



# ***NEWS RELEASE***

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: November 5, 2010**

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## **For Real Estate Matters, California Department of Real Estate Web Site is a Must See for Consumers**

SACRAMENTO – The California State Department of Real Estate (DRE), whose mission is to safeguard and promote the public interests in real estate matters, is involved in an ongoing process of updating its web site to ensure consumers and real estate professionals have access to critical and essential information to successfully navigate through the challenges of today’s real estate market.

“The landscape in the real estate market has changed dramatically over the past five years and providing important and current information is critical for consumers to make sound and informed decisions,” stated Real Estate Commissioner Jeff Davi. “The DRE’s web site gives consumers the tools they need to avoid scams, check out the license status of real estate agents and brokers, and learn about new laws and regulations,” added Davi.

The DRE’s web site has real time licensing information to allow consumers to verify the license status and disciplinary history of the 470,000 active real estate licensees as well as the millions of previously licensed persons and companies. Valuable information on the foreclosure process and how to avoid loan modification scams and short sale fraud is also available with a few clicks of the mouse. Recently posted information, brochures, and Consumer Alerts include:

- Surviving the Real Estate “Escrow” Process in California
- A Homeowner’s Guide to Foreclosure in California
- Updated Alert Regarding Forensic Loan Audits
- Consumer and Industry Warning on False and Misleading Designations and Claims of Special Expertise
- “Cash for Keys” – Information for Consumers and DRE Licensees
- Warning Regarding Residential “Short” Sales
- Warning Regarding Advance Fees and Loan Modification Services
- FAQs on the New Mortgage Loan Originator Licensing Requirements
- Real Estate Exam Availability
- Disciplinary Actions Involving Loan Modification Companies and Short Sale Fraud
- Current Issue of the Real Estate Bulletin
- Monthly Disciplinary Actions

It is easy to keep current with all the latest information by subscribing to the DRE’s Real Simple Syndication (RSS) feed [http://www.dre.ca.gov/gen\\_rss.html](http://www.dre.ca.gov/gen_rss.html) or connecting with the DRE via Twitter [http://twitter.com/DRE\\_RealEstate](http://twitter.com/DRE_RealEstate). Subscribers will be alerted to updates and news flashes the instant they occur. To view Consumer Alerts, visit: [http://www.dre.ca.gov/cons\\_alerts.html](http://www.dre.ca.gov/cons_alerts.html).

Visit DRE’s web site [www.dre.ca.gov](http://www.dre.ca.gov) today to learn more and stay current in real estate matters.