

Texas Department of Banking

Press Release

Banking Commissioner Names Kurt Purdom as Director of Bank and Trust Supervision

Date: April 17, 2007

Randall S. James, Texas Banking Commissioner, announces the appointment of W. Kurt Purdom to Director of Bank and Trust Supervision. The appointment is effective immediately.

As Director of Bank and Trust Supervision, Mr. Purdom will be responsible for supervising the operations of the largest division within the agency with over 100 employees. The Bank and Trust Division is charged with the supervision and regulation of Texas' 322 state-chartered commercial banks, which control approximately \$89 billion in total assets, foreign bank agencies with \$23 billion in assets, and trust companies with \$28 billion in assets. Mr. Purdom will work closely with the directors of the four regional offices located in Dallas, Houston, Lubbock, and San Antonio.

"Kurt's 25 years of experience with the agency and his background as a bank regulator make him well-suited for this position. I appreciate his hard work, positive attitude and willingness to undertake new challenges," stated Commissioner James.

Mr. Purdom is originally from Angleton, Texas, and is a graduate of Texas A&M University in College Station, and The Graduate School of Banking at Colorado. He began his employment with the Department in 1982 as an Assistant Examiner, and progressed through the ranks as a field examiner in Houston during one of the most severe economic downturns that Texas has experienced. In 1992, he was promoted to Regional Director of the Austin Region. Mr. Purdom has served as the Director of Strategic Support and Ombudsman for the Department since 2003, with primary responsibility over the agency's strategic planning, policy development, legislative testimony, examination support functions, staff training, published reports, and consumer assistance activities.

Mr. Purdom replaces Mr. Robert Bacon who was named Deputy Commissioner in December 2006. A successor to Mr. Purdom as Director of Strategic Support has not yet been named.