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Richard Crouch Recognized as APR Distressed Property Certified Agent

Richard Crouch of Alain Pinel Realtors (APR) Saratoga has completed comprehensive training to become an APR Distressed Property Certified Agent. APR Distressed Property Certified Agents are well-informed real estate professionals with specific understanding of foreclosure avoidance options available to homeowners, and can help navigate the dense terrain of today's real estate market while providing solutions for homeowners facing hardship.

In the context of the current housing market and financial crisis, today's economic environment has caused tremendous stress and unease for many Bay Area residents. In fact, according to the Mortgage Bankers Association®, as many as 1 out of 8 homes are either delinquent or in foreclosure.

Due to this trend, APR recently mandated that all of their agents who are involved in listing distressed properties must complete the comprehensive APR Distressed Property Certification training, in addition to earning the CDPE designation from the Distressed Property Institute, LLC. The announcement continues APR's tradition of service excellence in its communities, providing distressed homeowners with guidance during what can be a very difficult time.

"Although APR is a leader in the luxury real estate market, we still see the need to educate our agents so they are equipped to deal with changing industry and market conditions," Rainy Hake, APR Vice President of Corporate Affairs, said. "Effectively navigating consumers through distressed property transactions requires specific education, and our APR Distressed Property Certified Agents understand the nuances of these unique transactions."

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About Alain Pinel Realtors

Alain Pinel Realtors (APR) is the largest privately-owned and independent residential real estate company in California. APR was ranked the eighth largest residential real estate firm in the United States based on its sales volume in 2008, and has been consistently ranked in the Top 10 firms in the country. The firm has approximately 1,400 agents in its 33 offices throughout the Bay Area. APR was founded in 1990 by CEO and President Paul L. Hulme, and is based in Saratoga, Calif. For more information about APR, please visit our website at apr.com.