

News Brief

February 2016



Residential

Existing-Home Sales Surge in TRID Aftermath

The immediate impact of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau's TILA-RESPA Integrated Disclosures rule in October is quickly coming to light as existing-home sales bounce back after November's steep drop.

By: Brena Swanson, *HousingWire*, January 22, 2016

Read more: <http://www.housingwire.com/articles/36083-existing-home-sales-surge-in-trid-aftermath>

Mortgage Rates Continue Falling Over Global Economic Concerns

Turmoil in global markets has been good for mortgage rates. China's slowdown and cratering oil prices have created volatility in the markets and spurred investors to flee to safety in government bonds.

By: Kathy Orton, *The Washington Post*, January 21, 2016

Read more: <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/where-we-live/wp/2016/01/21/mortgage-rates-continue-falling-over-global-economic-concerns/>

Freddie Mac Debuts Site for Practitioners

This week, Freddie Mac launched the online Real Estate Professionals Resource Center, offering information on the latest affordable mortgage products to share with your clients as well as training and networking opportunities and customizable promotion tools.

By: Daily Real Estate News, *REALTOR®Mag*, January 22, 2016

Read more: <http://realtormag.realtor.org/daily-news/2016/01/22/freddie-mac-debuts-site-for-practitioners>

Housing Market Firming Up This Year

Economists are optimistic that the housing market will continue improving this year.

By: Vickie Needham, *The Hill*, January 20, 2016

Read more: <http://thehill.com/policy/finance/266537-housing-market-firming-up-this-year>

Cybercriminals Will Increasingly Target Mortgage Industry

The rising tide of cyber-attacks by hackers, online criminals and international terrorists was treated as an "existential threat" to mortgage companies by panelists at the Mortgage Bankers Association annual convention.

By: Victor Whitman, *Scotsman Guide*, January 18, 2016

Read more: <http://www.scotsmanguide.com/News/2016/01/Cybercriminals-will-increasingly-target-mortgage-industry--security-expert-Jeff-Bernstein-says/>

Two Rivers Title Company, LLC

26 Ayers Lane, Suite 202
Little Silver, NJ 07739
O: 732-747-3615 | F: 732-747-3616
www.tworivertitle.com

Commercial

\$30B Boost Eyed for Commercial Sector

Right before it broke for the holidays last month, Congress passed a big tax bill that includes a number of commercial provisions, including one that analysts say could spur some \$30 billion in annual foreign investment in U.S. commercial real estate starting this year.

By: Daily Real Estate News, *REALTOR®Mag*, January 14, 2016

Read more: <http://realtormag.realtor.org/daily-news/2016/01/14/30b-boost-eyed-for-commercial-sector>

Business Owners Have New Options for Refinancing Commercial Real Estate

Congress recently passed a bill which permanently reinstates a debt-refinancing provision to the SBA's popular 504 loan program for owner-occupied real estate.

By: Fountainhead Commercial Capital Press Release, January 22, 2016

Read more: <http://www.pr.com/press-release/654766>

Good Times, Redefined

"There are more things in heaven and earth, Horatio, than are dreamt of in your philosophy." Hamlet could have been speaking to us. We live in strange times, good times for all aspects of commercial real estate.

By: Chris Mellon, contributor, *National Real Estate Investor*, January 25, 2016

Read more: <http://nreionline.com/property-management/good-times-redefined>

Making History: Sales of Multifamily in 2015 Break Records at Nearly \$140 Billion

There's no business like the multifamily business, especially when it comes to commercial real estate investment in the United States.

By: CNN Money, January 14, 2016

Read more: <http://money.cnn.com/news/newsfeeds/articles/marketwire/1238800.htm>

Lenders Expect Strong 2016 for Commercial, Multifamily Loans in U.S.

According to a new Mortgage Bankers Association survey of the top U.S. commercial and multifamily mortgage origination firms, commercial and multifamily mortgage lending is expected to increase in 2016, as lenders' and borrowers' appetites for new loans remain strong.

By: WPJ Staff, *World Property Journal*, January 7, 2016

Read more: <http://www.worldpropertyjournal.com/real-estate-news/united-states/multifamily-mortgage-lending-2016-commercial-mortgage-lending-2016-mortgage-bankers-association-jamie-woodwell-commercial-mortgage-data-2016-9593.php>

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