

NAR Dues Explanation

There have been some questions about the details of the recent supplemental dues billing caused by the \$40 increase in NAR's dues. The bullet-points below should provide the necessary information for everyone to understand why NAR made the decision to increase their dues and what the dues increase will provide to the members. HRRRA leaders and staff remain available to answer any questions you might have. If you would like the 2012 Chair and our Governmental Affairs Director to attend one of your sales meetings to help clarify this issue, please let us know.

- NAR's Board of Directors voted in late Spring to increase their share of REALTOR® dues for the 2012 year.
- Given the difference in the HRRRA and NAR membership cycles, that dues increase is just now coming into effect.
- HRRRA does not have control over NAR or VAR dues or when they are increased. Currently the dues breakdown is NAR \$155, VAR \$120 and HRRRA \$264.
- HRRRA held the line on any local dues increase for the past several years.
- Today's political and financial environments have put the housing market and our industry under the spotlight like never before.
- Pending or developing legislation in regards to homeowners' rights and taxation on property owners and the professionals that operate within the industry could have significant impacts on the housing market and how we operate as real estate professionals.
- The recent Citizens United decision by the United States Supreme Court fundamentally changed the nature of politics and political advocacy.
- NAR felt that in order simply to keep up with the competition, new initiatives and new ways of engagement were needed to maintain the rights that property owners have enjoyed over the last several decades and the business environment that allows REALTORS® to be successful.
- NAR has made a decision with their approval of this new Political Initiative that our Association will be heard on these issues.
- NAR is rolling out a variety of new programs and expanding others with the funds from the dues increase:
 - Mobilizing REALTORS® to register to vote and show up at the polls for important issues or candidates on the ballot
 - Making campaign services and tools available to state and local associations to maximize the political impact of REALTORS®
 - Making independent expenditures in favor of REALTOR® endorsed candidates
 - More effectively raising RPAC dollars for direct contributions to candidates
- No dues money can or will be used to fund any candidates.
 - Contributions to candidates will only be made from voluntary REALTOR® Political Action Committee donations.
- My REALTOR® Party is the brand NAR is using for these new and expanded programs, and MyREALTORParty.com is the hub for accessing all of these programs.
- HRRRA plans to design local programs and make applications for funds that can be used to enhance our value, image and awareness in our marketplace.