
WALT SMITH

FOUNDER & PRESIDENT
THE MALLARD GROUP

First elected by the citizens of Hays County in 2018 Walt Smith is currently serving his second term as the Hays County Texas Commissioner for precinct four representing Dripping Springs, Driftwood and portions of Buda. He also serves as a county representative to the West Travis County public utility authority, the Dripping Springs tax increment reinvestment zones (TIRZ), the Council of Urban Counties, and a member of the Texas Capitol Area council of governments clean air coalition. His precinct is the fastest growing area of the fastest growing county in the United States.

After completing an undergraduate and masters degree from Texas A&M, University, Walt moved to Washington, DC and began a job with the House Agriculture Committee. He went on to serve in both personal and committee offices for several members of Congress as well as an appointee for the George W. Bush Administration.

As founder and president of The Mallard Group, Walt uses his skills, experience and work ethic to develop nonprofit associations and give a voice to those whose voices are seldom heard in government. His signature projects include preserving the hunting and fishing heritage in Texas, protecting local water supplies, improving rural water systems and advancing food and agriculture research. He also works to promote Texas job growth and support recovery efforts for victims of childhood sex trafficking.

In addition, Walt serves as chief executive officer for the National Association for Agriculture and Food Policy, the chief financial officer for the National Association for the Advancement of Animal Sciences, and previously oversaw strategic out reach for the National Rural Water Association.

Walt served as the treasurer for Texans United for Hunting and Fishing Rights, which he organized to pass proposition six in 2015, which amended the Texas constitution to protect the right to hunt and fish, as well as other private property rights for landowners. He has served as a convention delegate for the Republican Party and as a founding member of the Republican Legislative Priorities Committee for Texas for the last six years.

Twice nominated for Hometown Hero, he is active in his community. He has also been recognized as a top 20 "Rising Star" in the Texas lobby rankings and most recently as a Texas Top 10 Elected Official for his founding of the Hays County Adult Sexual Response Task Force.

Walt resides in Driftwood, Texas with his wife Kelly and his three daughters Margaux, Eliza and Vivian.

