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CONTACT: Greg Harris/Kristi Betz  
Weinberg Harris & Associates  
410.243.1333 ext 222, 225  
[gharris@weinbergharris.com](mailto:gharris@weinbergharris.com)  
[kbetz@weinbergharris.com](mailto:kbetz@weinbergharris.com)

**LOCAL MORTGAGE COMPANY CONTINUES STEADY GROWTH IN CHALLENGING MARKET**

*-- Real Estate Mortgage Funding Has Hired Six New Team Members in the Past Year --*

**Baltimore, MD (February 18, 2009)** – Real Estate Mortgage Funding, (REMF) a division of The Strata Group, a full-service real estate organization providing extensive real estate, legal and financial services in Maryland, announced today the addition of Brian Kesler to its team. In the past year, REMF has continued its steady growth with the addition of six new hires to its team.

Brian Kesler joins REMF as a Mortgage Loan Consultant. After achieving great success at one of the nation's largest banks and earning the designation of Certified Mortgage Planning Specialist, Kesler joins REMF to continue to provide the same benefits offered by a big bank paired with the personal touch of working with a neighborhood lender. As a Mortgage Loan Consultant for REMF, Kesler focuses on ensuring his clients are positioned for successful home ownership.

Kesler conducts homebuyer workshops for local non-profit agencies in the community. He is actively involved with Live Baltimore, Harbel Housing, St. Ambrose Housing and Neighborhood Housing Services.

"Brian is a welcome addition to our growing team of mortgage experts," said Jimmy Yerman, CEO, Real Estate Mortgage Funding. "These are extraordinary times in the mortgage business and we have created a team that meets these challenges head on and with great professionalism."

***About The Strata Group ([www.mystratagroup.com](http://www.mystratagroup.com) <<http://www.mystratagroup.com>>):***

*The Strata Group, established in 2006, is a full-service real estate collaboration providing extensive real estate, legal and financial services in Maryland. The Strata Group currently consists of six distinct companies: Yerman Witman Gaines & Conklin Realty, Real Estate Mortgage Funding, Real Estate Title & Escrow, Strata Law, Strata Insurance Services and Strata New Homes Sales, with offices in Baltimore City, Baltimore County and Harford County. Each company exists as a separate entity, yet is joined under one roof to streamline the customer's experience, making the home buying and selling process convenient, efficient and cost-effective. For more information, please call 410.583.1110 or visit [www.mystratagroup.com](http://www.mystratagroup.com) <<http://www.mystratagroup.com>>.*

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