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## Assessor, 1st Municipal District

### Darren Mire

**NAME:** Darren Mire

**CONTACT INFORMATION FOR PUBLICATION:**

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**Website:** <http://www.opba1md.com>

**PARTY AFFILIATION:** Democrat

**PROFESSION:** Assessor

**PRESENT EMPLOYER/POSITION:** Orleans Parish Board of Assessors/Assessor-1st Municipal District

**HIGHEST LEVEL OF EDUCATION:** Masters of Professional Studies, August 2001

**APPLICABLE TRAINING:**

10 years in the property tax/appraisal field before being elected as Assessor in 2002

Real Estate Sales License from the Uptown Professional Real Estate School

Completed coursework to become a Certified Louisiana Assessor (CLA)

By years end, will have completed coursework for Certified Assessment Evaluator (CAE) from the International Association of Assessing Officers (AAO)

Property Tax Instructor for Lorman Education Services

**CIVIC EXPERIENCE:**

New Orleans Regional Leadership Institute (NORLI) 2005

Stuart Hall School Board of Trustees 2004-Present

Louisiana Children's Museum, Board of Directors 2004-Present

WYES-TV, Board of Trustees 2003-Present

Jesuit High School President's Advisory Council 2003-Present

International Association of Assessing Officers 2002-Present

Louisiana Assessors' Association 2002-Present

Board of Directors (2004)

Second Harvesters Food Bank, Board of Directors 2001-Present

Young Leadership Council 1992-Present

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President (2000)  
 Vice President of Projects (1999)  
 Board of Directors (1998-2001)  
 Boys To Men Mentor Program 1992-Present  
 President, 1995-96  
 Dryades YMCA Board of Directors 1992-Present  
 Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. (New Orleans Alumni) 1987-Present  
 Central City Housing Development Corporation, Board of Directors  
 1998-2002  
 Central City Economic Opportunity Corporation, Board of Directors  
 1996-2002  
 Committee For A Better New Orleans, Board of Directors 2000-2001  
 Co-chair, City Management and Finance Task Force  
 Forever Our Children, Inc, Role Model 2000-2001  
 New Orleans Outreach, Board of Directors 1998-2001  
 Vice President (2001)  
 Metropolitan Area Committee (MAC) Leadership Forum 1995  
**POLITICAL EXPERIENCE:** Elected Assessor, Orleans Parish - 1st  
 Municipal District, 2002  
**POLITICAL ORGANIZATION MEMBERSHIPS:** None

**1. If you are elected to this office, will you work to consolidate the seven assessor offices into one office with sufficient resources and staff?**

Yes. As a public servant, I'm not opposed to the people having a say as to whether they want one assessor or seven assessors. I like the wording of this question because the key caveat to moving to a one assessor system is to make sure that the office is adequately funded. Currently, all seven assessment districts are under funded, compared to the budgets of other assessment offices of the same size nationwide. So, consolidating them would just mean that the one assessor in Orleans Parish would be under funded. However, much of the discussion around the one assessor bill that was in front of the legislature in February was portrayed as a cost saving measure, when in fact; no cost savings will be made by going to a one assessor system. The money will be saved, initially in salaries, but will be reallocated to fund various appraisers, computer technicians, etc.

**2. If you are elected, will you pledge to be trained as a Certified Assessor Evaluator or Appraisal Supervisor to meet the standards set by the International Association of Assessing Officers?**

Yes. I've worked diligently toward this designation during my tenure. I have to complete IAAO course 311, which will be taken in May 2006 and a final appraisal project in order to complete my CAE designation. Part of the requirements for a CAE designation is that you have to be an Assessor for 5 years. I have a strong chance of

getting this requirement waived due to my extensive experience in the property tax field before I became Assessor. Getting my CAE designation will be one of the highlights of my professional life, potentially making me the only sitting Assessor in the State of Louisiana with this designation.

**3. Will you agree to publish a list of exempt properties annually?**

Currently, lists of exempt properties are published annually as part of the assessment roll. These properties are, and always have been a part of the roll and can be found on the published roll at my office and on my website [www.opba1md.com](http://www.opba1md.com) or on the Orleans Parish Board of Assessors website, [www.opboa.org](http://www.opboa.org).

**4. How will the staff training and the data entry necessary for the new computer system be funded?**

The new computer system is already paid for. It was paid for with the pro rata share of each tax recipient body in Orleans Parish. The funding for the training for the new Computer Assisted Mass Appraisal (CAMA) system is being paid for by the Orleans Parish Board of Assessors. The big issue now is the data collection to populate the fields in the CAMA system. The lowest price quoted to complete the data collection is \$12,960,000. This data collection will include all the measuring and physical characteristics of each parcel city-wide. In order for the cost, income and market approach valuations to take place in CAMA, it is important that the data collection process gets funded as soon as possible. If we were going to be on the cutting edge of fixing our assessment system and taking the personality out of the assessment process. I believe that the state legislature has to look into a way to get this data collection funded because currently the City of New Orleans, post Katrina, cannot afford the amount of money it takes to have this done the right way.

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*Comments, suggestions, questions? Contact our [webmaster](#). Last revised: May 26, 2006 07:52 PDT.*

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