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### **International Appraisers Seek NAIFA Expertise**

CHICAGO- The National Association of Independent Fee Appraisers (NAIFA) recently sent its President Elizabeth Kern, IFA to Moscow at the request of The Russian Society of Appraisers. The trip was organized in order to facilitate discussion and to help educate and develop the society's members regarding NAIFA's professional standards and opportunities.

Currently property in Russia has not been owned and exchanged in an open market (as a general rule) and there are no government appraisal rules or standards in place. Professionals and appraisal students alike hope that one day policies similar to those of the United States will be implemented and develop into laws in Russia. Ms. Kern was also invited to meet with the members of Parliament State Property Commission as well as the Self Regulated Inter-Regional Association of the Appraisers.

Elizabeth Kern, IFA, president of NAIFA speaks of her experience: "The ultimate goal of my visit was to present professional standards and regulations in order to help a country that is developing economically and wanting to set standards, policy and rules for appraisal development, reporting for fee appraisers and taxing issues." Kern continued to say that "as we discussed education opportunities and professional standards, they had an insatiable desire to become more educated and to understand professional standards as we know it."

The NAIFA is recognized worldwide for its expertise as a leader among real estate appraisal educators. NAIFA currently offers 35 courses and hosts approximately 150 classes annually all around the country. NAIFA's education of appraisers is one of the many factors that lead to the society's solicitation of NAIFA for assistance. Kern, in addition to being the current president, is also a NAIFA Instructor, having taught some 45 classes in the past five years.

NAIFA was founded in 1961 with the objective to raise the standards of the appraisal profession, gain recognition for its members as qualified professionals, and to promote fellowship among appraisers. Since its inception NAIFA has become increasingly popular among a diverse community of industry professionals. Please visit [www.naifa.com](http://www.naifa.com) for more information.

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