



PACA Media Release

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PACA members to receive advice at Sept. 9 meeting on protecting homeowner interests during economic hard times

Members of Pasco County's community associations will hear several ideas on Sept. 9 on how to protect their communities' financial interests during the current economic hard times.

Community association expert Steve Mezer will offer his suggestions during a meeting of PACA – the Pasco Alliance of Community Associations. The meeting, open to the public as well as to PACA members, begins at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 9, at the Land O' Lakes Community Center, located at 5401 Land O' Lakes Blvd. (US 41), three miles north of SR 54.

Mr. Mezer is an attorney with the Tampa firm of Buss|Ross. He has served as general counsel to hundreds of community associations. He routinely handles matters involving real estate litigation, foreclosures, collection of assessments and deed restriction enforcement.

Mr. Mezer will discuss with PACA the key legal issues facing community associations. He will also address the best ways to collect unpaid dues owed to community associations. His presentation will also cover property foreclosures and auctions, as well as how tax certificate sales ensure that community development districts collect the fees landowners owe them. He will outline changes made in state laws this year that affect PACA members, and areas of legislation that might be proposed in 2011.

PACA president Jim Flateau said, "Community associations are charged by law with protecting the common property owned by landowners. Associations know the economy has placed many landowners between the proverbial 'rock and a hard place.' Associations understand they must work with landowners to collect funds owed, in order to pay the bills to maintain the value of community property. Mr. Mezer will discuss the best ways of meeting that goal."

PACA is a not-for-profit organization whose members include 82 of Pasco County's homeowner associations, community development districts and condominium associations. PACA assists members by educating them on common issues and finding solutions to shared problems. It also represents the interests of members before all levels of government.

For more information on PACA, contact Membership Director David Quinones at (813) 991-1505 or visit the PACA website at www.MyPACA.org. To suggest topics or speakers for PACA meetings, share your ideas with Program Director Wayne Mooney at (352) 467-9808.

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Media publicity for, and coverage of, this event is welcomed.

Media inquiries should be directed to PACA president Jim Flateau at (813) 920-8393.