

CONTINUING OUR COMMITMENT

Here we are, near the end of what I'm sure we can all say was a very challenging year. I know every one of us has been affected—either directly or through others—by the fallout in the economy. Even though economists report that recovery is underway, the process will be slow as we continue to lobby for the availability of capital our properties need. The end is not in sight until that relief arrives. Through these challenges, however, I do know that as an industry, we accomplished a great deal as a whole.

At IREM Headquarters, we continued to put out courses, publications, webinars, our spring meeting in Washington D.C., as well as our fall business meetings followed by Success Series 2009 in Honolulu in October. Through it all, our goal has been to provide you, our valued members, with the tools and information you need to make the best decisions during any economic period.

Over the course of the year, as I have traveled to our chapters, I personally have been struck by your commitment to the industry. I applaud our chapter leadership for guiding the chapters in providing meaningful membership benefits in this year of financial meltdown. From Los Angeles, to Cleveland, to Montgomery, Ala., and Rochester, N.Y., I witnessed the dedication of our committed professionals.

Moving forward, as members of our leading-edge organization, we must continue to strive to be the best in our industry and support our owners, our companies, our residents and tenants in the best way possible.

In particular, I hope you will find several articles of interest in this issue of *JPM*. The article, "Dual Representation and Conflicts of Interest in Real Estate Management," on p. 34 no doubt contains valuable insights to us all regarding our obligation to ethics in all our business dealings. In addition, one of our most successful authors in IREM history has provided us with an excerpt from his recently updated edition of *Practical Apartment Management*. The author, Ed Kelley, CPM® Emeritus, shares his insights on what residential managers need to do in order to stay ahead of the rental market changes coming our way.

Finally, I'd like to wrap up with a thank you to all of you for your support of IREM at the local and national levels. We need each other now more than ever and I know you have all played a role in keeping IREM strong this past year. As my year as IREM President draws to a close, I wish you all the best in the year to come.



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