



SHAPING TEXAS 1920-2020



## DID YOU KNOW?

# REALTORS® ARE MORE THAN JUST REAL ESTATE AGENTS

Although some people use the terms *real estate agent* and *REALTOR®* interchangeably, they don't mean the same thing. Real estate agents and brokers are licensed by the state to help consumers conduct real estate transactions. REALTORS® are real estate agents and brokers who voluntarily join the National Association of REALTORS® as well as their state and local associations of REALTORS®.

### WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

All licensed agents and brokers must comply with Texas laws, but REALTORS® go beyond those requirements. REALTORS® pledge to abide by a Code of Ethics that holds members to higher standards. REALTORS® also take more classes than the minimum required to maintain a license. And REALTORS® work together to advocate for laws and regulations that benefit property owners, buyers, sellers, landlords, and renters.

For example, REALTORS® in Texas have blocked taxes on real estate transactions that would have made buying and selling property much more expensive. Members of Texas REALTORS® have been the driving force behind lowering property taxes, making home equity laws that protect homeowners from

foreclosures, and countless other initiatives that benefit Texans.

### A CENTURY OF ADVOCACY

The sole reason real estate professionals formed an association of REALTORS® in Texas in 1920 was to create higher standards for the industry. They fought for 19 years to pass a law requiring licensing of real estate professionals. Texas REALTORS® then worked tirelessly to pass laws to hold unscrupulous agents and brokers to account.

In 2020, REALTORS® are celebrating a century of putting the interests of consumers first and are looking forward to the next 100 years of ensuring that Texans enjoy strong private property rights.



**WHEN YOU HAVE REAL ESTATE NEEDS,  
MAKE SURE YOUR AGENT IS A REALTOR®.**

Even when you aren't considering a real estate move, rest assured that REALTORS® are working on your behalf for the next time you do.