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PROPERTY TAX FLOOD RELIEF EFFORTS ANNOUNCED

Austin, TX – Travis Central Appraisal District Chief Appraiser Marya Crigler and Travis County Tax Assessor-Collector Bruce Elfant announced today that property owners in declared disaster areas will benefit from provisions in the Texas Property Tax Code that allow for reappraisal of property and paying property taxes in four installments. The option to grant reappraisal has been approved by Travis County and other taxing entities are considering similar measures.

“The Property Tax Code allows us to reappraise the property at its market value immediately after the disaster resulting in prorated taxes from the date of the disaster,” says Marya Crigler. “Most property owners will only see a small decrease in their 2013 taxes because the revised value only applies to the months of November and December. As always, property will be revalued for the upcoming 2014 appraisal roll as of January 1, so if renovation has not been completed, owners will receive a reduced value from all of the taxing jurisdictions for 2014.”

Information, including an example of how the new taxes will be calculated can be found at http://www.traviscad.org/pdf/Flood_Information_20131218.pdf. Taxpayers seeking information about a specific property can contact the Travis Central Appraisal District at 512-834-9138.

“Property owners in the disaster area who are unable to pay their taxes by the January 31st deadline, have the option to pay in four installments,” says Bruce Elfant. “The installments are due on January 31st, March 31st, May 31st and July 31st.”

Of the 639 properties in the disaster area, 386 of the 2013 property tax accounts were paid by a mortgage company or the owner in the month of December, one property owner has applied for installment payments, and 252 property owners have been notified by letter of the option to apply for installment payments. Taxpayers interested in installment payments can contact the Travis County Tax office at 512-854-9473.