

SHARON BROKER® EARNS REALTOR® DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD



(Boston, MA) – David Wluka, a broker and president of Wluka Real Estate in Sharon, has been named the recipient of the Greater Boston Association of Realtors® (GBAR) Andrew Hickey Distinguished Service Award for 2007.

Established in 2006, the Hickey Distinguished Service Award is presented annually to one local REALTOR® for their lengthy and dedicated service to the Greater Boston Association of REALTORS® and Greater Boston Real Estate Board (GBREB). Recipients of this award must have held membership in GBREB for a minimum of 15 years and are recognized as prominent and effective leaders within the REALTOR® association, real estate industry, and their local community.

A Realtor® since 1976, Wluka is a current director of the Greater Boston Real Estate Board (GBREB), and is chairman of the Greater Boston Association of Realtors® DR Dues Formula Task Force this year. A past president and former clerk of the GBREB, he has served on the GBREB Board of Directors for eight of the past 10 years and was the Board's MLS President from 1993-1994. Additionally, he is a past chairman of the GBREB Communications Committee, its Advertising Task Force and Board of Choice Presidential Advisory Group, and has served as a member of numerous other committees, including the GBREB Government Affairs, Nominating and Strategic Planning Committees.

Throughout the past decade, Wluka has helped champion housing affordability and smart growth residential development in Massachusetts. Specifically, he has testified on behalf of GBREB before the state Legislature in support of initiatives aimed at increasing housing production, and has served on several government and industry committees, workgroups and forums examining zoning and land use regulation, including Governor Cellucci's Special Commission on Barriers to Housing, Cardinal Law's Coalition on Affordable Housing, and State Rep. John Stasik's Chapter 40A Study Committee. Additionally, he is an active volunteer for Habitat for Humanity, who helped spearhead an initiative to build a local Habitat home while serving as GBREB president in 1999.

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## **2007 Hickey Distinguished Service Award - add one**

In recent years, Wluka has become a respected voice for Realtors® on the state and national levels as well, with media across Massachusetts and the nation seeking out his perspective on local housing market conditions and public policy issues. His prominence as an industry spokesperson has coincided with his movement up the leadership ladder of the Realtor® organization, first serving as Greater Boston Region Vice President to the Massachusetts Association of Realtors® (MAR) in 1996, then MAR Vice president of Government Affairs in 2002-2004, and most recently MAR President in 2006. Additionally, he has served on the National Association of Realtors® (NAR) Board of Directors for the past seven years, representing Realtors® from greater Boston and Massachusetts as an NAR Director since 2001.

Notably, Wluka also is a past chairman of the NAR Land Use, Property Rights and Environment Committee and its Smart Growth Advisory Group and a frequent contributor to the Realtors® Political Action Committee. A member of the American Planning Association and Urban Land Institute, he also is active in the Neponset Valley Chamber of Commerce and B’Nai B’rith Realty Unit.

Among his previous industry honors, Wluka received the prestigious NAR Omega Tau Rho Medallion of Service award in 2006. He also was honored by the Massachusetts Association of Realtors® with the Milton H. Shaw Distinguished Service Award in 2002, and named the Greater Boston Board’s Realtor® of the Year in 1994.

Organized in 1889, the Greater Boston Real Estate Board was chartered by the National Association of Realtors® in 1915. A voluntary trade organization with more than 7,500 members, the Greater Boston Association of Realtors® is the largest GBREB division, with over 5,600 members. The term Realtor® is registered as the exclusive trademark of members of the National Association of Realtors® who subscribe to a strict code of ethics.