

# PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Department Appoints New Property Appraisal Director**

Concord — July 24, 2008 — The Department of Revenue Administration (DRA)

The Department of Revenue Administration is pleased to announce that Stephan W. Hamilton, Certified New Hampshire Assessor, has been appointed as the Director of the Property Appraisal Division.

DRA Commissioner G. Philip Blatsos identified Mr. Hamilton's lengthy experience in the field of Real Estate Appraisal as a notable contribution Mr. Hamilton brings to this position. He commented that, "His diverse experience includes both public and private assessing, as well as his intimate involvement in the property tax appeal process includes his outstanding work with the New Hampshire Board of Tax and Land Appeals." Utilizing this extensive knowledge of property tax valuation and the system of equity to assist the public made him the right choice in the difficult replacement of the recently retired 33-year veteran of Property Appraisal, Guy Petell.

Since his appointment by the Mayor and Board of Alderman in 2003, Mr. Hamilton has served the City of Manchester as a Commercial Assessor, sharing responsibility among a three-person board for the valuation of all taxable Queen City property. Two years ago, the Governor and Executive Council appointed him as a member of the Assessing Standards Board responsible for providing guidance in the development and implementation of standard practices for assessing professionals as well as assessment guidelines in this consistently challenged area of New Hampshire law. Prior to this, Mr. Hamilton also assisted DRA with establishing standard practices for property value equalization through the Equalization Standards Board.

"Stephan Hamilton is held in high regard by the entire New Hampshire Assessing Community and the citizens he has served in the City of Manchester," remarked Commissioner Blatsos. Commissioner Blatsos further commented, "Property appraisal has become a rapidly improving area of state and local government. It takes someone with a unique skill set at the state, local, and assessing levels to continue this evolution. The Department took the time to find these qualities in a person before it filled this key position." The Department looks forward to Mr. Hamilton's fresh perspective, as well as continuity in the field of property appraisal.