



PRESS RELEASE

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REP. JOSPEH CROWLEY HONORED WITH NAREIT'S SMALL INVESTOR EMPOWEREMENT AWARD

Washington, D.C.—The National Association of Real Estate Investment Trusts® (NAREIT®) has presented Congressman Joseph Crowley (D-NY) with its 2009 Small Investor Empowerment Award. The Small Investor Empowerment Award was established on behalf of those people who invest in, are employed by, or derive benefit from REITs and publicly traded real estate companies. The award recognizes public servants who have demonstrated exceptional commitment to the ideals of free enterprise, economic growth, personal freedom and unlimited opportunity for all Americans.

Rep. Crowley serves in the leadership of the House as a Chief Deputy Whip, and serves on the House Committee on Ways and Means and the House Committee on Foreign Affairs. Since he was first elected to Congress in 1998, Rep. Crowley has been a strong advocate for small investors, and for creating financial opportunity for American working people.

He was an early champion of TRIA, the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act that provided a federal backstop for terrorism risk insurance, re-starting this segment of the insurance market that is crucial for commercial real estate. He also introduced the REIT Investment Diversification and Empowerment Act – RIDEA – into the House in 2007. RIDEA, which became law last summer as part of a broader legislative initiative, rationalized a number of the rules affecting REITs.

Past recipients of the award have included Rep. Barney Frank (D-MA), Rep. Tom Davis (R-VA), Rep. Richard Baker (R-LA), Sen. Charles Schumer (D-NY), Rep. Michael Oxley (R-OH), Sen. Christopher Dodd (D-CT), Sen. Byron Dorgan (D-ND), Sen. Mike Enzi (R-WY), Sen. Orrin Hatch (R-UT), Rep. Ben Cardin (D-MD), (former) Senator Bob Graham (D-FL), (former) Sen. Connie Mack (R-FL), (former) Rep. Bill Thomas (R-CA) and (former) Rep. Bill Archer (R-TX).

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