

# **NAHB PRESIDENT BRIAN CATALDE AWARDED**

## **BIA/SC PAC MEDAL OF HONOR**

DIAMOND BAR - The Building Industry Association of Southern California (BIA/SC) Political Action Committee (PAC) announced today that Brian Catalde, a Southern California homebuilder and National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) President, received its coveted Medal of Honor at the annual PAC Gala on March 29, 2007 at the California Science Center in Los Angeles, Calif.

Catalde founded Paragon Communities in El Segundo, Calif. in the early 1980s and serves as its President and COO. He has been building homes for Southern California families for more than 30 years and has served as President of BIA/SC and the California Building Industry Association (CBIA).

"As a longtime BIA member, I'm honored to receive such an award," Catalde said. "Now more than ever, it's important for homebuilders to get involved in government affairs and the political process. Future homeowners are depending on us to help them achieve the American dream."

Established in 1984, the Medal of Honor is not given every year, but only when an individual has demonstrated exceptional leadership through political activities that contribute to new housing and help more families achieve the American dream of homeownership. Past Medal of Honor recipients have included General William Lyon (William Lyon Homes), Michael Pattinson (Barratt American), Michael Keston (Larwin Company), Gary Hunt (California Strategies) and Gary Cusumano (The Newhall Land & Framing Company).

"Brian has worked long and hard on behalf of the industry in Southern California and throughout the state," Rich Lambros, CEO for BIA/SC, said. "His knowledge and experience will bring NAHB a wonderful perspective and give Southern California homebuilders a stronger voice in national politics."

Catalde has long demonstrated his commitment to improving the industry climate through government affairs and politics. He has served as Chairman of the Government Affairs Committee for both BIA/SC and the California Building Industry Association, and he chaired NAHB's Federal Governmental Affairs Committee in 2001. He went on to serve on the Board of Directors and as a national Vice President for the 235,000-member national association. He is an active fundraiser for NAHB's BUILD-PAC, the fifth-largest trade association PAC in the nation.

Catalde served as President of BIA/SC in 1995 and of CBIA in 1999. BIA/SC named him Builder of the Year in 1996, and the Sales and Marketing Council of Greater Los Angeles/Ventura named him CEO of the Year in 1993.

Paragon Communities specializes in single-family homes ranging from entry-level to luxury homes, as well as multifamily homes. The company builds about

500 homes a year, including current projects in Oxnard and Los Angeles.

"This year will be a critical turning point for the nation's housing industry," Catalde said. "We expect the worst of the housing downturn to be behind us and hope to see increasing home sales over the months ahead. I look forward to leading the NAHB forward as we navigate a course for success through these changing times."

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Established in 1923, the Building Industry Association of Southern California is a non-profit trade association representing more than 2,000 member companies involved in planning and building Southern California's communities. Our members are involved in all aspects of construction-from architecture to roofing to landscape design. Visit us on the web at [www.biasc.org](http://www.biasc.org) to learn more.