



# ***NEWS RELEASE***

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## **DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE FINANCIAL LITERACY TARGETS CALIFORNIANS**

SACRAMENTO - The California Department of Real Estate has joined with NID-HCA (The National Association of Real Estate Brokers –Investment Division, Inc. Housing Counseling Agency), to produce a HUD approved four-hour DRE financial literacy course and an integrated eight-hour financial literacy education workshop scheduled to launch in April 2011 designated as Financial Literacy Month in California. NID-HCA, a HUD approved housing counseling agency since 1995, that operates in 22 states and 75 housing markets across the country, will start offering the courses at NID-HCA offices nationwide.

The DRE financial literacy course titled “Financial Sense to White Picket Fence” is authored by Chris Sorenson of H.E.L.P. Homeownership Education Learning Program and educates consumers on budgeting, saving, renting, basic landlord-tenant law, the home buying process, understanding mortgage loan documents, creative financing, reverse mortgages, and the importance of maintaining good credit scores.

“We are very pleased that we were able to partner with NID-HCA to produce such an important course,” stated Real Estate Commissioner Jeff Davi. “This course will give consumers the tools they need to make informed financial decisions and avoid some of the traps of the past,” added Davi.

Ms. Jacqueline Carlisle, Executive Director of the NID-HCA, based in northern California announced the launch date of the new financial literacy education course on April 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> during a national training of its key housing counseling branches in California and across the country. Ms. Carlisle said, “We are pleased to join the California Department of Real Estate in promoting the Financial Literacy program among our network of constituency groups.”

For additional information please go to the NID-HCA website at [www.nidonline.org](http://www.nidonline.org) or [www.makingyourhomeaffordable.org](http://www.makingyourhomeaffordable.org) or you can also go to the DRE website at [www.dre.ca.gov](http://www.dre.ca.gov) and click the Financial Literacy icon.

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