

## ***What is the REALTOR® Association?***

When you join as a member of the Phoenix Association of REALTORS® you will be a part of the REALTOR® organization consisting of the Phoenix Association of REALTORS®, the Arizona Association of REALTORS® and the National Association of REALTORS®. You will be a member of one of the largest local trade Associations in the Valley of the Sun, one of the largest trade Associations in Arizona, and the world's largest trade Association serving 750,000 members in 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam and the US Virgin Islands.

The voice of the REALTOR® organization is clear and powerful, speaking out on issues that affect and shape the real estate industry -- locally, statewide and nationally.

By joining, you voluntarily pledge to abide by the REALTOR® Code of Ethics sets you apart from other licensees who are not members and have not pledged themselves to such a personal obligation. Your adherence to the Code provides important assurance to the public of your integrity and professionalism.

As a member, you will be licensed to use one or more of the federally registered membership marks of the Association, depending on the membership you have chosen.

The professional Association -- local, state and national -- will provide you with specially-designed education, services and opportunities to enhance your ability and opportunity to conduct business successfully and ethically, and network with professionals like yourself throughout the nation.

The Association represents members in all real estate specialties, promoting the highest level of integrity, professionalism and fair business practices. The Association also welcomes a large number of Affiliate members, made up of related businesses -- from title companies, mortgage companies, financial institutions, home warranty and inspection companies to photographers, printers, pool services, pest control and roofing companies.

Collectively, the REALTOR® Association is a voice multiplied over 750,000 times! That voice should never go unheard. It is a voice that speaks for you. Your membership in this great organization will always be a valuable professional asset for you.

## ***What is the history of the Phoenix Association of REALTORS®?***

The National Association of REALTORS® was founded in Chicago in 1908 by 120 individuals representing 19 local real estate boards and one state Association. At that time it was called the National Association of Real Estate Boards. NAR adopted its Code of Ethics at its annual convention in 1913, which has continued to be revised throughout the years to accurately address the changing face of the industry. In 1916, NAR adopted the term REALTOR® to describe its members. It is a registered membership mark that may be used only by licensees who are members of the National Association of REALTORS® and subscribe to its Code of Ethics. There are strict guidelines for the use of the registered REALTOR® membership mark and logo.

The Phoenix Association of REALTORS® was organized in 1896 as the Maricopa County Real Estate Association. Early in the 20th century, it reorganized as the Phoenix Real Estate Board. During World War I, the Board discontinued active programs. The Association was revived early in 1918 and F. Webb Griffen was named president. The Phoenix Real Estate Board, now known as the Phoenix Association of REALTORS®, was chartered by NAR as a member board in 1918, recognizing it as an example of the REALTOR® concept and organizational intent, and has been in continuous operation since that time. PAR's territory originally encompassed all of Maricopa County. The Arizona Association of REALTORS® was chartered by NAR in 1945. PAR's Executive Officer at the time also served as AAR's Executive Officer through the mid-1940s. Incorporated in 1946, PAR accepted a charter from the new Arizona Association in 1948. In 1946, PAR initiated a multiple listing system, and later in the late '70s and early '80s was a leader in the regionalization of MLS and the creation of the Arizona Regional Multiple Listing Service (ARMLS).

PAR has been in the forefront of the REALTOR® Code of Ethics. In the mid-1940's, PAR created the REALTOR® Court of Ethics, the nation's first systematic method of enforcing the REALTOR® Code of Ethics. Although it has been refined into today's modern hearing system and procedures, its concept spread to every Board in the nation and to Boards internationally.

PAR has been successful in protecting and molding the real estate industry in our state. In 1962, PAR masterminded the successful campaign to get an amendment added to the Arizona State Constitution, allowing real estate licensees to create real estate contracts. The amendment was offered in response to a court decision declaring that real estate licensees could not create legal contracts unless they were licensed as attorneys. After a spirited public campaign waged against the Bar Association, PAR was victorious.

During each year of its long history, PAR has actively taken its part in the development of the city of Phoenix and the state of Arizona. Tax rates, zoning laws, civic improvements and all other major areas of city activity have been constructively affected by the participation of our Association's volunteers and staff.

General excellence, effective leadership, cooperative effort, excellent service and responsible participation in community affairs are the hallmarks of the Phoenix Association of REALTORS® and make it an important and respected part of the community today.