

BIO – Curt Thor

Curt Thor, owner of North Bay Real Estate Appraisals based in Novato, CA, has been working as an appraiser since 1984. He got his start in appraising working for the Marin County Assessor's Office, where he worked for two years as an appraiser technician. Curt specializes in the high-end residential market and new construction properties, which were areas he was assigned while working for the Assessor's Office.

In 1986 Curt started his own appraisal company. He was further trained as a residential fee appraiser, by Sue Ellen Adams RM, with whom he worked for the next seven years. Curt has been the owner and chief appraiser of his company, North Bay Real Estate Appraisals, for over 22 years. Though he specializes in high-end homes and new construction, Curt's appraisal experience runs the gamut from raw land to more complicated property disputes as an expert witness in many cases. He has devoted many hours to training other appraisers, and is the recent past President of two Appraiser's Associations, as well as a founding President and CEO of a larger Association.

Due to changes in the current appraisal profession, and feeling a need to have a forum to discuss relevant issues with other professionals, Curt decided to attend meetings of the Sonoma County Appraisal Association. After attending only one meeting of the Sonoma County Appraiser's Association and having the opportunity to speak his mind about changes in the industry, fellow members suggested Curt represent the Association as their President. Curt took the position in late 2005. This prompted Curt to reestablish the Marin County Appraiser's Association, which has not met since the late 1990's. The meetings allow appraisers to network, discuss local topics, and to bring guest speakers in to talk about various subjects of interest. Due to Curt's continued volunteered time and efforts, the Sonoma County Association meetings have grown from an average attendance of 15 to over 60. The Marin County Association's first meeting had over 50 in attendance. Curt continues to grow as a leader in his field, becoming involved in organizations such as, Center for Responsible Appraisals & Valuations of which is a Partners Council Member of and had worked with the Appraisers Advocacy Coalition, and other lobbying groups.

As of January 27th 2007 a new not-for-profit appraisers association was formed with the overwhelming help of the founding REAA (Real Estate Appraisers Association) of Sacramento. Curt Thor the Founding and Current President of the new 2007 REAA – North Bay chapter and a drove of local appraisers has formed this new association of self improving appraisers with a growing focus of education and industry changes on a path of uncapped potential.

Curt's goal is to develop awareness for the needed use of local expert appraisers and to build a more professional and stronger industry for independent appraisers. He is participating in these grass roots methods in an effort to unite the appraisers and address changes in the industry over most recent few years. Aside from appraising, Curt enjoys spending time with his two children and is involved in their activities as a coach for local youth softball, baseball and soccer teams and now driving coach. Curt Thor is a 40+ year resident of Marin County, California and currently lives in Novato.