



May 23, 2016

Des Moines Business Record
c/o Jason Swanson
100 4th Street
Des Moines, IA 50309

Re: Nomination of Kim Bakey for The Business Record Woman of Influence Award

Dear Mr. Swanson and Judges:

This is a letter in support of Kim Bakey's nomination for the 2016 Business Record Woman of Influence Award. Kim Bakey is the CEO of HomeServices of Iowa. HomeServices of Iowa is comprised of Iowa Realty, Iowa Title, Midland Title and Escrow, Iowa Realty Insurance Agency and HomeServices Lending. As CEO Kim oversees leadership and strategic planning for all of the companies including brokerage.

An accountant by trade, Kim began her career in public accounting and has been with Iowa Realty for 22 years rising to the position of Chief Financial Officer and at the end of 2015 she was named the Chief Executive Officer of her company. Kim has been very successful in her business career and as a corporate leader, but in addition she was chosen as the Business Record CFO of the year in 2010. Outside of work, Kim is strongly involved in the community. She currently serves on the Board of Directors for Blank Children's Hospital and many other financial and real estate professional organizations. The Greater Des Moines Community benefits from Kim Bakey being here.

The real estate brokerage industry has long provided for opportunities in which women can succeed. Kim's rise to the Chief Executive Officer position of a company which includes the largest real estate brokerage firm in Iowa is an incredible example to the many women who have chosen real estate as a career. Throughout my career I have worked closely with Iowa Realty. During these last 22 years I have seen Kim Bakey rise through the ranks of management and leadership. Kim is a wonderful example to all of us. Her professionalism and community involvement truly makes her a women of influence.

Respectfully submitted,


Gerard D. Neugent
President and CEO