## ALTA NEWS



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## For Immediate Release

## American Land Title Association Reports Preliminary Full Year and Fourth Quarter 2011 Title Insurance Premiums

**Washington, D.C., March 21, 2012** — The <u>American Land Title Association</u> (ALTA) reported title insurance premiums written during 2011 decreased slightly when compared to the previous year.

According to ALTA's preliminary 2011 Year-end and Fourth-Quarter Market Share Analysis, the title insurance industry generated \$9.47 billion in title insurance premiums in 2011, down 1.5 percent from 2010. During the fourth quarter of 2011, the industry reported \$2.57 billion in title insurance premiums, down 6.5 percent from the same period in 2010.

The states generating the most title insurance premiums during 2011 were California (\$1.33 billion, down 5.3 percent compared to 2010), Texas (\$1.15 billion, up 8.5 percent), New York (\$719.5 million, up 8.3 percent), Florida (\$718.6 million, up 1.8 percent) and Pennsylvania (\$410.0 million, down 4.5 percent). Overall, 15 states and the District of Columbia reported increases in title insurance premiums written during 2011 when compared to 2010.

During the fourth quarter of 2011, 10 states and D.C. reported increases in title insurance premium written compared to the fourth quarter of 2010. Among the 10 states with the largest volume of title insurance premium written, Illinois reported a 29 percent increase compared to the fourth quarter of 2010.

In terms of market share, the Fidelity Family of title insurance underwriters captured 34.7 percent of the market in 2011, the First American Family garnered 26.8 percent, the Stewart Family had 13.7 percent and the Old Republic Family recorded 13 percent. Meanwhile, independent companies comprised 11.8 percent of the market in 2011.

ALTA expects to release its first-quarter 2012 Market Share Analysis around June 1.

## **About ALTA**

The <u>American Land Title Association</u>, founded in 1907, is a national trade association representing more than 4,000 title insurance companies, title agents, independent abstracters, title searchers, and attorneys. With offices throughout the United States, ALTA members conduct title searches, examinations, closings, and issue title insurance that protects real property owners and mortgage lenders against losses from defects in titles.

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