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Chris Wood Named REALTOR® of the Year by Birmingham Association of REALTORS®

Birmingham (August, 2015) – In a recent announcement, the Birmingham Association of REALTORS® named Chris Wood of RealtySouth its REALTOR® of the Year.

Wood, a REALTOR® since 2002, is managing broker of RealtySouth's Trussville branch.

Chris currently serves as a member of the Birmingham Association of REALTORS® Global Alliance, Professional Standards Committee, MLS (Multiple Listing Service) Governance Committee and is Vice Chair of the association's Professional Development Committee. He also serves on the Board of Directors for both the local and state associations. In addition, Wood is licensed by the Alabama Real Estate Commission as an instructor for Risk Management and Code of Ethics, as well as a Communications course, which he authored. He is also licensed at the national level to instruct courses for the ABR (Accredited Buyer Representative) designation and MRP (Military Relocation Professional) certification.

For the past three years, Chris has served as qualifying broker of an office that grew by 26% in number of active agents. Last year he started a company-wide coaching program, which resulted in a collective \$17.6 million increase in sales over six months for the 30 agents who participated.

In addition to his real estate service, he has served on the Board of Directors for Easter Seals of Alabama, helping them raise more than \$12,000. In 2011, he was named to the *Birmingham Business Journal's* Top 40 Under 40 list. He has been a volunteer coach for high school football and a local sixth grade recreation league and is currently a member of a local high school touchdown club. Wood taught school and coached football and wrestling for seven years at a local elementary school prior to starting his real estate career. He holds a bachelor's degree in kinesiology and a master's degree in education, both from the University of Montevallo.

RealtySouth CEO, Richard Grimes, said Wood clearly deserved this honor. "Whether reviewing the list of Chris's professional accomplishments as a broker or agent, it is clear this award has been earned through hard work and a commitment to excellence," Grimes stated. "His willingness to serve selflessly coupled with his passion for education, integrity and civic involvement serve as testament to his character. Chris is a man of conviction and determination. It is a pleasure to have such talent within our RealtySouth family," he added.

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RealtySouth is a full-service brokerage firm of HomeServices of America, Inc., and a Berkshire Hathaway affiliate, headquartered in Birmingham, Alabama.

About HomeServices of America

HomeServices of America, Inc., based in Minneapolis, Minn., is the second-largest, full-service residential real estate brokerage firm and one of the largest brokerage-owned settlement services provider in the U.S and is the majority owner of the Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices franchise brand and the Prudential Real Estate and Real Living Real Estate franchise networks. Owned by MidAmerican Energy Holdings Company, a consolidated subsidiary of Berkshire Hathaway Inc., HomeServices' operating companies offer integrated real estate services, including brokerage services, mortgage originations, title and closing services, property and casualty insurance, home warranties, and other homeownership services. HomeServices Relocation, LLC is the full-service relocation arm of HomeServices of America, which provides every aspect of domestic and international relocation to corporations around the world. HomeServices operates under the following residential real estate brands: Carol Jones Realtors®; CBSHOME Real Estate; Champion Realty Inc.; Edina Realty; EWM Realtors®; Guarantee Real Estate; Harry Norman, Realtors®; HOME Real Estate; Huff Realty; Iowa Realty; Koenig & Strey Real Living; Long Companies; Prudential California Realty; Prudential Carolinas Realty; Prudential Connecticut Realty, Prudential First Realty; Prudential Fox & Roach, Realtors®; Prudential Georgia Realty; Prudential KC Realty, Prudential Northwest Realty Associates; Prudential Northwest Properties; Prudential Rhode Island Realty; Prudential York Simpson Underwood Realty; Prudential Yost & Little; RealtySouth; Rector-Hayden Realtors®; Reece & Nichols; Roberts Brothers Inc.; Semonin Realtors®; and Woods Bros. Realty.

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