



# NEWS BRIEF

## RESIDENTIAL SECTOR

### Short Sale Tax Break Signed Into Law

Homeowners who had short sales in 2014 can now breathe a giant sigh of relief, as the Mortgage Debt Forgiveness Act was signed into law by President Barack Obama.

By: Ben Lane, *HousingWire*, December 29, 2014

To read the article in full, visit: <http://www.housingwire.com/articles/32456-short-sale-tax-break-signed-into-law>

### How the 2014 Housing Market Will Shape 2015

The real estate market has shown a build-up of housing momentum this year – “fueled by significant improvements in economic fundamentals, low mortgage rates, and compressed inventory” – that will likely translate into larger gains in 2015, according to realtor.com®’s newly released 2014 Housing Review.

By: Daily Real Estate News, *REALTOR® Magazine*, December 24, 2014

To read the article in full, visit: <http://realtormag.realtor.org/daily-news/2014/12/24/how-2014-housing-market-will-shape-2015>

### Accenture: 3 Big Predictions for Mortgage Lending Next Year

Housing survived 2014, and now heading into next year, experts are once again weighing in on what they see for the future of the housing industry and overall economy.

By: Brena Swanson, *HousingWire*, December 19, 2014

To read the article in full, visit: <http://www.housingwire.com/blogs/1-rewired/post/32408-accenture-3-big-predictions-for-mortgage-lending-next-year>

### FAA Says No Ruling On Drones Until 2017

Real estate pros who were hoping to use drones to capture aerial photos of their listings may have to wait a lot longer than previously thought.

By: Mike Wheatley, *Realty Biz News*, December 15, 2014

To read the article in full, visit: <http://realtybiznews.com/faa-says-no-ruling-on-drones-until-2017/98726851/>

### Best Time to List a Home for Sale? Winter, Redfin Says.

So you’ve begun thinking about selling your house and you figure: Let’s wait until the spring or early summer before listing.

By: Kenneth R. Harney, *Contributor Los Angeles Times*, December 14, 2014

To read the article in full, visit: <http://www.latimes.com/business/real-estate/la-fi-harney-20141214-story.html?track=rss>

## COMMERCIAL SECTOR

### Businesses Brace for End of Federal Terrorism Insurance

Insurance and real estate firms are preparing for the expiration of a federal terrorism insurance program at the end of the month, warning that construction projects could be stalled and commercial loans on shopping malls, utilities and skyscrapers could be in jeopardy.

By: John Fritze, *The Baltimore Sun*, December 28, 2014

To read the article in full, visit: <http://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/story/money/2014/12/28/businesses-brace-end-federal-terrorism-insurance/20960109/>

### Oil Plunge Sparks Concern of Real Estate Slowdown in Hubs

The drop in oil prices to five-year lows, while helping consumers, is sparking concern that leasing and construction demand will be hurt in some of North America’s best-performing markets for commercial real estate.

By: Hui-yong Yu, *Bloomberg*, December 23, 2014

To read the article in full, visit: <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2014-12-23/oil-plunge-sparks-concern-of-real-estate-slowdown-in-hubs.html>

### Seniors Housing Expects More Construction, Lending and M/A Activity in 2015

As 2015 approaches, seniors housing joins most commercial real estate sectors in celebrating a slow-but-successful turnaround.

By: Robert Carr, *National Real Estate Investor*, December 22, 2014

To read the article in full, visit: <http://nreionline.com/seniors-housing/seniors-housing-expects-more-construction-lending-and-ma-activity-2015>

### The Green Revolution In Commercial Real Estate Has Been Waged And Green Real Estate Has Won

At the turn of the century, there was little if any focus on sustainability in the commercial real estate field.

By: Dave Pogue, *CBRE*, *Global Director of Corporate Responsibility*, December 23, 2014

To read the article in full, visit: <http://3blmedia.com/News/Green-Revolution-Commercial-Real-Estate-Has-Been-Waged-And-Green-Real-Estate-Has-Won>

### Investing and Finance in a Post Quantitative Easing World

Participants in the 21<sup>st</sup> annual ULI/McCoy Symposium on Real Estate Finance, a forum that brings together 30 to 40 leading executives in real estate finance, had plenty to talk about when they gathered in early December.

By: Bowen Buzz McCoy, *UrbanLand*, December 22, 2014

To read the article in full, visit: <http://urbanland.uli.org/capital-markets/financial-markets-see-2015/>

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