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BLACKWELL ACHIEVES MEMBERSHIP IN ELITE INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE NETWORK

(Honolulu, Hawaii) October 17, 2005 – Sakara K. Blackwell of Optimum Realty LLC was awarded the prestigious Certified International Property Specialist (CIPS) designation and joins 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 1,000,000 REALTORS® in the United States. Blackwell will be formally recognized at the NAR's Annual Convention in San Francisco, California on October 29, 2005.

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. Blackwell joins a distinguished society of over 1200 real estate professionals throughout the world who have earned the CIPS designation. "This is a highly prestigious award in our industry," said Carmela Ma, CIPS, NAR International Operations Committee Chair. "Blackwell is now established as an expert in international real estate."

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.

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