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La Mesa's Susan Merrick Honored as Appraisal Institute's 'Volunteer of Distinction'

CHICAGO (July 6, 2011) – Susan Merrick, SRA, of La Mesa, Calif., was recognized today as the Appraisal Institute's July "Volunteer of Distinction" for Region VII.

The Appraisal Institute is the nation's largest professional association of real estate appraisers; Region VII consists of Arizona, Hawaii, southern California and southern Nevada. Merrick is a member of the San Diego Chapter.

"Susan Merrick is an example of the outstanding individuals who belong to the Appraisal Institute," said Appraisal Institute President Joseph C. Magdziarz, MAI, SRA. "We're proud of the contributions Susan and all our members make to our organization, to the real estate valuation profession and to the communities where they work and live."

A member of the Appraisal Institute since 2002, Merrick has served the Appraisal Institute's San Diego Chapter on its board of directors (2010-12), as Associate Guidance Committee chair (2010-12) and California Government Relations Subcommittee Chair (2010-12). She also was a Leadership Development Advisory Council representative in 2008. Merrick has worked in the real estate valuation profession for nine years and is a certified real estate appraiser in California.

In service to her community, Merrick has served on the board for a hospital auxiliary and as director of music for her local church. She is also involved with local youth programs including the Optimist Club, where she chaired the post-prom committee, as well as serving on several school district Parent Teacher Organization committees, as a Girl Scout leader and coach of local girls' softball and soccer teams. She is also treasurer of the San Diego Astrological Society and served on the Xerox Community Involvement committee.

Merrick, 59, is a residential appraiser with Eshelman Appraisals in La Mesa. She received her associate's degree from Grossmont College in El Cajon, Calif. She has been married for 39 years and has three children and four grandchildren.

To learn more about the Appraisal Institute's "Volunteer of Distinction" member recognition program, go to <http://www.appraisalinstitute.org/membership/VolunteerOfDistinction.aspx>.

The Appraisal Institute is a global membership association of professional real estate appraisers, with more than 24,000 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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