

prep

Property Records
Education Partners

"WORKING TOGETHER"

Property Records Education Partners (PREP)

[PREP Newsletter](#)

Volume 4, mid-October 2010

PRIA Membership is Important in Difficult Economic Times

There is little doubt that we live in challenging times and because of this we are required to make difficult choices. Fortunately we are hearing from our members who remember why they chose to [join PRIA](#) in the first place and it is exactly the same reason it's the best association to stay with. PRIA develops standards and best practices for the land records industry that can assist you with doing more with less. PREP Chapters on the other hand serve as an important educational tool on how to adopt PRIA standards and best practices. In addition, PREP provides a forum to communicate and exchange industry related issues at the local level. ([Read more information about how PRIA can help](#)).

That means that those of us involved get a chance to be at the table to affect far reaching, long-term decisions about technology, best practices and standards that affect our business models and streamlines service delivery to our constituents. Suzanne Henderson, Tarrant County Clerk, commented that she would not have had the confidence or understanding necessary to incorporate eRecording or other technologies in her county if she had not joined PRIA. And if that had not occurred she wouldn't have engaged her business partners that make recording in Tarrant County economical and efficient for the taxpayers. To her that would have been a lost opportunity to do her job in the best possible way. We think these words are profound and many of us in both government and business can relate to the value of being at the table with a unique association like PRIA. If you're not already a PRIA member, please consider joining and by all means if you are a PRIA member, stay connected. There is so much opportunity ahead that will change the landscape of the property records industry and we need to maintain the strong foundation that currently exists and allows us to develop the work products that benefit the industry.



Links to National News

[Mortgage Rates Drift to New Record Lows](#) - "The 30-year, fixed-rate mortgage posted another record low in two weekly surveys. The **Freddie Mac** Primary Mortgage Market Survey reported the average



Examples of PRIA's Products

["How to get Ready for eRecording"](#)

["Privacy and Land Records"](#)

[\(other PRIA Standards and Publications\)](#)

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Upcoming PREP Chapter Meetings

October and November
Metro Minnesota
So Florida
CaliforniaCoreGroup
Nebraska
Texas - No Central
SE Minnesota
Central Florida
Colorado

rate for a 30-year fixed-rate mortgage at 4.27%... This is the lowest rate the survey has recorded since its inception in 1971."

[U.S. Counties see Big Benefits from Integrated Land Information](#) -

"Reduced operating costs, faster data access, more accurate records and new revenue sources are just a few of the benefits counties can expect after they integrate their land records systems."

[Bernanke speaks: What to Expect from Fed Chairman](#) -

"Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke gives an important speech at the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston Friday morning on monetary policy in a low-inflation environment - important because it comes just a few weeks before the Fed's next policy meeting and because the time is ripe for him to lay out his thinking on the Fed's next steps more clearly."

[Washington Policy Makers Resist Calls for a Big Fix in Foreclosure Crisis](#) -

"Washington policy makers, who moved swiftly to calm markets during the subprime mortgage crisis in 2008, have resisted calls for similarly broad steps in response to concern that banks may have acted illegally to seize homes."

[New Day for Home Builders](#) -

"Some home builders that collapsed during the early years of the housing bust are emerging from bankruptcy with less debt, choice land holdings and sharpened business plans, giving them a competitive advantage."

PREP Chapter News

In this newsletter volume, we'll be highlighting [North Central Texas](#), [SW Minnesota](#) and [Missouri](#) PREP Chapters. ([Read complete article](#))

[North Central Texas PREP](#), Co-chairs: Suzanne Henderson, Government - shenderson@tarrantcounty.com and Doug Hollowell, Business - doug@integritytc.com

This chapter met on October 8 and passed the torch from the original Government co-chair Suzanne Henderson, Tarrant County Clerk to Stacey Kemp, Collin County Clerk beginning in 2011. Suzanne, due to retire at the end of 2010, is a long time faithful IACREOT, PRIA and NACRC member who also enthusiastically served as an originating PREP Co-chair for almost five years in her part of Texas. A great deal of focus in her chapter was on understanding and implementing eRecording. The Chapter also has taken advantage of the PRIA tools and programs available to them and has had presentations from the FBI/Mortgage Fraud program and from visiting PRIA Past Presidents. The Chapter was also instrumental in bringing together the Texas Clerks and the local title industry partners to pass legislation affecting fees for eRecording. The meeting on October 8 covered relevant legislative updates, included a presentation/panel

E Central Missouri
Washington

Contact Information

Do you have questions or suggestions on this newsletter or any updated information on co-chairs, emails, phone numbers etc. please contact us:

[Carolyn Ableman](#)
PREP Coordinator

[Mark Monacelli](#)
PRIA PREP Committee Co-Chair
Recorder
St Louis County, Minnesota

[Justin Ailes](#)
PRIA PREP Committee Co-Chair
ALTA, Director of Government
Affairs

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discussion on electronic public access to official public records by several county clerks, and also included a presentation by John Warren, Dallas County Clerk on "The Dallas County Records Building Flood of 2010". Diane Mickunas-Ries, from Manatron, will assist Doug Hollowell in his duties as PREP Business co-chair.

SW Minnesota PREP, Co-chairs: Julie Kalkbrenner, Government - julie.kalkbrenner@co.kandiyohi.mn.us; Gail Miller, Government - gail.m@co.renville.mn.us; and Marilyn Rusch, Business - marilyn@mcleodtitle.com

SW Minnesota PREP focused their September 23 meeting on the FBI/Mortgage Fraud presentation by Ann Raymer. There was a good turnout for this meeting and a good panel discussion on all aspects of mortgage fraud and the FBI's current involvement in the area. Surveys were sent to the participants with a large amount of interest from new private sector members in staying involved with this PREP Chapter.

East Central Missouri PREP, Co-chairs: Shawn Hennessee, Government - hennesha@jacksongov.org and John Winkler, Business - jwinkler@us-title.com

East Central Missouri held a meeting on September 9 and focused on recent legislative changes affecting mechanics liens. Panelists discussing these changes included: a counsel representative from Old Republic Title, an attorney, the Director of Government Relations for the Site Improvement Association, a representative from the Missouri Land Title Association, the Boone County Recorder, and the President of the Agents of National Title Insurance.
