

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **BAREIS MLS® Announces Assistance to Members Affected by Northern California Fires**

Regional MLS Offers to Waive Fees, Replace Lockboxes and Keys, and Make Cash Donations

SANTA ROSA, Calif. (Oct. XX, 2017) -- BAREIS MLS® (<http://www.bareis.com>), the broker-owned MLS serving Sonoma, Napa, Marin, Solano and Mendocino counties in Northern California, has announced a number of measures the organization has taken in response to wildfires that have ripped through the region, affecting a significant number of its members.

As an initial step, BAREIS is waiving its fees for members directly affected by the fires, which have destroyed at least 8,400 structures. The MLS has been reaching out to broker members to get the names of agents directly affected and offer help in relief efforts.

To date, BAREIS has received requests for assistance from more than 70 members who have lost their homes, and has provided over \$70,000 in Visa gift cards to help them get back on their feet. The MLS has also waived fees for these members for the next 12 months, and will replace all destroyed lockboxes and keys.

“We wanted to do our part to help soften the blow caused by the wild fires,” said Dave Egan, current Chairman of the Board of BAREIS.

In addition, BAREIS has made a \$10,000 donation to a North Bay fire relief fund that will support fire victims and relief efforts in Sonoma, Napa, Mendocino and Lake counties.

“It’s been devastating to learn how many of our members and personal friends have lost their homes,” said KB Walter, President and CEO of BAREIS. “We want our members to know we are here for them and will continue to support them in any way we can.”

BAREIS also postponed the launch of the new BAREIS dashboard, website and two MLS products to avoid any additional disruption to member business as the region recovers from the damage. The MLS had been planning to launch these exciting changes and new products October 10<sup>th</sup>, and now plans on launching October 31<sup>st</sup>.

“We did not want members to have to deal with a new login and password experience while these other major things were happening in their businesses and their lives,” said Walter, “and while we recognize that we are still a long way from being back to business as usual, we are excited to bring these new tools to our members. We know we are best serving the community when we are supporting our members in their efforts to put people into homes.”

**About BAREIS**

BAREIS MLS® is the broker-owned multiple listing service assisting real estate professionals throughout the beautiful Marin, Sonoma, Napa, Solano and Mendocino counties in Northern California.

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