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## People on the Move

## Woodmont Real Estate Services Named a Finalist for IREM® Real Estate Management Excellence Awards

August 10, 2018



August 8, 2018 – Ron Granville, CPM® and CEO of Woodmont Real Estate Services announced today that Woodmont has been selected as a finalist for the Institute of Real Estate Management (IREM®) annual and national REME Awards – Real Estate Management Excellence for national AMO Firm of the Year.

The winners will be announced at a gala event September 29 in Hollywood, Florida. Over 80 U.S. IREM chapters qualified to participate in the awards process, a rigorous application in which the highest standards of property management "best practices" are judged by a panel of industry experts.

Woodmont won the IREM San Francisco Chapter Accredited Management Organization (AMO) 2017 Firm of the Year for the company's leadership in sustainability and its management response to the North Bay wildfires last fall.

Woodmont earned the very first IREM® Certified Sustainable Property credential in the U.S. in June 2016 for Waterford Place, a Dublin, California apartment community managed by the company and has since added 17 more multifamily properties that have received IREM®'s sustainability credential – more than any apartment owner or manager in California and among the leading companies in the U.S. to have achieved IREM®'s certification credential. Another 18 communities are currently in the process of being certified.

During the October 2017 North Bay Wildfires, five of the eight apartment communities managed by Woodmont Real Estate Services in the Santa Rosa area required mandatory evacuation by all residents and Woodmont staff. The evacuations affected approximately 750 apartment homes and temporarily displaced some 2,000 people. Fortunately none of the residents or Woodmont employees were injured by the wildfires, though one community lost a building of eight apartments to the fire. During the evacuation period Woodmont worked to communicate with residents to keep them updated as information was released by authorities. When the evacuation orders were lifted Woodmont hired a specialized restoration company to clean the exteriors and interiors of apartment buildings impacted by smoke and ash to facilitate resident return to their apartments.

## About IREM® AMO and Certified Sustainable Property Certification

The IREM® AMO accreditation requires the highest code of ethical standards in the property management industry involving best practices that serve as examples for the industry. To earn a place among award finalists, Woodmont had to demonstrate its role in advancing the real estate industry, leadership, education, employee training, superior client and resident service and excellence in tenant/resident relations. The firm also had to show its involvement in community service and provide examples of professional standards.

The IREM® sustainability certification assesses the sustainability performance of existing properties in five categories – energy, water, health, recycling, and purchasing. Thousands of existing office, multifamily, and retail properties in the United States are working toward sustainability goals but cannot get LEED certification. It's too far out of reach and does not make financial sense. The IREM® Certified Sustainable Property is much more customized to property managers – whereas LEED's requirements are often out of a property manager's control. Many properties have successful sustainability programs but no way to validate them and demonstrate green performance to stakeholders. IREM® saw a need for a new sustainability certification program, one that is attainable, affordable, meaningful, and available to three main property types—office properties, multifamily communities, and shopping centers.

## About Woodmont Real Estate Services

Belmont, CA-based Woodmont Real Estate Services is the premier independently owned Northern California property management and building services company specializing in multifamily and commercial properties. The firm is a 100% 3rd-party management company without ownership conflicts of interest. Its competitive advantages include a regional focus, industry experience, operational expertise, transparent fee structure and marketing capabilities. Woodmont's exceptional people are passionate about the real estate industry and serves clients with the utmost respect and integrity. For more information call 650.592.3960 or visit www.wres.com.