

Speaker Bios and Presentations for the PNwRC Spring 2010 Meeting



Presenter: Susie Horan – Prudential Northwest Realty Associates

Bio: Prudential Northwest Realty's Susie Horan has been active in Real Estate for over 30 years in the Seattle-Metropolitan area. She is a manager, trainer and motivational speaker throughout the Pacific Northwest. Susie's contagious enthusiasm, ideas and Real Estate expertise are shared with individuals and large audiences alike, creating strategies that you can use to create results in your business.

Topic: Demystifying the Short Sale Process

Scope: Five Million homeowners in the United States are currently in default. This presentation will give insight to how long short sales may be around, and why they are rapidly becoming the sweetheart of the United States government. This presentation will help demystify the short sale and the process.



Presenter: Carla V. Tarazi
Partner
Berry Appleman & Leiden LLP

Bio: Carla Tarazi is a partner with Berry Appleman & Leiden in the San Francisco office. Ms. Tarazi has an extensive background in all aspects of employment and family-based immigration, including citizenship matters. Ms. Tarazi currently focuses her practice on representing multinational corporate clients in employment-based immigration issues, specifically PERM labor certifications, preference visa petitions, both consular processing and adjustment of status applications. Ms. Tarazi provides guidance in the administration and management of immigration programs for clients seeking the firm's wealth of experience in best practices for immigration programs.

Ms. Tarazi is an active member of the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA). She has spoken at both regional and national AILA conferences on employment-based immigrant visa issues, and has served on the AILA/California Service Center Liaison Committee. Ms. Tarazi has also served as a member of the San Francisco Bar Association Volunteer Legal Services Program which provides pro bono legal services. Ms. Tarazi is licensed to practice law in both California and the District of Columbia. She earned her Juris Doctor from the Golden Gate University School of Law in 1993, and received a Bachelor of Science degree in Finance from the University of San Francisco in 1989.

Topic: Immigration Law and Policy and how it may affect your company and transferees

Scope: Comprehensive immigration reform remains one of the top U.S. domestic policy priorities for the government. Lawmakers continue to discuss legislation that could impact every company that employs high-skilled immigrants. Meanwhile, ICE has launched a national I-9 audit initiative; and USCIS is conducting thousands of administrative site visits related to H and L petitions.

Carla Tarazi will discuss the latest developments in immigration law and policy and how they affect your company.

This is a unique opportunity to ask questions relevant to your businesses and industries and to get direct answers from an immigration law expert.

Keynote Address



Presenter: Sharon E. Michnay, CRP, GMS
Executive Director of Corporate Business Development
Halstead Property

Bio: Sharon E. Michnay is Executive Director of Corporate Business Development for NYC Metro real estate firm, Halstead Property. In this capacity, she oversees the Global Services Division and directs business development functions including the creation and implementation of corporate initiatives, the identification of new revenue streams and the development of strategic corporate alliances for the company.

Michnay holds her Global Mobility Specialist designation from Worldwide ERC and her World Referral Specialist from Leading Real Estate Companies of the World. She serves as the Chair of the LeadingRE Advisory Council and has played several roles in the organization including International Liaison. Most recently she has created a mentor program for all non-U.S. LeadingRE members.

She is a regular speaker on “International” topics including *Generating and Servicing Cross-Border Referrals*, *Global Markets* and *Bridging Real Estate Differences Across Borders*. Since 2006, Michnay has authored the International section of the Halstead Portfolio magazine as well as articles in several publications.

Topic: Why Global Matters!

Scope: Globalization doesn’t happen overnight, is incredibly complicated and it’s far from over. Globalization is an ongoing process and while we need to keep it in perspective, we also need to continue developing our global mindsets. This presentation will give an overview of where globalization is today, the trends, and assist with the development of a global mindset relating to the relocation industry.