



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Al Suguitan, Greater Gateway Association of REALTORS®  
618-692-8300 asuguitan@gatewayrealtors.com

## **Illinois December Home Sales**

March 17, 2009 — For 2009, the Illinois Association of REALTORS® reports that Illinois home sales were down just 1.5 percent to 107,503 homes sold compared to 109,195 homes sold in 2008. The year-end statewide median price for 2009 was \$157,000, down 14.6 percent from \$183,900 last year.

According to IAR President Mike Onorato, GRI, four consecutive months of sales increases and two months of median price increases in 40 to 50 percent of Illinois counties are all good signs that markets are stabilizing in some areas; however, the overall economy must improve to see a full recovery in the housing market.

The IAR report concludes that total home sales comparing December 2009 to the same month in 2008 were up in 50 of 99 Illinois counties, including Macoupin County; 50 percent of reporting counties also logged median price increases, including Bond and Calhoun counties.

The Illinois Association of REALTORS® is a voluntary trade association whose 50,000 members are engaged in all facets of the real estate industry. In addition to serving the professional needs of its members, the Illinois Association of REALTORS® works to protect the rights of private property owners in the state by recommending and promoting legislation that safeguards and advances the interest of real property ownership.

The Greater Gateway Association of REALTORS® serves over 1,200 REALTOR® and affiliate members in the southwestern Illinois region including the counties of Bond, Calhoun, Fayette, Jersey, Macoupin, Madison, Monroe, and Montgomery. The Association strives to promote education, professionalism, and ethical conduct in the real estate industry, to continue to be an advocate for the protection of property rights, to assist in providing Americans with safe and affordable housing, and to further the interest of residential and other real estate property ownership.