



## For Immediate Release

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### **Virginia REALTORS® Recognizes 2018 REALTOR® of the Year**

Richmond, Va. (October 1, 2018) – Virginia REALTORS® celebrates its 2018 REALTOR® of the Year. The association conducted its annual awards ceremony in conjunction with the 2018 Annual Convention on Wednesday, September 26, at The Main in Norfolk, VA. The ceremony celebrates excellence in various areas of real estate including property management, brokerage, and other business achievements along with notable community contribution.

**Virginia REALTOR® of the Year:** Recognizes a REALTOR® who has made proven contributions to the real estate industry through both personal and professional achievement and outstanding volunteerism.

2018 Recipient: Deborah Baisden – Hampton Roads REALTORS® Association

This year's REALTOR® of the Year has dedicated her impressive career to exemplifying "leadership" at the local, state, and national levels. She is a true example of a Virginia REALTOR® who goes well beyond the call of duty. Our honoree has been a REALTOR® for nearly thirty years and has dedicated hundreds of hours to volunteer work in an effort to raise the bar on professionalism and give back to her community. She is well-known as a mentor to many, consistently teaching the importance of service—service to both our real estate clients and to the communities in which we live.

At the local level, this year's honoree has served as a REALTOR® Foundation Board Trustee, a Government Affairs Committee Member, REALTOR® Foundation Chair of the Board, among many other titles.

At the state level, our honoree has demonstrated extensive service on both committees and work groups. She has served on the Virginia REALTOR® Board of Directors and as Chair of the Awards Selection Committee.

In addition to serving as President of our state Association, this exceptional individual has demonstrated their outstanding leadership at the national level. Baisden has served as a NAR director, a NAR committee Chair, AND, most recently, our recipient was honored as a 2017 RPAC Hall of Fame Inductee.

When asked to describe this year’s honoree, those who work with Baisden say she is as well-known for her dedication to mentorship, charitable giving, and political involvement as she is known for her success in business. Baisden is no stranger to hard work, and, despite the level of leadership she has achieved in her career, Baisden never shies away from taking part in the “heavy lifting” required to make a real difference in our industry.

For a headshot of Deborah, please contact Laura Jones at [ljones@virginiarealtors.org](mailto:ljones@virginiarealtors.org)

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#### **About the Virginia REALTORS®**

The Virginia REALTORS® association (previously known as the Virginia Association of REALTORS®) is the largest professional trade association in the Virginia, representing over 34,000 REALTORS® engaged in the residential and commercial real estate business. The Virginia REALTORS® association serves as an advocate for homeownership and homeowners, and represents the interests of property owners in the Commonwealth of Virginia. For more information, visit [www.virginiarealtors.org](http://www.virginiarealtors.org) or follow Virginia REALTORS® on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [LinkedIn](#).

NOTE: The term REALTOR® is a registered collective membership mark that identifies a real estate professional who is a member of the National Association of REALTORS® and subscribes to its strict Code of Ethics.