



FDNY CHIEF AND 9/11 HERO, Richard Picciotto, TO DELIVER KEYNOTE ADDRESS AT NARS 2017

North American Repossessors Summit chooses inspirational keynote speaker to discuss the importance of critical thinking, courage and sacrifice

IRVING, Texas - December 5, 2016 - North American Repossessors Summit (NARS), an industry event hosted by the American Recovery Association, Inc. (ARA) and headline sponsor Harding Brooks Insurance, is proud to announce Richard Picciotto, the highest-ranking firefighter to survive the World Trade Center collapse, and the last fireman to escape the devastation, will keynote the ninth annual event to be held on July 26-27, 2017. The theme of the summit is *Your Ticket to Freedom: Access to Tools, Training and Techniques to Excel* with Picciotto delivering an inspiring story of hope, bravery and sacrifice to motivate audiences to live life to the greatest potential.

On September 11, 2001, Richard Picciotto was just doing his job when he found himself between the sixth and seventh floor of the north tower of the World Trade Center as it began to collapse. He continued to concentrate on the rescue efforts at hand until he was buried alive under the rubble for more than four hours. Picciotto presents the harrowing true story of an American hero, a man who thought nothing of himself and gave nearly everything for others during one of our nation's darkest hours.

Chief Picciotto is also a former New York City police officer and has served as a fire marshal, arson investigator, lieutenant and captain prior to becoming chief. He is a 30-year veteran of the FDNY, and for the nine years previous to September 11th, he presided over the department's Battalion 11, covering Manhattan's Upper West Side. He is the recipient of many departmental awards and commendations and is the author of the New York Times bestseller, *Last Man Down*, a tribute to the 343 firefighters and 2,400 civilians who lay dead in the rubble that surrounded him on that day

"Richard Picciotto is a true American hero and we are honored to have him speak at this year's NARS," said Jerry Wilson, president of ARA. "His incredible and inspiring story will leave attendees with a fresh perspective on how to encourage and motivate themselves personally and

professionally to continue to push their businesses towards success."

There will be many influential speakers and powerful roundtable discussions at this year's NARS. More speakers will be announced soon. Registration for exhibiting and various sponsorships is also now available for NARS 2017. To learn more about the opportunities, go to reposummit.com.

Early bird registration is now open, offering a nearly 25% savings on regular priced entry. In addition, the names of all early bird registrants will be provided to lenders for possible inclusion to their invitation-only vendor meetings they are hosting on July 26. To register, visit reposummit.com.

About North American Repossessors Summit

The North American Repossessors Summit (NARS) is a 2-day conference for professionals in the recovery and remarketing industry from across the country to come together to address key issues impacting their industry and businesses. NARS provides an open and collaborative environment for all recovery industry professionals to address challenges and complexities in the industry and lay out the foundation for the future. The summit welcomes recovery specialists belonging to every type of professional organization and association across the country. For more information, visit www.reposummit.com.