ALTA NEWS

A M E R I C A N LAND TITLE ASSOCIATION

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For Immediate Release

American Land Title Association's Ailes Comments on NAIC's National Title Agent Data Call, Efforts to Improve Consumer Shopping and Reduce Fraud

Washington, D.C., June 7, 2011 —Justin Ailes, Vice President of Government Affairs for the <u>American Land</u> <u>Title Association</u>, commented today on the National Association of Insurance Commissioner's efforts to implement a national title agent data call, promote consumer shopping, and to improve market conduct exams and reduce fraud in the marketplace, while participating on a panel titled "Data Call 2011" during the National Settlement Services Summit in Cleveland, Ohio.

"As an industry, we are going to need to be able to better articulate our message, especially when we are asked, 'How can we help consumers shop for title insurance and settlement services?' Ailes said.

"ALTA encourages state land title associations to develop a strategy to engage with their regulators. If they have not done so already, and most states have not, now is the time for state land title associations to consider how they wish to engage with their state insurance departments on the NAIC's data call," Ailes continued.

"As our industry works to improve our communication with consumers, we are also concerned about communication with our regulators. The NAIC's Title Insurance Market Conduct and Mortgage Fraud Working Group has met behind closed doors and it's not clear what its purpose is, but rumors say that regulators use this Working Group to discuss enforcement actions," Ailes added. "During the NAIC meeting in March, ALTA was able to secure a commitment that the committee will meet publicly and that ALTA will be able to participate in more transparent discussions. ALTA will use this forum to open a dialogue about how the industry and regulators can work together to improve the market conduct examination process and combat mortgage fraud, in all of its forms."

About ALTA

The <u>American Land Title Association</u>, founded in 1907, is a national trade association representing more than 3,800 title insurance companies, title agents, independent abstracters, title searchers, and attorneys. With offices throughout the United States, ALTA members conduct title searches, examinations, closings, and issue title insurance that protects real property owners and mortgage lenders against losses from defects in titles.