# CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®

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President-Elect Ziggy Zicarelli

# **November 2015 State Leadership Idea Exchange Council**

The California Association has a handful of high priority projects and achievements for our members as we wrap up 2015 and look into 2016.

C.A.R.'s Thought Leadership initiative has been an ongoing project for the past few years to position C.A.R. as a thought leader and key influencer in the industry.

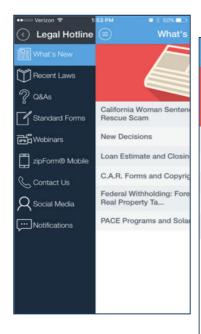
The California Association of REALTORS® has just been announced as the proud recipient of a grant from NAR's Game Changer Program in order to advance a real estate related public policy issue and increase REALTOR® awareness. C.A.R.'s winning proposal is in partnership with the University of California, and is yet another example of C.A.R.'s continued efforts to collaborate with academia on new research as part of its Thought Leadership program. Together with UC Center Sacramento – the university's policy center in the state's capital – C.A.R. will launch the very first C.A.R.-UC White Paper and Public Lectureship Competition to advance an evidence-based policy issue relevant to REALTORS®. Grant funding supplied by N.A.R. will go toward the winning faculty member's research stipend so that the whitepaper can address a critical policy question facing real estate professionals. The results of the research competition will be publicly available and educate the real estate community, and an event held in Sacramento will allow the winning academic to address influential policy makers, legislative staff, and academia. Through the creation of our think tank, the Center for California Real Estate (CCRE), C.A.R. is committed to advancing real estate knowledge and looks forward to cultivating, as well as disseminating, research-backed findings to contribute toward constructive debate about the interests and future of the real estate industry.

The latest Thought Leadership report on the economy is from a roundtable featuring C.A.R.'s Chief Economist Leslie Appleton-Young and is available at: <a href="http://www.car.org/ccre/pdf/car health">http://www.car.org/ccre/pdf/car health of us economy final 091415 pgs web.pdf</a>

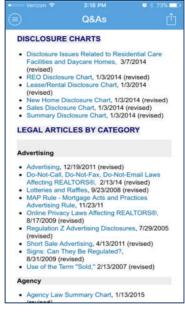
In addition, all of the CCRE reports and descriptions can be found at the following link: <a href="http://centerforcaliforniarealestate.org/publications/reports.html">http://centerforcaliforniarealestate.org/publications/reports.html</a>

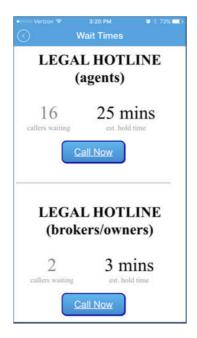
Ever since its inception decades ago, the C.A.R. Legal Hotline has been one of our top member benefits, allowing California REALTORS® to receive free legal assistance during a transaction. In October, C.A.R. released an app available on iPhone and Android that provides members access to Legal Hotline resources on-the-go.

The Legal Hotline App includes information from the C.A.R. website such as the "What's New" articles; Recent Laws and News from the current and previous year; legal articles (including Q&As); information on new and revised Standard Forms; webinar videos; quick access to zipForm® Mobile; direct dialing capabilities to the Legal Hotline, Customer Service, the Finance Helpline, the Ombudsman Hotline; ability to request outreaches and RPA classes; as well as quick links to the social media pages. A future enhancement of the app will provide hold times for the agent line, broker line, and customer service line with push to call access for members. This will give members an estimated waiting time and number of callers waiting, to help them determine if they want to call at that time. Below are screenshots of a few various sections of the app.







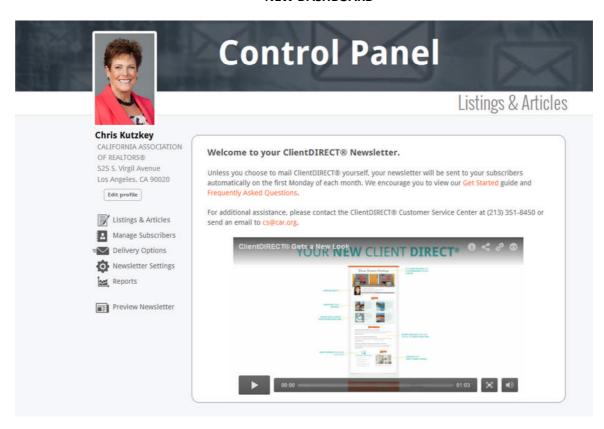


Over the past year, C.A.R. has also made a major transformation to one of its free member benefits, ClientDIRECT®. ClientDIRECT® is a customizable online that allows members to create a monthly real estate newsletter and share their latest listings, real estate news, custom articles, and infographics.

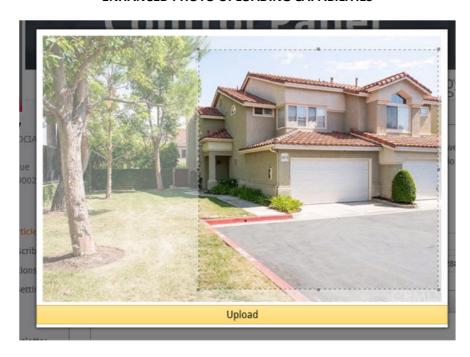
C.A.R. provides 6-8 new articles each month – something different from other newsletter services which require users to upload their own content – and even sends it out on the member's behalf to their clients. Other enhancements include a brand-new, modern template design and new dashboard. The new dashboard makes it even easier for REALTORS® to design their newsletter, upload their photos, and select their newsletter articles. Below are a few screenshots of the recent improvements to this valuable C.A.R. member benefit.



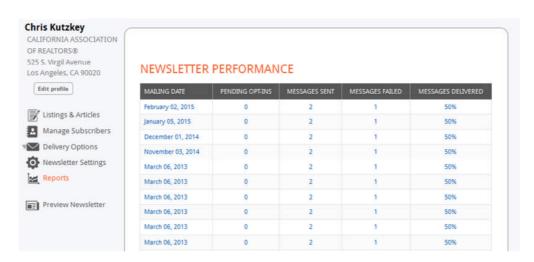
#### **NEW DASHBOARD**



### **ENHANCED PHOTO UPLOADING CAPABILITIES**



#### **IN-DEPTH REPORTING**



## **CUSTOM DELIVERY METHODS**

