



**BERKSHIRE  
HATHAWAY**  
HomeServices

# NEWS RELEASE



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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Prudential Contact Corporation, REALTORS® Joins Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Real Estate Brokerage Network**

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*Puyallup brokerage to operate as Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Northwest Real Estate*

**PUYALLUP, WA (Jan. 6, 2015)** – Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices, part of the HSF Affiliates LLC family of real estate brokerage franchise networks, today announced that Prudential Contact Corporation, REALTORS® has joined the network and is operating as Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Northwest Real Estate.

The full-service brokerage, founded in 1982, was recently acquired by Seattle-based Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Northwest Real Estate. The transaction increases Northwest Real Estate's presence in King, Pierce and Snohomish counties to 375 agents and eight offices. "We are proud to welcome Contact Corporation, REALTORS®," said Northwest Real Estate CEO Mike Gain. "This team has exhibited tremendous results and we are truly excited for the alliance."

"This is a monumental moment for our business and an exciting time for our company and our agents," added Doug McCollum, founder of Contact Corporation, REALTORS®. "We have always based our business on the principles of trust, integrity, outstanding service and community involvement. Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices was founded on similar values and principles, which will make this a smooth transition."

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices has grown quickly since its launch in September 2013. The network now counts 34,548 agents and 1,075 offices in 47 states. Already, the network was named 2014 "Real Estate Agency Brand of the Year" by consumers in the 26th annual Harris Poll EquiTrend® study and "Startup of the Year" among all U.S. industries at the 2014 American Business Awards.

With their transition, Contact Corporation, REALTORS® agents gain access to Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices' Global Network Platform – a suite of online tools, applications and services – plus ongoing business consultation, professional, education and marketing support. Resources include powerful lead generation and other tools fueled by the most accurate real estate data available.

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Dottie Traudt, a former co-owner of Contact Corporation, REALTORS® who is now managing broker of Northwest Real Estate reporting to Gain, said real estate consumers should expect the same great service they've received from the firm in the past. "Our agents are among the finest in the area, and now they have more resources to deliver even better service," she said. "From our brand's notoriety and credibility to its technology platform, we couldn't have picked a better alliance for the future."

Gino Blefari, HSF Affiliates CEO, welcomed the brokerage. "We are delighted that Doug, Dottie and their team are going forward with Northwest Real Estate and our brokerage network," he said.

### **About Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Northwest Real Estate**

Northwest Real Estate serves King, Pierce and Snohomish counties with eight offices and 375 agents. The brokerage is a proud member of HomeServices of America, Inc., a Berkshire Hathaway affiliate. Visit: <http://www.bhhsnwrealestate.com>.

### **About Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices**

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices, based in Irvine, CA, is a real estate brokerage network built for a new era in residential real estate. The network, among the few organizations entrusted to use the world-renowned Berkshire Hathaway name, brings to the real estate market a definitive mark of trust, integrity, stability and longevity. Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices in early 2014 was named "Real Estate Agency Brand of the Year" by consumers in the 26th annual Harris Poll EquiTrend® study of the largest real estate networks. Visit [www.berkshirehathawayhs.com](http://www.berkshirehathawayhs.com).

Irvine, CA-based HSF Affiliates LLC operates the Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices, Prudential Real Estate and Real Living Real Estate franchise networks. The company is a joint venture of which HomeServices of America, Inc., the nation's second-largest, full-service residential brokerage firm, is a majority owner. HomeServices of America is an affiliate of world-renowned Berkshire Hathaway Inc.

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices received the highest numerical Equity Score among real estate brands included in the 2014 Harris Poll EquiTrend® Study. Visit [www.berkshirehathawayhs.com](http://www.berkshirehathawayhs.com) for details.

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