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Coral Gables' Carlton Cole, MAI, Honored as Appraisal Institute's 'Volunteer of Distinction'

CHICAGO (Sept. 8, 2010) – Carlton Cole, MAI, of Coral Gables, Fla., was recognized today as the Appraisal Institute's September "Volunteer of Distinction" for Region X.

The Appraisal Institute is the nation's largest organization of real estate appraisers; Region X includes Florida, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. Cole is a member of the Appraisal Institute's South Florida Chapter.

"Carlton Cole is an example of the outstanding individuals who belong to the Appraisal Institute," said Leslie P. Sellers, MAI, SRA, Appraisal Institute president. "We're proud of the contributions Carlton and all our members make to our organization, to the real estate valuation profession and to the communities where they work and live."

Cole has been a member of the Appraisal Institute for nearly four decades. His service to the Appraisal Institute includes serving as chair of AI's Convention Committee, chair of the National Subcommittee on Meetings and Conventions, and as a member of the Finance Committee, Education Trust Fund Committee, and Professional Advancement and Member Services Committee. A former Region X representative, he has served the South Florida Chapter in many capacities, including as chapter president, as honorary director of the board of directors, and as chair of its Education, Professional Ethics and Bylaws committees.

Cole has been involved in the real estate valuation profession for more than 40 years. His service to the profession includes mentoring appraisers in the University of Florida's Real Estate Appraising Master's Degree Program, serving as chair of the Review Board for The Appraisal Journal, and earning professional designations from the Counselors of Real Estate (CRE) and the CCIM Institute (CCIM). He has been certified as a general real estate appraiser by the state of Florida and has authored texts on appraising golf courses. Having worked for Cole Appraisal Company since 1970, he assumed the role of president in 1980.

In his community, Cole serves as chairman for the Trustees of the Endowment for the Historic Association of Southern Florida and as a trustee for the Vizcaya Museum and Gardens Trust. A former member of the United States Army, he is a past member of the board of directors for the Historic Association of Southern Florida.

Cole, 68, joined one of AI's predecessor organizations in 1972 and earned his MAI designation that same year. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree in economics and business from Davidson College in 1963 and earned a Master's Degree in economics and urban land studies from the University of Florida in 1965.

The Appraisal Institute is a global membership association of professional real estate appraisers, with more than 25,000 members and 91 chapters throughout the world. Its mission is to advance professionalism and ethics, global standards, methodologies, and practices through the professional development of property economics worldwide. Organized in 1932, the Appraisal Institute advocates equal opportunity and nondiscrimination in the appraisal profession and conducts its activities in accordance with applicable federal, state and local laws. Members of the Appraisal Institute benefit from an array of professional education and advocacy programs, and may hold the prestigious MAI, SRPA and SRA designations. Learn more at www.appraisalinstitute.org.

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