

Simple safety strategies for business and personal security

THE National Association of Realtors observes a Realtor Safety Week every September. The purpose is to foster thinking about the importance of safety among real estate practitioners. According to NAR, security experts say that outside sales is one of the most dangerous jobs.

Realtor organizations and companies hold classes on staying safe on the job. Knowing simple strategies can help. Safety tips that apply to every independent contractor can be found at www.Realtor.org.

Ellis Equals Safety

Bay East Association of Realtors Affiliate member, Senior Loan Consultant Pam Ellis of Diversified Capital Funding is a Self Defense Safety Instructor. She holds a 2nd degree Black Belt in the art of Tae Kwon Do and a Brown Belt in the art of Judo. Additionally she is a US Army Close Quarters Combat Training Assistant Instructor and an instructor for W.I.S.E. or Women Initiating Safe Environments.

The class is an 8-week course and open to all women of all ages, with or without athletic skills. Just a few of the topics covered are assault prevention, counter measures and personal security. Many W.I.S.E. graduates have saved themselves in life threatening situations with skills learned at this workshop.

Ellis offers instruction to real estate offices and the public as well, all around the bay area. Upcoming classes begin in October at Montevideo Elementary in San Ramon and Curves in Livermore. "When I was in college I took the course. I became an instruc-

tor because the information is so valuable and needs to be shared." For tuition costs contact Ellis at (925)786-8014 or Pellis@DIV-Cap.net.

Cieghorn Comments

Kim Cieghorn, Branch Manager of the RE/Max Executive Oakland and Berkeley offices commented on her company's education efforts utilizing the RE/Max Satellite Network (RSN). Next week the network offers a program called "Safety Awareness" for their members. RSN is a real estate television network, reaching 82,000 RE/MAX associates

throughout North America.

Security Callback

Mobile Callback is a product for improving agents' safety. Sales people can receive pre-arranged calls on their mobile phones to monitor location and well-being. This is helpful at open houses and showings. Anyone that spends time with people they don't know, as part of their business can use this to provide a higher level of safety. Visit www.mobilecallback.com

JUST LISTED



BOBBIE REID

This is helpful at open houses and showings. Anyone that spends time with people they don't know, as part of their business can use this to provide a higher level of safety. Visit www.mobilecallback.com

Office Tips

Working alone in any office requires cautionary steps. Lock all doors and windows. Leave lights on. Play the radio with

Much of the NAR campaign should be a reminder to all of us that security is important year round. This safety information is valid for anyone who is an independent contractor or for anyone who works unaccompanied, in their place of business.

Safety Links

Consumers can find links to many sights dealing with safety. Check out www.safewithin.com for links. Personal protection devices and classes are available locally, online and on DVD. The best device is knowledge. Learn security habits, awareness of surroundings and how to show confidence.



Defend yourself! Bay East Association of Realtors member Pam Ellis of Diversified Capital warms up before a self-defense class session. Ellis holds a black belt and teaches personal security as well as being a mortgage consultant.

PHOTO BY JIM CHAPMAN

Send real estate news items to bobbieid@mindspring.com or visit