

Duran Acquires Group

Holly Duran, the managing broker of the Real Estate Services Group of The Levy Organization, has acquired the group from Principal Larry Levy, which will operate as Holly Duran Real Estate Partners LLC with Duran as the chairwoman.

In the past five years, the group closed office and industrial transactions averaging 650,000 square feet annually.

Holly Duran Real Estate Partners will focus on tenant rep work. The group has represented the Chicago Mercantile Exchange since 1980. The Merc renegotiated its lease in 2002 signing a five-year lease for 445,000 square feet at 10 & 30 South Wacker Drive.

Duran received the Chicago Sun-Times Tenant Representative of the

Year in 1994 and is co-founder and past president of the Commercial Real Estate Organization as well as helping establish the Chicago chapter of Commercial Real Estate Women. She is also a member of the Chicago Development Council and the Wacker Drive Property Owners Association. In addition, Duran is a founder and current member of the Children's Service Board of Children's Memorial Hospital.

Levy said of Duran in a release, "She is a brokerage superstar, with one of the longest and most successful track records of anyone in commercial real estate nationwide. Her full-service, passionate approach to the business — including acting as the in-house real estate department for most of her clients — has earned her

a stellar reputation as well as the respect and loyalty of countless business leaders in Chicago and across the country. Holly, too, has all the ingredients of any great leader: enormous energy, true intelligence, absolute integrity and a colorful personality. With her at the helm, Holly Duran Real Estate Partners will certainly remain a dominant force in commercial real estate."

Levy, who started his career in commercial real estate, has been chairman of The Levy Organization and Levy Restaurants since 1978. Levy said in a release that he will continue to invest in and develop commercial real estate both in Chicago and nationally. Levy is an investor in Hines' new 40-story office project, One South Dearborn.



HOLLY DURAN

REAL ESTATE PARTNERS LLC