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BIAW Announces 2017 Hall of Fame Recipients

The Building Industry Association of Washington (BIAW) is proud to announce its 2017 Hall of Fame inductees. The program recognizes and honors individuals who have made significant and lasting contributions to BIAW and the housing industry in Washington State.

The awards were handed out during the fall awards ceremony held November 9, 2017 at the BIAW Fall Board meeting in Blaine, WA at Semiahmoo Resort.

Nominations were submitted by local association home builders associations across the state. Those inducted into the 2017 Hall of Fame are:

James “Pete” Middlebrooks

James Middlebrooks of the Law Office of James C. Middlebrooks has been dedicated to serving residential and commercial real estate clients for more than 45 years.

Pete’s involvement with the Master Builders Association of King and Snohomish Counties (MBAKS), has included many duties: serving as a director, participating on many committees and councils, as a state director and on BIAW’s legislative policy committee.

Over the years, he has worked on countless real estate legal issues and drafted legislation in support of the construction industry. Additionally, he has published numerous articles and presented seminars for MBAKS, Washington Realtors Association, University of Washington Law School, and many other organizations. During his career, Middlebrooks also served on task forces in the state Legislature, the city of Seattle and Washington State Bar Association.

His commitment and support of BIAW, his local association and the home building industry exemplify the characteristics of a BIAW Hall of Fame inductee.

Frank Romero

Frank Romero has spent over 45 years advocating for the home building industry in both the Department of Labor & Industries (L&I) and BIAW.

In his role with L&I, he created business-friendly systems that benefited home builders, contractors and retro programs. After joining BIAW staff in 2005, Romero helped members navigate L&I audits and disputes and developed a successful litigation program.

Following his transition into leadership, Frank took the struggling R.O.I.I.® program from refunds of 1% at the time, to earning double-digit first-year adjustments within his first year at the helm. As a result of his stewardship, over \$100 million has been returned in refunds to member participants.

In recognition of his exceptional service, he was awarded the Executive Officer Special Recognition Award in 2011 by MBAKS.

Romero, who is retiring from BIAW at the end of 2017, has been invaluable to the home building industry and has secured his place in the BIAW Hall of Fame.

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Known as the “champions of affordable housing,” the Building Industry Association of Washington is the largest trade association in Washington state representing nearly 8,000 member companies involved in the homebuilding industry.