



# Helping the Magistrate Understand You



IAAO TPP Conference

January 14, 2010

Tammy Blackburn, ASA  
TPP Special Magistrate

# Can you be sure?

- ◆ Has the Magistrate understood your testimony and evidence?
- ◆ Has the Magistrate considered all of your key points?
- ◆ How can you communicate more effectively?

# Topics

- ◆ The Magistrate's burden
- ◆ The VAB hearing
- ◆ Hearing Do's and Don'ts
- ◆ Preparing for the hearing

# The Magistrate's Burden

- ◆ The recommendation to the VAB addresses:
  - PA's POC (F.S. 193.011, appraisal practices)
  - Petitioner's burden (just value, arbitrarily based)
  - Competent, substantial evidence of value
- ◆ In addition....
  - **List of evidence**
  - **State each side's position**

# VAB Hearing

- ◆ Focus on why we are here
  - To arrive at just value
  - To assist the Magistrate in making a recommendation

# VAB Hearing Do's & Don'ts

- ◆ Do: Clear & Concise
  - Don't: Random facts, “weighing the evidence”
- ◆ Do: Expose Petitioner's errors
  - Don't: Argue with Petitioner
- ◆ Do: Consider Petitioner's evidence
  - Don't: Be overly dismissive, wait until hearing

# Hearing Prep Checklist

- ◆ **Did you review prior VAB recommendations by this Magistrate?**
- ◆ Do you have a testimony summary?
- ◆ Can you explain your methodology / source data?
- ◆ Are your arguments supported by evidence?
- ◆ Do you know the Petitioner's argument?
- ◆ Do you know the weaknesses of the Petitioner's argument or evidence?



# Questions?