

Alabama Department of Revenue

News Release
June 18, 2001

Cowen Named State Sales, Use, and Business Tax Division Director

Montgomery—State Revenue Commissioner Michael L. Patterson recently announced the appointment of Joe Cowen as director of the Alabama Department of Revenue Sales, Use, & Business Tax Division. Cowen was named director following the May 31, 2001, retirement of former Director Ernest J. Broadhead.

As director of the Sales, Use, & Business Tax Division, Cowen will oversee the administration and collection of some \$2.6 billion annually in tax revenue, including sales, use, utility gross receipts, lodgings, gasoline, motor fuels, rental and leasing, and tobacco taxes.

Cowen, a 27-year career employee, began his career with the Revenue Department in 1974 as a Revenue field examiner. In 1984, he was named assistant field activities supervisor and served in that capacity until 1988, when he was named hearings officer. In 1997, he became supervisor of the division's Field Operations Section and held that position until his appointment as director June 16, 2001.

“Joe brings years of valuable experience to the post of director, first as an auditor and then as a manager,” said State Revenue Commissioner Michael L. Patterson. “His designation as a certified public manager in 1992 further attests to his professional dedication and service commitment to tax administration. We welcome Joe to our senior management team.”

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Media contact for more information: ADOR Media Affairs Office:

Carla A. Snellgrove or Carolyn Blackstock: (334) 242-1390; FAX: (334) 242-0550

WEB site address: www.ador.state.al.us