



COMING TOGETHER TO MAKE EVERYONE BETTER

FAQ'S

What will the Association look like?

The merger of WeMAR and SEVRAR would result in an Association of more than 24,000 members including our REALTORS®, Brokers, Appraisers, and Affiliate members. We will represent almost 45% of the REALTOR® members in Arizona and would be the 5th largest REALTOR® Association in the country. We will continue to maintain our three office locations in Peoria, Chandler, and Casa Grande, Arizona. An emphasis will be placed on improving the member experience.

Why should the members want to merge?

The leadership of both Associations expect more benefits will be available to our members by eliminating duplication of effort and costs to run two separate entities. The increased benefits will include more education opportunities, sponsorship opportunities for our Affiliate partners, multiple locations for services, greater opportunities for business product benefits for our members, and additional significant resources to bring more value to the REALTOR® member.

How will the merger occur?

The membership of both Associations will have the opportunity to vote in favor or against the merger on March 15, 2019. We will have eight informational town hall meetings for our leadership, Brokers, and members to come to ask questions and receive information on the process. The completion of the merger (if passed by members) will occur at the end of 2019 to finalize the legal business merger of both Associations.

Is either Association in financial difficulty or in need of the merger to survive?

No. Both WeMAR and SEVRAR are financially sound with adequate reserves and substantial equity in their assets. The combination of both Associations will enhance our financial strength, giving us the ability to improve the member experience with more benefits and services.

What will happen to Professional Standards?

After the merger is complete, the entire membership of the newly named Association will have Professional Standards services provided to all its members as one of its core functions.

How will the Board of Directors change?

Initially, the Board of Directors will be a merger of both boards as they are today. Terms will be honored as they were prior to the merger. As Directors decide to complete their terms, the board composition will be adjusted to have a representative membership of Regional Chapters, Brokers, REALTORS® and Affiliate representatives to best serve the joint membership.

What are Regional Chapters?

Regional Chapters will be defined by area and number of members for each area. The leadership believes that “Real Estate is Local” and each defined District of the larger Association will have their own needs and issues and should have an opportunity to be heard at the highest level.

How will the Affiliates be impacted?

There will be an increased opportunity for sponsorships and participation by all Affiliates. The size of the Association and the distance between locations will ensure that members will stay with their primary location, and have the ability to participate at other regional chapters. The events and educational sponsorship opportunities will increase for all of those interested in joining. The website will list all Affiliates and their area of expertise as well as their desired geographical area. The Affiliate Recognition Programs, Blue Ribbon Affiliate, and Platinum Affiliate will not change immediately. A task force of Affiliate members from both Associations will decide to change their programs or leave them location specific for the future.

Are there other Associations interested in becoming part of this merger?

Currently, the only discussions occurring are between WeMAR and SEVRAR. If other Associations want to participate in a merger with the new entity, we can discuss those options upon completion of this merger.

What are some benefits that will come from a merger?

WeMAR and SEVRAR have both operated since 1946 as two separate Associations that are 50 miles apart. With that, they are not identical in how they do things, which is an opportunity to bring the best of both Associations together. The following services offered separately will be provided for the entire membership once the merger is complete. Including, but not limited to:

- A 12-week Leadership Program offered to all members.
- Broker specific education and services including a dedicated staff member to give the Brokers concierge service.
- Stronger relations with the Arizona Department of Real Estate with greater staff support as a conduit for major issues and assist with Broker audits.
- Additional educational opportunities with the expansion of all offerings to include Programs of Value, CE, GRI, and other Designations, and the ability to attend at no or low cost at any of the locations.
- Further develop relationships with the municipalities that we serve.

How will this impact the brokerage community?

The merger of the two Associations will make the interactions with the new Association easier for our 3,000+ brokerages since the fees and application process will be the same for everyone. We will also have a Concierge Broker Liaison on staff to handle any issues right away. Since we will be representing so many Brokers, it is our plan to work with the Arizona Department of Real Estate to build stronger relationships with our members and the department’s processes.

Will this merger change the WeMAR C.A.R.E.S. or Critical Needs Funds?

A task force from both Associations will be established to merge the concepts of both funds into one.

Is there cost savings to combining the Associations and how will this affect me?

Yes. The leadership agrees that our members will experience more benefits from having a more significant Association with greater negotiating power for services and internal systems.