

For immediate release
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The Appraisal Journal Honors Punta Gorda's Sandra Adomatis

CHICAGO (June 27, 2017) – Sandra K. Adomatis, SRA, of Punta Gorda, Florida, and Ben Hoen of Milan, New York, have been awarded the 2016 Armstrong/Kahn Award for their article “An Analysis of Solar Home Paired Sales across Six States,” published in the Winter 2016 issue of The Appraisal Journal.

The Appraisal Journal is the quarterly technical and academic publication of the Appraisal Institute, the nation's largest professional association of real estate appraisers. The materials presented in the publication represent the opinions and views of the authors and not necessarily those of the Appraisal Institute.

The Armstrong/Kahn Award is presented by The Appraisal Journal's Editorial Board for the most outstanding original article published in The Appraisal Journal during the previous year. Articles are judged on the basis of pertinence to appraisal practice; contribution to the valuation literature; provocative thought; thought-provoking presentation of concepts and practical problems; and logical analysis, perceptive reasoning, and clarity of presentation.

In “An Analysis of Solar Home Paired Sales across Six States,” Adomatis and Hoen present a first-of-its-kind study that uses appraisal methods to compare sale prices of homes with host-owned solar photovoltaic systems across six states to the sale prices of similar homes without PV systems. The study finds that homes with PV systems sold at a premium in all six states and supports the use of cost- and income-based PV premium estimates when paired sales analysis is impossible.

Sandra K. Adomatis, SRA, LEED Green Associate, is the CEO of Adomatis Appraisal Service and an Appraisal Institute instructor, author and course developer. Her specialty is the valuation of green features in residential homes. She authored the book “Residential Green Valuation Tools,” published in April 2014 by the Appraisal Institute. She helped spearhead the development of the Appraisal Institute's Residential Green and Energy Efficient Addendum and the Appraisal Institute's Commercial Green and Energy Efficient Addendum. Her works include the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory studies, “Selling into the Sun: Price Premium Analysis of a Multi-State Dataset of Solar Homes” and “Appraising into the Sun: A Six-State Solar Home Paired Sales Analysis” in 2015. She also authored the 2015 study “What Is Green Worth? Unveiling High Performance Premiums in Washington, D.C.”

Ben Hoen is a research scientist in the Electricity Markets and Policy Group at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. He has a master's degree in environmental policy from Bard College, and bachelor's degrees in finance and business from the University of Maryland; he is an Affiliate of the Appraisal Institute. He has authored or coauthored papers published in the Journal of Real Estate Research, Contemporary Economic Policy, and Energy Economics as well as a chapter in the book Towers, Turbines and Transmission Lines: Impacts on Property Values (Wiley-Blackwell). He is actively working to improve how solar energy is characterized and valued in the real estate marketplace; this includes leading an effort to have solar system characteristics automatically populated into real estate listings of solar homes.

The Armstrong/Kahn Award is sponsored by the Appraisal Institute Education Trust, which also supports the Swango Award for best article by a practitioner and the Richard U. Ratcliff Award for outstanding article by an academic.

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