

NEWS RELEASE



Site Selection • Brokerage • Leasing • SBA Financing • Development Financing

Austin Office

403 N. Pleasant Valley Rd.
Austin, Tx 78702
Off 512-385-9474
Fax 512-385-9453

Laredo Office

Capitol Centre
401 E. Hillside Rd.
Laredo, Tx 78041
Off 956-791-9474

**ARMANDO RUIZ ACHIEVES MEMBERSHIP IN
ELITE INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE NETWORK**

(Austin, Texas) December 11, 2008 – Armando Ruiz, CCIM of The Ruiz Companies will be awarded the prestigious Certified International Property Specialist (CIPS) designation and will join a worldwide referral network of elite global real estate practitioners with expertise in working with international clients as well as immigrants. The CIPS Designation is awarded by the National Association of REALTORS® (NAR), which represents over 1,200,000 REALTORS® in the United States. Ruiz will be formally recognized at NAR's Midyear Legislative Conference & Trade Expo in Washington, D.C. on May 13, 2009.

NEWS RELEASE

Members of the CIPS Network are crucial players in today's global real estate market. The CIPS designation recognizes members who have achieved the necessary training and experience to work successfully with international clients and properties. To earn the CIPS designation, REALTORS® complete rigorous coursework devoted to learning cultural differences and international business practices. Designees must also prove achievement in international real estate transactions. Armando Ruiz, CCIM joins a distinguished society of over 1600 real estate professionals throughout the world who have earned the CIPS designation. "This is a highly prestigious award in our industry," said Barbara Schmerzler, CIPS, NAR International Operations Committee Chair. "Ruiz is now established as an expert in international real estate."

Armando Ruiz, CCIM is the President of The Ruiz Companies, Inc. a Commercial Real Estate Consulting firm based in Austin and serving primarily the Central and South Texas area in providing customers Commercial Real Estate Services. Armando Ruiz started his business in 1995 after ten year tenure with the Texas Department of Commerce. Mr. Ruiz also received his national certification as an Certified Commercial Investment Member (CCIM) in 2003. In 2004 Mr. Ruiz joined 39 CCIM designees in Monterey, Mexico and met with their Mexican's counter part to learn about doing business in Mexico. The trip was sponsor by the CCIM institute and the goal of the trip is to develop business relationship in Mexico for our clients in the United States. Mr. Armando Ruiz can be reached at 1-800-370-1221 or 512/385-9474.

For more information on the CIPS designation, contact the National Association of REALTORS® Fax-on-Demand number, 1-800-354-2831 in the USA and Canada, or 1-732-544-2851 internationally or visit the CIPS Network website at www.realtor.org/international.

NEWS RELEASE



Armando Ruiz, CCIM, CIPS