

# Alabama Department of Revenue

News Release

Dec. 6, 2012

## State Revenue Department Announces Senior Staff Changes

*Michael E. Mason Named Assistant State Revenue Commissioner; Joe  
Garrett, Deputy Commissioner*

Montgomery—State Revenue Commissioner Julie P. Magee recently announced the appointment of Michael E. Mason to the post of assistant state revenue commissioner, effective Dec. 1, 2012, following the retirement of Ms. Cynthia Underwood on Nov. 30, 2012. Commissioner Magee also appointed Joe W. Garrett Jr., ADOR Tax Policy Administrator, to fill the post of deputy commissioner, vacated by Mason, December 1.

Commenting on the appointments, Commissioner Magee said, “I am confident in their leadership capabilities and know they will continue to lead the department in the utmost professional and progressive way.”

Mason, a 38-year career employee, most recently served as deputy commissioner, prior to his appointment. Mason is a certified public accountant and holds a BS degree in accounting from the University of Alabama and a Master of Business Administration degree from Troy University. Most recently, he was named the 2012 recipient of the prestigious Wade Anderson Memorial Medal, awarded annually by the Multistate Tax Commission and the Federation of Tax Administrators. In 1999, he received the Outstanding Certified Public Accountant in Government Award by the Alabama Society of Certified Public Accountants.

Garrett began his career with the ADOR in 2002 as a legal and policy advisor to the commissioner of revenue. Prior to joining the department, Garrett was a manager with PricewaterhouseCoopers’ state and local tax group in Atlanta, Ga., and served as a tax consultant. Garrett holds degrees from the University of Florida Levin College of Law, the University of Alabama School of Law, and Auburn University. He is a member of both the Georgia and Alabama bar associations and is a recognized speaker at state and national tax forums and conferences. In 2012, Garrett was named to the State and Local Taxation Technical Resource Panel (TRP) of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, marking a unique distinction for the ADOR in that Alabama is currently the only state from which a state government representative was selected.

Commenting on the recent senior staff changes, Commissioner Magee said, “Ms. Underwood’s retirement brings to a close a very distinguished and accomplished career in state government. She will indeed be missed,” said Magee. “I am confident that both Mr. Mason and Mr. Garrett will continue to lead the department with the same

dedication to taxpayer service as Ms. Underwood and look for new opportunities to improve our service commitment to Alabama taxpayers,” said Magee.

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**Media contact for more information:**

ADOR Media Affairs Office: Carla A. Snellgrove or Carolyn G. Blackstock:  
(334) 242-1390; FAX: (334) 242-0550

[www.revenue.alabama.gov](http://www.revenue.alabama.gov)