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**PINELLAS REALTOR[®] ORGANIZATION NAMES DAVID B. BENNETT, CAE
AS PRESIDENT AND CEO**

CLEARWATER, FL – The Board of Directors of the Pinellas Realtor[®] Organization (PRO) has selected David B. Bennett, CAE as the new President and Chief Executive Officer of PRO. Bennett will enter his new role on January 1, 2012 and will replace Ann Guiberson, CAE, who is retiring after 32 years of service to the Realtor[®] organization.

Bennett is currently the Executive Vice-President of PRO and has been with the organization since 1998. He was promoted to that role in 2011 following 8 years as the Chief Operating Officer and various other roles during his tenure. He also served as the Chief Executive Officer of the Osceola County Association of Realtors[®], Inc. from 2006 to 2008.

“David was the unanimous choice for the CEO position,” said Jan Bruzas, 2011 Board Chair. “His extensive experience and creativity made him the ideal candidate to lead PRO in our ever-changing and challenging industry. The Board is confident he has the energizing vision and passion to take PRO to the next level.” In his new role, Bennett will be responsible for organizational efficiency, professional staff development, and enhancing the value of membership for PRO’s 5,000+ members.

Bennett, a native of Pinellas County, has a bachelor’s degree in Accounting and studied Non-Profit Management at the University of Chicago’s Graham School of Business. He also holds the Certified Association Executive (CAE), the association management industry’s highest level of certification from the American Society of Association Executives. He is extremely knowledgeable about the entire real estate transaction, holding almost all of the National Association of Realtors[®] member designations (Certified International Property Specialist –CIPS, Accredited Buyer Representative – ABR, Short Sales & Foreclosure Resource – SFR, Senior Real Estate Specialists – SRES)

Bennett says, “I am thrilled to have been chosen for this role as PRO enters its 100th year of service in 2012. I am looking forward to continuing the strong legacy of the association and enhancing and improving the membership experience for the next generation of professionals. Working for the Realtor[®] organization for the past 15 years has provided me with an extensive background in all facets of the industry and the ability to work with members and leadership to help shape the industry for the future”.

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The Pinellas Realtor[®] Organization (PRO) is one of Tampa Bay’s largest professional trade associations. As the “Voice for Real Estate” in the Tampa Bay Area, PRO represents the interests of over 5,000 members from all real estate specialties including commercial sales, development, property management, appraisal, auctions, and residential sales.