



# NEWS RELEASE

Supervisor Michael J. Rubio, Fifth District  
1115 Truxtun Avenue, Suite 505  
Bakersfield, CA 93301  
(661) 868-3690      (661) 868-3645 FAX

Immediate Release  
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Contact: Kim Salas  
(661) 549-0770

## Supervisor Rubio Hosts “Housing Crisis 411” Town Hall Meeting *Expert Panel to Discuss Foreclosure Assistance Options in Kern County*

Fifth District Supervisor Michael Rubio will host an interactive town hall meeting dedicated to informing the public about community resources available in Kern County during the current housing crisis.

In the last two years, Kern County and metropolitan Bakersfield areas have been affected greatly by the downturn in the economy, as well as the negative impact on local homeowners and renters. In RealtyTrac’s 2008 Third Quarter Report, the Bakersfield area was ranked 4<sup>th</sup> in the rate of foreclosures compared to other metropolitan areas around the country.

Panelists will include representatives from HUD and Consumer Credit Counseling, in addition to experts from the Housing Authority of the County of Kern, Kern County Department of Human Services and Kern County Department of Mental Health. Topics to be discussed include the federal HOPE for Homeowners Program, short sales, deed-in-lieu of foreclosure, as well as other available options for distressed homeowners.

This panel of experts from throughout the County will be available to answer any questions the public may have about their available options as homeowners and /or renters. There is a special focus on making this town hall meeting interactive and accessible to every member of the public.

On Monday, December 8<sup>th</sup> between 6:00PM and 8:00PM, residents of Kern County are encouraged to:

- 1) **JOIN** Supervisor Rubio in the Board Chambers and ask questions directly to the expert panel
- 2) **WATCH** the meeting live on Kern County Government Television (KGOV)
- 3) **CALL** the panel to have a question answered during the meeting at **661-868-3659**
- 4) **EMAIL** a question for the expert panel to answer at the meeting to [housingcrisis411@co.kern.ca.us](mailto:housingcrisis411@co.kern.ca.us)

“As Kern County faces the worst economic decline in decades, local residents are losing their homes at an alarming rate,” Rubio said. “I am hosting this interactive meeting to ensure that our residents have vital information in order to avoid foreclosure or other housing predicaments and restore hope to the homeowners of Kern County.”

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**WHAT:** Interactive “Housing Crisis 411” Town Hall Meeting

**WHEN:** Monday, December 8, 2008 from 6:00PM – 8:00PM

**WHERE:** Board of Supervisors Chambers (1115 Truxtun Avenue, Bakersfield, CA 93301)