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### For Immediate Release

**Chatham County, GA (March 20, 2026)** - The Chatham County Board of Assessors has named Acting Chief Appraiser Corey Gillenwater as the permanent Chief Appraiser, taking on the leading role in the department after three years of on-the-job training.

Gillenwater, who has served as the acting Chief Appraiser for the Chatham County Board of Assessors for the last three years, has been with the County since 2012.

Gillenwater first came to the department as a computer services technician, served as a quality control administrator, then served as deputy chief appraiser before becoming acting chief appraiser in 2023.

Board of Assessors Chairman Terry Tolbert said those years of dedication earned Gillenwater, a native Savannahian, his new post. Tolbert said Gillenwater's expertise in the technology utilized by the Board of Assessors will prove invaluable as the department continues to modernize in the years to come.

"He has been patient. We wanted to be certain that he could pass the test of time," Tolbert said. "He has spoken before County Commission, he leads the team, but he didn't just get the job and then stop. He kept studying and studying."

Gillenwater prides himself on being able to make complex topics easy to understand. He said his role is to make the rules for exemptions and appraisals clear, and help residents navigate the process.

"I'm going to be honest about it, and I'm going to be fair. There are laws to be followed for our work, and that's exactly what we're going to do. We have a responsibility to everybody, and no matter who you are, you're going to be treated with respect by us," Gillenwater said. "Somebody has to do this job. I want people to be glad it's me doing it."

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