NEWS RELEASE April 13, 2010

MASON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS 411 NORTH 5[™] ST SHELTON, WA 98584 (360) 427-9670 EXT. 419

TO: KMAS, KRXY, SHELTON-MASON COUNTY JOURNAL, THE OLYMPIAN, SHELTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, NORTH MASON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, CITY OF SHELTON, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, THE SUN

RE: Mason County Board of Equalization Member

The Board of Mason County Commissioners is seeking applications from community members who are interested in serving on the Mason County Board of Equalization and reside in Mason County.

The Board of Equalization is a three-member board that is appointed by the Mason County Commissioners and one alternate member. It is the Board's responsibility to ensure that all properties are valued on an equal level at 100% of market value.

Taxpayers may appeal the property assessments, including assessments of real and personal property, forest land, timber and open space. The Board also considers appeals of senior citizen property tax exemptions denials. Taxpayers can file a petition with the Board of Equalization and a hearing shall be scheduled to present his/her case.

Although the number of appeals and hearings vary from year to year, the Board meets up to two days a week as needed throughout the year. In 2009, the Board met approximately 27 days.

The successful applicant is required to attend training by the Washington State Department of Revenue, as required by RCW 84.48.042, within one year of appointment or reappointment.

Interested parties may obtain an application at the Mason County Commissioners' Office, 411 North 5th Street, Shelton, or by calling 427-9670, ext. 419 or visit the Mason County website at <u>www.co.mason.wa.us</u>. Applications will be accepted until April 30, 2010.

BOARD OF MASON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Ross Gallagher Chair Tim Sheldon Commissioner Lynda Ring-Erickson Commissioner