



# NEWSBRIEF

SEPTEMBER 2016

## Residential

### Lenders Win When Originators Attend the Closing

While lenders have long touted the value of having the originator of a mortgage loan attend the closing, a recent analysis from STRATMOR Group uncovered added benefits.

By: Brian Honea, MReport, August 17, 2016

Read more: <http://www.themreport.com/news/data/08-17-2016/7772642>

### Buyers Are Willing to Pay Extra for Smart Homes

Could "smart home" technology — features such as network-connected thermostats, security devices, appliances and lighting — help you sell your home faster and for more?

By: Kenneth R. Harney, The Washington Post Writers Group, August 26, 2016

Read more: <http://newsok.com/article/5515376>

### HARP Extended Into 2017; FHFA Plans New Refinance Program

The Federal Housing Finance Agency announced it extended the Home Affordable Refinance Program until Sept. 30, 2017 in order to create a smoother transition period for a new refi product it is planning to launch toward the end of 2017.

By: Brena Swanson, HousingWire, August 25, 2016

Read more: <http://www.housingwire.com/articles/37868-harp-extended-into-2017-fhfa-plans-new-refinance-program>

### Do You Know the Most Popular Home Styles?

Brush up on your home architecture knowledge with this infographic below spotlighting the features and differences between some of the most popular home styles today.

By: Daily Real Estate News, REALTOR®Mag, August 18, 2016

Read more: <http://realtormag.realtor.org/daily-news/2016/08/18/do-you-know-most-popular-home-styles>

### Writing Down Construction Details Is A Necessity

Good, written details for a construction project begin with an accurate quote from the contractor, which details the scope of work, products used, assignment of responsibilities and time schedule.

By: Don Magruder, Daily Commercial, August 20, 2016

Read more: [http://www.dailycommercial.com/homes/article\\_995007b4-5b49-11e6-be14-bba744b21c8c.html](http://www.dailycommercial.com/homes/article_995007b4-5b49-11e6-be14-bba744b21c8c.html)

### The NIST Cybersecurity Framework and the FTC

We often get the question, "If I comply with the NIST Cybersecurity Framework, am I complying with what the FTC requires?"

By: Andrea Arias, Federal Trade Commission, August 31, 2016

Read more: [https://www.ftc.gov/news-events/blogs/business-blog/2016/08/nist-cybersecurity-framework-ftc?utm\\_source=govdelivery](https://www.ftc.gov/news-events/blogs/business-blog/2016/08/nist-cybersecurity-framework-ftc?utm_source=govdelivery)

## Bon Air / Long & Foster Title Agency

9211 Forest Hill Avenue, Suite 102  
Richmond, VA 23235  
O: 804-320-4226 | F: 804-521-7968  
[www.balftitleva.com](http://www.balftitleva.com)

## Commercial

### Commercial Real Estate Outlook: 2016.Q3

NAR's latest Commercial Real Estate Outlook offers overall projections for four major commercial sectors and analyzes quarterly data in the office, industrial, retail and multifamily markets.

By: National Association of REALTORS®, 8/29/2016

Read more: <http://www.realtor.org/reports/commercial-real-estate-outlook>

### Economy Watch: Why US CRE Might Benefit From Brexit

Now that it's been a few months, is the impact of Brexit showing up in markets as far afield from the U.K. and the EU as the commercial real estate market in the United States?

By: Dees Stribling, Commercial Property Executive, 8/26/2016

Read more: <https://www.cpexecutive.com/post/economy-watch-why-us-cre-might-benefit-from-brexit>

### CBRE: Year-Over-Year CRE Originations Show Positive Momentum

After a sluggish start in the first quarter of this year, the second quarter saw a 2.1 percent increase in commercial real estate loan originations across the U.S., up by 5.7 percent year-over-year, according to data provided to Commercial Observer from CBRE.

By: Danielle Balbi, Commercial Observer, 8/19/2016

Read more: <https://commercialobserver.com/2016/08/cbre-year-over-year-cre-originations-show-positive-momentum>

### Is Suburban Office Market Set for a Comeback?

Big city office markets are posting the strongest performance in decades, with the U.S. unemployment rate falling to less than 5.0 percent and office vacancy in many regions in the single digits.

By: Robert Carr, National Real Estate Investor®, 8/19/2016

Read more: <http://nreionline.com/office/suburban-office-market-set-comeback>

### Real Estate to Get Its Own Stock Category

Real estate companies have been included in a category with banks and insurance firms since 1999 in stock markets across the globe. But that soon will change.

By: Daily Real Estate News, REALTOR®Mag, 8/31/2016

Read more: <http://realtormag.realtor.org/daily-news/2016/08/31/real-estate-get-its-own-stock-category>

