

News Release



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS
The Voice For Real Estate®

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NAR Presents Realtor® Frederick Prassas with Distinguished Service Award

NEW ORLEANS (November 8, 2010) – Frederick Prassas, a Realtor® from La Crosse, Wis., has received the National Association of Realtors® 2010 Distinguished Service Award. Out of 1.1 million Realtors® no more than two are recognized with this award each year. The recipients are announced during NAR's annual REALTORS® Conference & Expo.

NAR established the DSA in 1979 to honor Realtors® who have made outstanding contributions to the real estate industry and are recognized as leaders in their local communities. The award is considered the highest honor an NAR member can receive; recipients must be active at the local, state and national association levels, but must not have served as NAR president. NAR President Vicki Cox Golder presented the award to Prassas.

“Frederick Prassas is a Realtor® greatly deserving of the Distinguished Service Award,” said Golder, owner of Vicki L. Cox & Associates in Tucson, Ariz. “Throughout his career Frederick has worked tirelessly to bridge the relationship between commercial and residential Realtors®. Because of his hard work Frederick has made significant changes and accomplishments within NAR as a whole and throughout the real estate industry.”

Prassas has been a Realtor® for 34 years and is currently the 2010-2011 vice-president for the La Crosse Area Realtor® Association. In 1992 Prassas served as the president of the Wisconsin Association of Realtors®. An active Certified Property Manager, Prassas is the co-founder of PMC Management Group, a Wisconsin investment property management firm with offices in La Crosse, Hudson and Wisconsin Dells.

“I am extremely honored to accept the Distinguished Service Award,” said Prassas. “Throughout my years as a Realtor® I have worked alongside many talented professionals throughout the country and each time I am reminded of the many ways Realtors® build and strengthen communities. I am more proud than ever to be a part of a profession and organization that values homeownership, communities and ultimately improves people's quality of life.”

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Throughout his involvement with NAR Prassas has been an active liaison between commercial and residential members. As the Chair of the Commercial & Investment Committee in 1999 Prassas was an important part of creating the Realtor[®] Commercial Alliance. Through RCA Prassas has helped lead efforts to engage commercial Realtors[®] in NAR governance. Prassas also chaired numerous NAR committees including the Communications Committee, RCA Committee Special Working Group, Property Management Forum and Housing Needs. In 1994 Prassas served as a regional vice president for Region 7 which includes Illinois, Indiana and Wisconsin.

In 2006 Prassas served as the president of the Institute of Real Estate Management. In addition to serving all leadership roles at IREM, Prassas chaired five committees including the CEO Search where he was a part of the hiring process for IREM's current CEO. A significant factor in the selection criteria for Prassas was a candidate that would enhance IREM's relationship with NAR, and inspire members to work collaboratively in the best interest of the members. Prassas also served as the IREM representative to several NAR committees over the years and was recently selected by IREM to author a college textbook on real estate finance for property managers.

Awarded the Wisconsin Realtor[®] of the Year Award in 1997, Prassas is also active in his state association, the Wisconsin Association of Realtors[®]. Serving almost every position, Prassas was a district vice president in 1986, state treasurer in 1990, president-elect in 1991 and finally president in 1992. At the local level Prassas designed the La Crosse Realtor[®] Association's first newsletter and oversaw the first MLS computerized database in 1986.

Prassas has been a member of the Board of Advisors of the Graaskamp Center for Urban Land Economics Research at the University of Wisconsin–Madison since its founding in 1992. From 2008-2009 Prassas served on a Curriculum Advisory Board for the University of Wisconsin–Stout helping develop a curriculum leading to a Bachelor of Science degree in Property Management – one of only three such degrees in the U.S. Prassas is also an Assistant Professor at UW-Stout in the School of Hospitality Leadership, teaching courses in property management, ethics, market analysis and finance.

The National Association of Realtors[®], “The Voice for Real Estate,” is America's largest trade association, representing 1.1 million members involved in all aspects of the residential and commercial real estate industries.

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Information about NAR is available at www.realtor.org. News releases are posted in the Web site's “News Media” section in the NAR Media Center.