



TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE

JERRY PATTERSON, COMMISSIONER

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MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Patterson to cut ribbon on Seawall's first wheelchair ramp *11 a.m. Thursday, March 27th at 57th Street and Seawall Blvd.*

AUSTIN — Jerry Patterson, Commissioner of the Texas General Land Office, is set to cut the ribbon on the Galveston Seawall's first wheelchair access ramp at 11 a.m. Friday, March 27 at 5627 Seawall Blvd.

The ramp, located across Seawall Boulevard from the Galveston Island Convention Center, will provide the first access point for the mobility impaired along the 10-mile long seawall since it was built in 1902.

“The Galveston Seawall won't be a barrier to the disabled anymore,” Patterson said. “Everyone should be able to enjoy a day at one of the best beaches in Texas.”

Galveston Mayor Lyda Ann Thomas, Galveston County Judge Jim Yarbrough and other elected officials from the city, county and Galveston Island Park Board of Trustees will join Patterson to dedicate the new ramp.

Brent Novelli, the director of the Turning Point Gulf Coast Chapter's 12th Annual Drum Fishing Tournament — an annual fishing tournament for disabled sportsmen — will speak at the dedication and be among the first to roll down to the beach.

Constructed after the great hurricane of 1900, in which more than 6,000 Texans died, the Galveston Seawall has grown into a protective barrier that's never been topped by a storm. The wall is about 17 feet high and 16 feet thick at its base.

WHO: Jerry Patterson, Commissioner of the Texas General Land Office
WHAT: Ribbon-cutting for the Galveston Seawall's first wheelchair ramp
WHEN: 11 a.m. Friday, March 27
WHERE: 5627 Seawall Blvd., Galveston Texas (across from the Convention Center)
WHY: To open up beach access for the disabled along the Galveston Seawall

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