



January 2010

## Educational Roundtable

**Topic:** 2010 Regulation X (RESPA) Revisions

**When:** Thursday, February 4, 2010  
10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

**Where:** LBAR, 2250 Regency Road, Lexington

**Speakers:** Stephanie Renner, Stites and Harbison Law Offices and Brian Gardner, Gardner Law Offices

**Presented by:** MBA of the Bluegrass

Refreshments will be provided

**RSVP:** Noreen Jeremiah at (859) 312-4001 or [njeremiah@bbandt.com](mailto:njeremiah@bbandt.com) or Laura Gray at (859) 313-7106 or [laura.gray@bankofamerica.com](mailto:laura.gray@bankofamerica.com)

## News from the MBA

**WASHINGTON, D.C. (January 27, 2010)** — The Mortgage Bankers Association (MBA) today released its **Weekly Mortgage Applications Survey** for the week ending January 22, 2010. The Market Composite Index, a measure of mortgage loan application volume, decreased 10.9 percent on a seasonally adjusted basis from one week earlier. On an unadjusted basis, the Index decreased 10.1 percent compared with the previous week and decreased 19.8 percent compared with the same week one year earlier.

"Refinance activity fell substantially last week," said Michael Fratantoni, MBA's Vice President of Research and Economics. "Although rates remain low, there appears to be a smaller pool of borrowers who are willing and able to refinance at today's rates."

The Refinance Index decreased 15.1 percent from the previous week and the seasonally adjusted Purchase Index decreased 3.3 percent from one week earlier. The unadjusted Purchase Index increased 2.8 percent compared with the previous week and was 4.5 percent lower than the same week one year ago.

The four week moving average for the seasonally adjusted Market Index is up 2.6 percent. The four week moving average is up 1.3 percent for the seasonally adjusted Purchase Index, while this average is up 2.8 percent for the Refinance Index.

The refinance share of mortgage activity decreased to 67.6 percent of total applications from 71.7 percent the previous week. The adjustable-rate mortgage (ARM) share of activity increased to 4.7 percent from 4.1 percent of total applications from the previous week.

The average contract interest rate for **30-year fixed-rate mortgages increased to 5.02 percent from 5.00 percent**, with points decreasing to 1 from 1.05 (including the origination fee) for 80 percent loan-to-value (LTV) ratio loans.

The average contract interest rate for **15-year fixed-rate mortgages increased to 4.34 percent from 4.33 percent**, with points decreasing to 1.14 from 1.19 (including the origination fee) for 80 percent LTV loans.

The average contract interest rate for **one-year ARMs increased to 6.84 percent from 6.72 percent**, with points increasing to 0.33 from 0.31 (including the origination fee) for 80 percent LTV loans.

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**WASHINGTON, D.C. (January 20, 2010)** - Robert E. Story, Jr., CMB, Chairman of the Mortgage Bankers Association (MBA), today issued the following statement **in reaction to the announcement by the Federal Housing Administration (FHA) of changes to address its risk and strengthen its finances.**

"The changes outlined today are obviously designed to improve FHA's financial position and ensure its long term ability to guarantee affordable mortgages for qualified home buyers, particularly first-time buyers. The fact is that many lenders have already tightened their credit standards well in advance of this announcement in an effort to mitigate the risks posed by the current housing environment.

"Borrowers may have to pay a little more for their FHA-insured mortgages or certain borrowers will have to put more money down for their home, but these changes are necessary given the stress that the housing downturn has put on the FHA program.

"MBA supports FHA's efforts to root out those lenders who pose undue risk to the program. We will work with FHA to ensure those efforts include fair and thorough investigations and appropriate due process for lenders who could be impacted."

**WASHINGTON, D.C. (January 12, 2010)** - Robert E. Story, Jr., CMB, Chairman of the Mortgage Bankers Association (MBA), today issued the following statement in **reaction to the announcement by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) of its initiative to investigate mortgage companies with significant claim rates against the Federal Housing Administration (FHA) mortgage insurance program:**

"We are pleased to see HUD and FHA following through with their commitment to address fraud in the FHA program, but it is important that the companies named today be afforded due process and be allowed to answer the subpoenas and provide the requested documents and data before a rush to judgment is made.

"This initiative, combined with the improvements in its risk management that FHA announced in the fall, show the seriousness with which officials at HUD are taking the impact of the mortgage crisis on FHA. FHA is a critical player in today's mortgage market and we want to ensure it remains strong and vibrant for borrowers well into the future."

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### **MBA Releases 2010 Legislative and Regulatory Priorities and Updated Forecasts 1/12/2010**

Today, the Mortgage Bankers Association (MBA) released its **Legislative and Regulatory Priorities for 2010, as well as our new three-year macroeconomic and mortgage finance/housing forecasts.**

As the voice of the residential and commercial real estate finance industry, MBA will continue to work closely with the 111th Congress, the Obama administration and financial regulators to help restore confidence in our industry and restore stability to our nation's mortgage markets, allowing them to emerge from this time stronger, more resilient and better positioned to serve America's housing and commercial real estate needs for the future.

MBA's efforts in 2010 will be centered around (but certainly not limited to) four broad goals:

- **Restore confidence in and ensure the future strength of the mortgage market;**
- **Reform the financial regulatory system;**
- **Continue to assist borrowers; and**
- **Promote liquidity during the disruption of the commercial real estate market.**

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## **The Debate is Coming!**

2010 will be a big political year nationwide and right here in Lexington, Kentucky! The mayor's race will be up for grabs again, and the MBA of the Bluegrass is scheduling a mayoral debate at Keeneland either the second or third week of April! LBAR and HBAL have both expressed interest in participating as have all three mayoral candidates. Watch for e-mail blasts for more information regarding this great upcoming event!





Even though the snow is flying and we're all shivering in the cold it won't be long before the 2010 MBA of the Bluegrass Habitat Build will start! Here are the particulars:

- Sponsor meeting with Habitat:** Tuesday, February 16, 4:00 p.m.
- Build start:** Saturday, March 6
- Collegiate Challenge Partners:** Westminster School  
Harvard  
Franklin College
- Family:** Bruno & Dorcas Mbiyavanga  
The family is from the Congo

MBA members will be calling on firms for donations. If you or your firm would like to donate and/or help out with the build please contact Tom Breathitt, the MBA of the Bluegrass Lexington Habitat 2010 Build Committee Chair, at (859) 221-4964 or [tbreathitt@centralbank.com](mailto:tbreathitt@centralbank.com).

## MBA of the Bluegrass Members In the News!

Diana Oliver, PNC Mortgage, and Tim Vaughan, First Liberty Financial Mortgage, were featured in the Sunday, December 13th, 2009 *Lexington Herald-Leader Home-seller* article about refinancing. It was great publicity for the MBA of the Bluegrass as the organization was mentioned several times, and it emphasized the importance of consulting a member of the organization if the consumer was considering that option.





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# WELCOME THE NEW YEAR WITH HISTORICALLY LOW RATES

Kentucky Housing Corporation's new year resolution is to help 3,500 families purchase homes. With that in mind, we have lowered our interest rates to *below* market rates!

Visit [www.kyhousing.org](http://www.kyhousing.org) or call toll-free in Kentucky (800) 633-8896 or (502) 564-7630, extension 291, or TTY 711, for more information.



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## Membership News

Please welcome new member firm: [Radian Guaranty](#)

Welcome back to [Walther, Roark & Gay PLC](#)

### Renewals are underway!

Membership renewals are going on right now. A packet went out right before Christmas which included a cover letter from newly elected President, Jeff Sharp, an invoice for \$300, a membership renewal application, and a spreadsheet of current employees per firm. If you did not receive this packet please e-mail [MBABluegrass@aol.com](mailto:MBABluegrass@aol.com). Payment is due before March without a late fee penalty.

Refer a firm which becomes a member and get a \$100 check! Contact Gesela Brown, Membership Committee Co-Chair, at [gesela.brown@53.com](mailto:gesela.brown@53.com).

Need to make any changes with your membership roster? Want to add your picture or logo? Just check on the MBA of the Bluegrass website, [www.mbabluegrass.org](http://www.mbabluegrass.org), to make sure your contact information is correct. E-mail any changes to [MBABluegrass@aol.com](mailto:MBABluegrass@aol.com).

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### 2010 MBA of the Bluegrass Inc. Board Officers

President—Jeff Sharp, Walden Mortgage Group, (859) 514-5454,  
[jsharp@waldenmg.com](mailto:jsharp@waldenmg.com)

President-Elect—Tim Vaughan, First Liberty Financial Mortgage, (859) 327-0085,  
[tim.vaughan@firstliberty.net](mailto:tim.vaughan@firstliberty.net)

Secretary—Laura Gray, Bank of American Home Loans, (859) 338-1993,  
[laura.gray@bankofamerica.com](mailto:laura.gray@bankofamerica.com)

Treasurer—Amanda Crouch, Bank of America Home Loans, (859) 338-4422,  
[amanda.crouch@bankofamerica.com](mailto:amanda.crouch@bankofamerica.com)

Past President—Diana Oliver, PNC Mortgage, (859) 281-5234,  
[Diana.Oliver@pncmortgage.com](mailto:Diana.Oliver@pncmortgage.com)

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“Remember, members do business with members.”

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**2010 Committees—Get Involved!**

The next two pages have the committees and the committee chairs for 2010. If you want to plug in and do more for the MBA of the Bluegrass please contact the chairs below:

**Legislative**—Is responsible for reporting to the Board of Directors and the membership any current activity on local, state, or national legislative issues.

**Co-Chairs**—Wayne Thompson, (859) 514-5472, [wthompson@waldenmg.com](mailto:wthompson@waldenmg.com) and Chris Evans, (859) 576-5980, [ctevans@windstream.net](mailto:ctevans@windstream.net)

**Habitat Build**—Helps organize the membership for the 2010 MBA Build

**Committee Chair**—Tom Breathitt, (859) 253-8738, [tbreathitt@centralbank.com](mailto:tbreathitt@centralbank.com)

**Ethics**—Responsible for inquiries or accusations against members and reporting to the Board of Directors their findings and recommendations.

**Committee Chair**—Roberta Wilson, (859) 276-1403, [rwilson@franklinamerican.com](mailto:rwilson@franklinamerican.com)

**Finance**—Shall prepare a budget of the estimated income and expenses of the organization for the year.

**Committee Chair**—Amanda Crouch, (859) 338-4422, [amanda.crouch@bankofamerica.com](mailto:amanda.crouch@bankofamerica.com)

**Membership**—In charge of recruitment and retention. They will devote their attention to the proper welcoming of new members and guests and to strive to encourage friendships among members.

**Co-Chairs**—Gesela Brown, (859) 421-3406, [gesela.brown@53.com](mailto:gesela.brown@53.com) and Micah Campbell, (859) 396-8444, [micah\\_campbell@kyfbins.com](mailto:micah_campbell@kyfbins.com)

**Affiliate Relations**—This committee is responsible for promoting and recruiting affiliate members to the organization. This involves planning and conducting special events for our affiliates.

**Committee Chair**—Monroe Jett, (859) 333-5273, [info@jetttitle.com](mailto:info@jetttitle.com)

## 2010 Committees Continued:

**Program**—This committee is responsible for organizing meetings, identifying location, scheduling speakers, and securing sponsorships for the events. Additionally this committee is responsible for arranging any special events like the golf outing and Christmas party.

**Committee Co-Chairs**—Tim Vaughan, (859) 327-0085, [tim.vaughan@firstliberty.net](mailto:tim.vaughan@firstliberty.net) and Julie Hess, (859) 313-5425, [hessju@ctbi.com](mailto:hessju@ctbi.com)

**Education**—Plans topics, arranges dates/times, and secures speakers for Educational Roundtables to educate the membership.

**Committee Co-Chairs**—Noreen Jeremiah, (859) 312-4001, [njeremiah@bbandt.com](mailto:njeremiah@bbandt.com) and Laura Gray, (859) 338-1993, [laura.gray@bankofamerica.com](mailto:laura.gray@bankofamerica.com)

**By-Laws**—Reviews the by-laws and proposes any changes that are necessary

**Committee Chair**—Lisa Bryant, (859) 806-5311, [bryantli@ugcorp.com](mailto:bryantli@ugcorp.com)

**Technology**—Responsible for the current development and future upgrades to the website and will stay current on all technological advances in the industry.

**Committee Co-Chairs**—Jason Heflin, (859) 621-6592,

[jason.e.heflin@wellsfargo.com](mailto:jason.e.heflin@wellsfargo.com) and Brian Kegley, (859)281-5331, [brian.kegley@pncmortgage.com](mailto:brian.kegley@pncmortgage.com)

**PR/Communications**—Supplies monthly notices concerning the organization meetings and other interesting information of the membership to newspapers, radio and television stations.

**Committee Chair**—Bryan McNee, (859) 245-0720, [bmcnee@benchmarklends.com](mailto:bmcnee@benchmarklends.com)

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### Important Websites to Know

Mortgage Bankers Association of Louisville

<http://www.mbalou.org>

The National Mortgage Bankers Association

<http://www.mortgagebankers.org>

Mortgage Fraud Blog

<http://www.mortgagefraudblog.com/>

FBI Mortgage Fraud

<http://www.fbi.gov/page2/dec05/operationquickflip121405.htm>