administrative Policy (CFMAP), and now we are planning to redesign and update our Chapter Website in December. I would also like to thank my fellow officers, **Brian Zamorski, MAI; Patricia Staebler, SRA; and Timothy Sunyog, MAI;** as well as the Board of Directors and Committee Chairs for their time and support this year. I'm looking forward to another great year in 2021 with our incoming **Chapter President, Brian Zamorski, MAI!**

Lastly, if you missed our 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Economic Market Update Meeting with our expert panel featuring K.C. Conway, MAI, CRE, CCIM and several other speakers; you can access the recorded version from our [Chapter Website](#).

Also remember you can support our Chapter by attending our Virtual Classroom Offerings. We have a couple more courses scheduled in November and our **Education Chair, Julie Battaglia, MAI, AI-GRS,** and **Nancy Bachor** already have a great slate of offerings scheduled for 2021.

Finally, we're always looking for new Chapter volunteers. Please contact Nancy, or any of the officers or board members if you're interested in joining a committee or want to find ways to get involved with the Chapter.

Thank you again for the opportunity to serve as your 2020 Chapter President. It has been a pleasure!

## 4th Quarter Speakers—November 6, 2020

We hope you can join us for our virtual [4th Quarter Chapter Meeting, Installation of 2021 Leadership](#) beginning at 3 PM followed by presentations from the following speakers. Register soon for this chapter event. Our speakers are:

**Rodman Schley, MAI, SRA, 2021 Appraisal Institute National President.** *See Bio on next page.*

**Michael Twitty, MAI, CFA, Pinellas County Property Appraiser.** Mike was sworn into office on January 3, 2017 as the Pinellas County Property Appraiser. Prior to being elected he was a senior managing director and principal of a successful residential and commercial appraisal firm based in Pinellas County. Mike is a lifelong resident of Pinellas County. After graduation from Largo High School he earned a bachelor's degree in Business Administration at the University of Florida in 1989, where he majored in Real Estate & Urban Analysis. He subsequently received his Florida Real Estate Broker's license, State-Certified General Real Estate Appraisal certification, was awarded the MAI designation from the Appraisal Institute and received the Certified Florida Appraiser designation from the Florida Department of Revenue. Mike has over 30 years of experience in the valuation of a wide variety of property types within Pinellas County and is a Director of the Gulf Coast Chapter of the Appraisal Institute. He has qualified as an expert witness in five area counties relating to real estate valuation matters and has substantial experience in evaluating and solving difficult valuation assignments. He has also been involved in real estate technology throughout his career. He served as a key member of a technology taskforce formed to tackle difficult real-world issues surrounding the design, maintenance and deployment of appraisal report templates on a national scale.



Mike presently serves as chair of the Enterprise GIS (eGIS) Steering Committee and as vice chair of both the Human Rights Board and Business Technology Services (BTS) Board within Pinellas County government. In addition, he serves as a member of the Legislative and Damage Assessment Committees for the Property Appraiser's Association of Florida (PAAF) and as Chairman of PAAF's Florida Flood Impact Committee, which tracks National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) legislative activity and potential value impacts due to rising premiums. Mike's personal life is defined by his love of family, friends and music. He has a musical family with both of his sons and himself being musicians and playing different instruments (guitar, piano, percussion, bassoon and vocals). Mike is also an avid sportsman (boating, fishing and scuba diving) and is a licensed private pilot. Mike resides with his wife Michele and their two sons in the Largo area.

**Robert Henriquez, CFA, Hillsborough County Property Appraiser.** Bob "Coach" Henriquez is deeply rooted to the community he serves. A fifth-generation resident of Tampa, Bob was born and raised in that city and his great grandfather, Enrique Henriquez, was the last mayor of West Tampa before it was annexed into the City of Tampa in 1925. Guided by working-class parents devoted to him and his three siblings, Bob has been driven by a desire to help those around him. He built the foundation for that goal by achieving academic success at Tampa Catholic High and Princeton University. At both schools, Bob learned the importance of teamwork as a starting offensive lineman on the football squads. Soon after graduating from Princeton, Bob went to work for Hillsborough County's Streets & Addresses department to help enhance its 9-1-1 program. Later, he joined the county's Planning Commission to assist in growth management. In 1998, Bob followed his ambitions to serve his community to a new level when he was elected to the Florida Legislature as a State Representative. There, he developed a reputation as a legislator eager to put aside party politics for the good of his constituents. After four terms in office, Bob was appointed to head up the Pinellas and Pasco counties division of the Department of Children and Families. He served in that role for three years. Currently, Bob serves as Secretary of the Florida Association of Constitutional Officers (FACO), is Second Vice President of the Property Appraisers' Association of Florida (PAAF) and sits on the Board of Directors for the Family Healthcare Foundation. Bob served two stints as head coach at Tampa Catholic, from 1990-99 and again from 2005-2012. In 2007, TC reached the state championship game for the first time in school history and the Crusaders returned to that stage in 2009. During his tenure at TC, Bob's teams compiled a record of a 128-71, reached the playoffs 13 times and won seven district crowns. Bob stands No. 8 on Hillsborough County's all-time list of winningest prep football coaches and is No. 5 based on winning percentage (.554). Bob also served as an assistant coach at Jefferson High. After winning the election of Hillsborough County Property Appraiser in 2012, Bob made the decision to step down as head coach at TC in order to focus his energies on the constitutional responsibilities of his office. He now leads a new "team" with his same ambitions: to serve the public with fairness, professionalism and humility.



## 4th Quarter Speaker—National President — November 6, 2020

We are very honored to have the President-Elect of the Appraisal Institute join us for our virtual 4th quarter chapter meeting to install our officers, directors and region representatives. We hope you can join us for our virtual [4th Quarter Chapter Meeting](#) beginning at 3 PM.

### Rodman Schley, MAI, SRA, President-Elect, Appraisal Institute

**Rodman Schley, MAI, SRA, of Arvada, Colorado**, is the 2020 president-elect of the Appraisal Institute. He will serve as president in 2021 and immediate past president in 2022. He also will serve on the organization's Executive Committee and on its policy-setting Board of Directors. Schley served as Appraisal Institute vice president in 2019. He also chaired the Finance Committee in 2019 and will chair the National Nominating Committee in 2022.

Schley wrote the book "Finding Your Fortune in Repossessed Real Estate," and is the creator and host of a national PBS/Create TV television show entitled "Urban Conversion," which educates viewers about maintaining environmentally friendly, sustainable lifestyles in urban settings.

Schley has served nationally on the Appraisal Institute Board of Directors, and he has been a member of the Strategic Planning Committee, the Governance Structure Project Team and the National Nominating Committee. He attended AI's annual Leadership Development and Advisory Council conference as a participant (2013-15) and was selected as a discussion leader (2016), vice chair (2017) and chair (2018). He also has served in chapter roles, including as president of the Colorado Chapter. In 2002, he founded Denver-based Commercial Valuation Consultants, Inc., which was acquired by national appraisal firm BBG in 2016.

He received the Appraisal Institute Education Trust's Y.T. and Louise Lee Lum Award, which is given in recognition of distinguished contribution to the furtherance of the high ideals of the profession of real estate appraising and practices.

We hope you plan to attend the November 6th event, meet Mr. Schley and hear about his vision for the Appraisal Institute.



### General Demonstration Report—Capstone Program—2021

The General Demonstration Report-Capstone Program is an option that Candidates for Designation may choose to complete their demonstration of knowledge requirement for their MAI designation. Like the traditional requirement, the same skills and knowledge base are required to produce a complete demonstration appraisal report. However, this program was designed to offer an option that accelerates the completion. Prerequisites required.

Denver, CO - March 15—21, 2021

Live Online - March 15—21, 2021

Chicago, IL - June 21—27, 2021

Live Online— August 23—29, 2021

Cleveland, OH - August 23—20, 2021

Sacramento, CA - November 15—21, 2021

[Click Here](#) for all requirements and to register.



## Education, Julie Battaglia, MAI, AI-GRS, Committee Chair

We want to thank everyone who have taken our education this year, both in classroom and virtually. Our instructors have all done a great job with this new virtual format and we still have a few more to go. Don't delay getting your CE hours—the license renewal deadline is November 30, 2020.

The Florida Real Estate Appraisal Board, along with the ASC, the Appraisal Foundation and the Appraisal Institute have approved education providers the ability to continue to offer classes for continuing education via virtual format through the end of 2021. The Florida chapters joined forces this year to provide a variety of joint virtual CE offerings in addition to each chapter's individual USPAP and Florida Law offerings. Due to the extension on virtual education, we will continue to offer CE classes jointly next year with the other Florida chapters as we have done this year.



Julie Battaglia, MAI, AI-GRS

We were quite busy this year restructuring our entire education schedule to provide both existing and added offerings to help you get your CE hours by the end of November. Please review the attached schedule and register for our remaining virtual classes as quickly as possible since there are limited enrollments. [Review available classes here.](#)

Due to the new virtual format, classes are limited to approximately 30 students. **You are required to provide us with a government issued photo ID prior to each class to verify each student.** (You can block out personal information – we are only required to review your name and photo.) **Important:** Due to the virtual format of the classes, we can only guarantee Florida continuing education credit. Students with licenses in other states must contact the specific state to determine whether this virtual option is approved to meet that state's CE requirements. It is your responsibility to confirm CE approval outside Florida.

The Florida chapters have also recently completed the 2021 Education Schedule of virtual classes and will be available on the website soon. We have listed the 2021 classes in the newsletter for your information. We are looking forward to providing a variety of topics next year so you will have an opportunity to get your CE hours early with a variety of new offerings. We are currently in the process of planning the 2021 schedule and posted to the AI website and should be available for registration within the next month or so.

You can REGISTER for any of the 2020 classes listed in the Newsletter through the chapter website at [www.gulfcoastai.org](http://www.gulfcoastai.org) and click on the **Education** tab on the left side. Scroll down the Education page for access to all the class URL registration links provided. The links will take you directly to the registration page. You can also access the classes by going to [www.appraisalinstitute.org](http://www.appraisalinstitute.org) and click on Education. Choose the Continuing Education button and scroll to the Florida Gulf Coast Chapter. To locate the Chapter-Developed classes (e.g. *Florida Law*), click on the **"Chapter Events"** button on the AI Education page and scroll to our for the chapter name for those classes to appear.

Check the website often for any changes to the education schedule and other chapter news. The Florida Gulf Coast Chapter website can be found at [www.gulfcoastai.org](http://www.gulfcoastai.org). Sign up early and please check your other states to see if they will accept the virtual format. Again, we can only guarantee Florida CE credit.

**Questions?** Please call the chapter office at (813) 962-4003 or email Nancy at [info@gulfcoastai.org](mailto:info@gulfcoastai.org) or education chair Julie Battaglia with any questions or suggestions. Click here for [Zoom Tutorials](#)



## 2020—2021 Education Schedule

### Florida Gulf Coast Chapter



Date	Class	Instructor
October 14–15	Florida Appraisal Law 2020 7-Hour USPAP Update	Robert Sutte, MAI Robert Sutte, MAI
October 22	The Cost Approach: Unnecessary or Vital to Growing Practice (7 CE)	Craig Steinley, SRA
November 5	Developing a Supportable Workfile (3 CE)	Vincent Dowling, MAI
November 6	<b>4th Quarter Chapter Meeting, Installation &amp; Program Virtual</b>	Rodman Schley, MAI, SRA Michael Twitty, MAI, CFA Robert Henriquez, CFA
November 10	A Dive into Houses with Labels & Style (7 CE)	Sandra K. Adomatis, SRA
2021		
January 28	Business Practice & Ethics (6 CE)	Brian J. Flynn, MAI
February 18	Rapid Response: Market Analysis in Volatile Markets <b>NEW</b> (7 CE)	Vincent Dowling, MAI
March 25	Desktop Appraisals (Bifurcated, Hybrid) and Evaluations <b>NEW</b> (7 CE)	Sandra Adomatis, SRA
April 22	Appraising Condos, Co-ops and PUDs (Updated) (7 CE)	Maureen Sweeney, SRA
May 13	Smart Risk Management for Appraisers—LIA (4 CE)	Peter Christensen
May 20	Legal Issues for Non-Lending and Litigation Appraisal Assignments LIA (3 CE)	Peter Christensen
June 17	What's Up in Technology for Real Estate Appraisers (7 CE)	Wayne Pugh, MAI
July 15	Aerial Inspections for Real Estate (3 CE)	Lamar Ellis
July 22	Nuances of Valuation: Cornerstone of Market Valuation (4 CE)	Vincent Dowling, MAI
September 9	Fundamental Demand Analysis Overview <b>NEW</b> (4 CE)	TBA
September 30	Getting It Right from the Start: A Workout Plan for your Scope of Work <b>NEW</b> (7 CE)	TBA
October 2	Foundations of Valuation—An Inferred Market Study (3 CE)	Vincent Dowling, MAI
November 18	Business Practice & Ethics (6 CE)	Brian J. Flynn, MAI

## 2020 Lifetime Achievement Award Recipient

**Sandra K. Adomatis, SRA**, of Punta Gorda, Florida, was honored at the September 22nd National Virtual Meeting with the **Appraisal Institute's Lifetime Achievement Award**.



The Lifetime Achievement Award is presented to an Appraisal Institute professional who demonstrates high ethical standards; has volunteered several years of service and has contributed to the Appraisal Institute on the international, national, region and/or chapter level; has served his or her community; and has contributed to the appraisal profession for at least 20 years.

Sandy was also honored to receive the 2020 Swango Award. Congratulations to Sandy on these awards, they are well-deserved. Sandy has served in many leadership positions both nationally and with the local chapter. She served as our Chapter President in 2009.

### In Memory of Richard E. Adomatis, MAI

On a very sad note, Sandy lost her loving husband Richard (Dick) Adomatis, MAI, on August 12, 2020. Dick was from Indianapolis, Indiana where he and "his guiding angel" Sandy married in 1983. Dick received his MAI designation in 1968, his master's degree from Liberty University in 1993 and an honorary Doctorate from American Bible College in 2015.

After serving in the Army, Dick started his own building business. From 1958 through 1971, he started and managed seven businesses related to the real estate industry. His appraisal business, Richard Adomatis & Associates was located in Indianapolis where most of his time was spent as an expert witness in litigation cases. Rick Borges, MAI, SRA worked for Dick on many appraisals and would tell you that Dick talked to him like a son when something just wasn't right in the report.

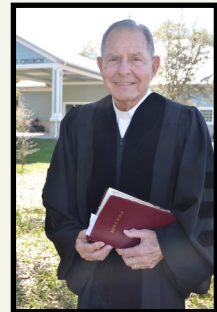
The Appraisal Institute was near and dear to Dick's heart. He was an instructor for over 18 years and served on regional committees, in addition to serving as Chair of the old Review and Counseling committee for 17 years. Dick always believed in giving back.

Dick and Sandy moved to Florida in 1992 where he planned to retire to a less stressful life. He apparently did not know how to do that. He volunteered in many community services, including the Charlotte County Symphony Board, bible teaching at several churches and fifteen years as Chaplain in Florida State prisons. He also worked activity duty for the Coast Guard, at a boat station and flying missions for station Clearwater. Dick also served as a volunteer for the Punta Gorda Police Department and a hearing officer for the Charlotte County Code Enforcement Board.



Sandy will tell you that he is the reason she has become the "Green Queen". He took great pride in seeing her succeed and was quick to tell her when she didn't meet his expectation. If you talked to him very much, you would hear all about his wife. Dick and Sandy attended the VALUEvent this year in Tallahassee and he toured the Capital with the Region Representatives and officers of the chapters. He had never been and was so excited to be a part of the group.

Dick leaves behind his wife, Sandy, six children, ten grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren and his memory will live on through them and all that have known him. As for this chapter, we were very honored to have him as part of our chapter family and will miss his smiling face at our chapter and region meetings and events. He was truly a very special man. **Rest in peace, Dick, job well done!**



## Membership Updates – Florida Gulf Coast Chapter

### New Designations:

Susan E. Alley, AI-RRS, Tampa

### New Affiliates

Elizabeth Welle, Mexico Beach

Jenny Basantes, Ft. Myers

### New Practicing Affiliate

Amy Maxwell, Gulf Breeze

Jena Olivieri, Sarasota



VERISITE

MOBILE APPRAISAL SOLUTIONS

Created by Appraisal Firewall, non-AMC residential and commercial appraisal software connecting appraisers directly with their clients.

We are excited to be working with the Appraisal Institute to bring appraisers the most complete, secure and fraud-proof home inspection offering on the market as we believe it will help to keep both appraisers and homeowners safe and secure during this pandemic." - David Chiappe, President, SharperLending LLC - the company behind Verisite and Appraisal Firewall. **For more information and to try Verisite for free, [click here](#).**

### New Featured AI Benefit

**[RealMassive DataQu](#)** - RealMassive is committed to their mission to democratize commercial real estate data. That's why they're offering **Appraisal Institute Professionals free access to their real-time data platform DataQu for the remainder of 2020.**

Visit the [AI Benefits](#) page for more information on exclusive discounts for AI Professionals

### COVID-19 Update

The Appraisal Institute has produced several summaries to help appraisers understand changes to the profession during the coronavirus crisis: See a guide of reporting format allowances and requirements recently issued by the GSEs and federal agencies:

[AI's Flexibilities Guide: Permissible Appraisal Requirements – Excel](#) (April 14, 2020) and [AI's Flexibilities Guide: Permissible Appraisal Requirements – PDF](#) (April 14, 2020).

### 2020 Committee Chairs

Candidate Guidance: Jennifer Marshall, SRA, AI-RRS  
 Bylaws: Patricia Staebler, SRA  
 Education: Julie Battaglia, MAI, AI-GRS  
 Finance: Patricia Staebler, SRA  
 Government Relations: Devon Carter, MAI

Nominating: Julie Battaglia, MAI, AI-GRS  
 Programs: Brian Zamorski, MAI  
 Public Relations: Brian Zamorski, MAI  
 University Relations: Bruce Cumming, MAI  
 Newsletter: Nancy Bacher



## Government Relations

### What's On The Ballot?

#### Here's A Look At Florida's 2020 Amendments for Property Owners

Submitted by: Michael Twitty, MAI, CFA, Pinellas County Property Appraiser

On November 3rd, Florida voters will be asked to do more than select local, state, and national leadership – they will be asked to decide on six amendments to the Florida Constitution. Two of these amendments will have an impact on property owners throughout the state.

##### **Amendment 5: Extend “Save Our Homes” Portability Period**

For many property owners, the current portability law simply does not allow enough time for owners to port their savings. To transfer the Save Our Homes benefit within two tax years (not two years from date of sale) can result in a qualifying window as narrow as one year and a day. At the Property Appraiser's Office, we not only see the detrimental impact of the current two-year port with those dealing with new construction, but also those needing to rent or move in with a relative for a year prior to buying their next home – often a result of a dissolution of marriage or other financial hardship. By changing this language in the constitution from two to three tax years, this amendment will guarantee that homesteaded property owners always receive a minimum of two years to transfer their Save Our Homes benefit, eliminating the risk of loss of these savings for most homesteaders.

I was pleased to gain support and work alongside various partners within our state's legislative leadership as well as the Property Appraisers' Association of Florida (PAAF), the Florida Association of Property Appraisers (FAPA), and the Pinellas Realtor Organization to get this constitutional amendment on the ballot. Senator Jeffrey Brandes and Representatives Rick Roth (sponsors), James Grant and Jennifer Webb (co-sponsors), supported this effort to align the state constitution with voter perception/expectation from when portability was originally approved by voters in 2008.

##### **Amendment 6: Homestead Property Tax Discount for Spouses of Deceased Veterans**

Our state legislature and Florida voters have approved surviving spouse tax discounts for disabled first responders and veterans in the past; however, one exemption had been overlooked. As such, bi-partisan state leaders and Property Appraisers worked together this year to improve and rectify this veteran related exemption benefit. *Amendment 6: Homestead Property Tax Discount for Spouses of Deceased Veterans* would allow the surviving spouse of a combat disabled veteran age 65 and over to continue to receive the veteran's exemption. Passage of Amendment 6 would align this with other surviving spouse disability exemptions for both veterans and first responders.

State House Representative Sam Killebrew introduced Amendment 6 and received co-sponsorship by Thad Altman, Dane Eagle, Randy Fine, Mike Hill, MaryLynn Magar, Richard Stark, Jennifer Webb, and Ardian Zika.

Floridians will be asked on November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020 to cast their vote on these proposed amendments to our State Constitution, which require a favorable vote of 60% to pass. For more information on these ballot measures, you can visit the Pinellas County Property Appraiser's website at [www.pcpao.org](http://www.pcpao.org).

## The AQB Adopts New Pathway for Aspiring Appraisers

The Appraisal Foundation Appraiser Qualifications Board recently adopted the Practical Applications of Real Estate Appraisal (PAREA). These new minimum Criteria provide another pathway for aspiring appraisers to fulfill their experience requirements by taking advantage of innovative technology.

“Technology is opening new doors in the appraisal profession,” said Vice President of Appraisal Issues Lisa Desmarais. “The current trainee/supervisor model can sometimes be a barrier to entry for aspiring appraisers. PAREA is not a replacement for this existing model, but it is an alternative pathway for those hoping to become appraisers to gain the required experience to join the profession. We hope state agencies will take advantage of these new minimum *Criteria* to establish more alternatives and make becoming an appraiser more accessible for anyone looking to join this growing field.”

PAREA is designed to offer practical experience in a virtual environment combining appraisal theory and methodology in real-world simulations. This experience can be provided through a wide range of online and virtual reality technologies.

Currently, aspiring appraisers must have a supervisor appraiser oversee their required trainee experience hours, but in many markets, trainees cannot find a mentor, creating a barrier to entry in the profession. This limits the number of people who can become appraisers each year. As The Appraisal Foundation looks to grow diversity in the profession, its boards will continue to explore how technology can help aspiring appraisers gain their required experience to make the appraisal industry more accessible.

**Have you tried one of our virtual ZOOM classes yet? Grab some CE with no travel involved. Check out our education schedule for all upcoming offerings!**

