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## **Lincoln's Lew Watson Honored as Appraisal Institute's 'Volunteer of Distinction'**

CHICAGO (Dec. 7, 2011) – Carroll L. "Lew" Watson, SRA, of Lincoln, Ala., was recognized today as the Appraisal Institute's December "Volunteer of Distinction" for Region IX.

The Appraisal Institute is the nation's largest professional association of real estate appraisers; Region IX consists of Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina and Tennessee. Watson is a member of the Alabama Chapter.

"Lew Watson is an example of the outstanding individuals who belong to the Appraisal Institute," said Appraisal Institute President Joseph C. Magdziarz, MAI, SRA. "We're proud of the contributions Lew and all our members make to our organization, to the real estate valuation profession and to the communities where they work and live."

Watson was elected to the Board of Directors of the Alabama Chapter for 2012, served as alternate regional representative in 2010, admissions chair-residential in 2009 and chair of the Government Relations Committee for the Alabama Chapter in 2006, 2010 and 2011. In his role as chair of the Government Relations Committee, he worked with the Alabama Appraisers Board on passage of legislation to regulate appraisal management companies. He became a member of the Appraisal Institute in 1995 and earned his SRA designation in 2008.

He has been owner of Talladega Appraisal in Talladega, Ala. since 1997 and has been involved in the real estate valuation industry for 18 years. He earned his bachelor's degree from the University of Alabama and his juris doctor from the Birmingham School of Law.

In his community, he served as chairman of the East Alabama Regional Planning and Development Commission, president of the Alabama League of Municipalities, chairman of ALMs Committee on State and Federal Legislation and member of its Finance Committee.

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*The Appraisal Institute is a global membership association of professional real estate appraisers, with more than 24,000 members and 91 chapters throughout the world. Its mission is to advance professionalism and ethics, global standards, methodologies, and practices through the professional development of property economics worldwide. Organized in 1932, the Appraisal Institute advocates equal opportunity and nondiscrimination in the appraisal profession and conducts its activities in accordance with applicable federal, state and local laws. Members of the Appraisal Institute benefit from an array of professional education and advocacy programs, and may hold the prestigious MAI, SRPA and SRA designations. Learn more at [www.appraisalinstitute.org](http://www.appraisalinstitute.org).*

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