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Appraisal Institute president's message: Continuing to stay safe - by George Demopoulos

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George Demopulos
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The Massachusetts and Rhode Island Chapter of the Appraisal Institute is hoping all of our friends and clients are continuing to stay safe during the COVID-19 pandemic. Appraisers, just like all of our customers, clients and friends in the real-estate and mortgage professions have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and we are doing all we can to continue to provide appraisal services during this unprecedented time. We also hope everyone had a safe and happy July 4th holiday and a nice summer season!

The Appraisal Institute continues to host a weekly AI Answers session most Wednesdays. These sessions are conducted via GoToMeeting. I encourage all appraisers to check out the recordings of these sessions and to attend these weekly webinars.

During the June 3rd session, Appraisal Institute director of government and external relations, Bill Garber, and manager of state and industry affairs, Scott Dibiasio, discussed state and federal legislation and regulation impacting real estate appraisers.

On June 10th the webinar featuring Dennis Duffy, MAI, and Robert Heuner, MAI, from the Archstone Group, who shared how the tools and techniques of value sustainability analysis can be leveraged by appraisers to assist real estate stakeholders with scenario analysis.

On June 17, Bill Garber spoke with Lisa Desmarais, vice president, appraisal issues, for The Appraisal Foundation, who discussed a range of ongoing projects, including updates to USPAP, appraiser licensing trends and virtual education allowances for appraisers during the COVID-19 emergency.

Please visit www.appraisalinstitute.org to view these past webinars to attend the upcoming weekly events.

The Appraisal Institute Board of Directors will consider two candidates for the position of 2021 vice president at its August 6-7 virtual meeting. The two nominees are Craig Steinley, MAI, SRA, AI-GRS, AI-RRS; and Michael Tankersley, MAI, SRA, AI-GRS, AI-RRS. Appraisal Institute professionals may see information on the candidates on the national website and can provide letters of recommendation for the VP choice.

The MA/RI Chapter held its spring chapter meeting on Thursday, June 18th and voted to approve the 2021 slate of officers and board of directors. Congratulations to the new 2021 officers!

- John Drew, MAI, President;
- Bradford Hevenor, MAI, Vice-President;
- Robert Maloney, MAI, Treasurer; and
- Zach Bowyer, MAI, Secretary.

The MA/RI Chapter continues to offer the best appraisal education in the area! We have been offering on-line education during the COVID-19 pandemic and are pleased to announce we will be holding classroom education in August!

The following classes are being offered:

- General Appraiser Income Approach Part 2, Wednesday, August 19th in Woburn, MA;
- Business Practices and Ethics, Wednesday, September 9th in Woburn, MA;
- Basic Appraisal Principles, Friday, September 11th in Norwood, MA; and
- General Appraiser Sales Comparison Approach, Wednesday, September 23-26 in Woburn, MA.

Please visit our website to register!

We would like to thank our 2020 sponsors! A very special THANK YOU to our Platinum Sponsors: Boston Appraisal Company, CB Richard Ellis/New England and Newmark Knight Frank; our Gold Sponsor: JLL Valuation Advisory and Compstak; and our Silver Sponsor: Cushman & Wakefield.

For sponsorship opportunities please reach out to our office.

Our chapter is made of the very best commercial and residential appraisers providing real estate solutions for clients throughout New England and beyond. Our chapter designated professionals specialize in all aspects of real estate appraisal and consulting and are ready to provide these services to all of our clients, current and future.

A complete list of our members and their appraisal concentrations can also be found on our website, <http://massri-appraisalinstitute.org/>

George Demopoulos, MRICS, RA, SRA, AI-RRS is the 2020 president of the Massachusetts and Rhode Island Chapter of the Appraisal Institute and president and chief valuations officer at Lincoln Appraisal & Settlement Services (LASS) and Lincoln Abstract & Settlement Services, Providence, RI.

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