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Maria Gomez



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SIMAN AHMED

**Making a
Difference
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at a Time**

Although he has only been an agent for two years, Sliman Ahmed is focused on his unique blend of professional experience and genuine passion for helping others, he is poised

making a positive impact on the community. With his unique blend of professional experience and genuine passion for helping others, he is poised

for continued success in the dynamic real estate industry.

Sliman's journey to real estate is rooted in education and diverse



experiences. Born in Coldwater, Michigan, he graduated from Coldwater High School and earned a bachelor's degree in supply chain management and a master's degree in quality management from the school of engineering at Eastern Michigan University. This academic foundation, coupled with his previous role as a quality manager at Universal Logistics Holdings, laid the groundwork for his transition into real estate.

Sliman was inspired to enter real estate by a coworker and close friend who was dabbling in the industry part time. Sliman recognized his potential for success, so he took the leap in January of 2023. His decision was driven by the allure of flexibility, independence, and the opportunity to directly impact his income through hard work and results.

In his short time as an agent, Sliman has already achieved impressive milestones. Last year alone, he closed \$8.2 million in volume, contributing significantly to his overall career total of \$20 million. His rapid ascent earned him the title of top producer at his brokerage, XPI Realty, a testament to his dedication and skill.

Sliman's passion for real estate is evident in his approach to client service. "I love helping people find their dream homes, invest in property, or start new chapters in their lives," he said. Sliman works independently, and he prides himself on delivering personalized solutions that make the real estate process seamless and rewarding for his clients.

Sliman is a strong advocate for continuous learning and professional development. He regularly attends industry conferences, workshops, and seminars to stay updated on the



latest market trends and best practices. This commitment to education ensures that he can provide his clients with the most current and effective real estate strategies.

with a more comprehensive and efficient experience.

Like many in the industry, Sliman has faced challenges in his career, particularly in navigating market fluctuations. He has overcome these obstacles by staying informed, adapting plans, and maintaining clear communication with clients. This resilience — combined with his commitment to growth — has been key to his early success.

Beyond his professional life, Sliman is deeply committed to his family and community.

“

I love helping people find their dream homes, invest in property, or start new chapters in their lives.”



He supports charitable efforts overseas, particularly in Yemen, opening water wells and assisting those in need. Locally, he is involved in various community service projects, including volunteering at food banks and participating in neighborhood clean-up initiatives.

When he looks to the future, Sliman sees real estate as a long-term career that aligns with his goals of creating financial growth and making a positive

impact. He aims to continue building a lasting career that combines professional success with helping others achieve their property dreams.

For aspiring real estate agents, Sliman emphasizes the importance of building trust, delivering exceptional service, and always putting clients' best interests first. “Success is achieving goals with integrity, making a positive impact, and continuously

growing — both personally and professionally,” he said.

As Sliman continues to make his mark in the real estate industry, he remains grounded in his values of hard work, integrity, and client-focused service. With his unshakable dedication and innovative

ways, Sliman is set to become a leading figure in the real estate industry for years to come.



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MARIA Gomez



BUILDING BRIDGES THROUGH REAL ESTATE

PHOTOS BY JENNIFER ARNETT WITH STARLOFT PHOTOGRAPHY
PHOTOS TAKEN AT LOMBARDI HOMES MODEL AT KINSLEY IN ANN ARBOR



Maria F. Gomez, an agent with Real Estate One, has transformed her immigrant experience into a thriving 13-year career in Michigan's competitive real estate market. Her journey from Saltillo, Coahuila, Mexico, to becoming a top-producing agent in Plymouth exemplifies the power of perseverance, showcasing how personal

history can be leveraged into professional triumph.

Maria arrived in Michigan in 2010, where she quickly pivoted from teaching Spanish and supporting her family's business in Mexico to pursuing a career in real estate. "I always intended it to be my full-time career and keep it as my main professional activity," she said. Maria obtained her

real estate license in 2012, driven by her curiosity about the American homebuying process and a desire to connect her legal background with property transactions.

Maria's dedication has earned her numerous accolades in the industry, including the Real Estate One President's Diamond Foundation Award in 2022 and 2023, and Michigan Hispanic Chamber

recognition as a Top Producer in 2024 from her office in Plymouth. Prior to that, during her time at eXp Realty, she was honored with the ICON Award in 2021. In addition to her awards, Maria holds certifications as an Accredited Buyer's Representative (ABR), Relocation Broker (RB), and Seniors Real Estate Specialist (SRES).

When it comes to real estate, Maria enjoys the variety of each day. "I love that every day you learn something different, you meet new people, you go to new places," she explained. Bilingual in English and Spanish, Maria is an invaluable asset to clients who are navigating the complexities of relocation, which has helped her build lasting relationships and earn her clients' trust.

For Maria, earning credibility in her field — despite growing up in another country — was her biggest hurdle as an agent. She addressed this by working diligently, continuously educating herself, and networking extensively. Her involvement with organizations such as the Mexican Women in Michigan "Mexicanas en Michigan" and Friends on Board Foundation since 2012, and Michigan Hispanic Chamber



of Commerce — as well as her role as a speaker on “Hablando de Bienes Raíces” for Radio Centro Multicultural since 2022 — have solidified her position as a trusted voice in the community. These platforms have allowed her to share her knowledge and experiences, further establishing her as a leader in the field.

In reflecting on her real estate journey, Maria credits her success to her legal education from Mexico, her immigrant perspective, and the support of her family. Her husband, Javier, and their two sons form the backbone of her personal life, balancing her professional endeavors with their shared interests in music, travel, and community engagement.

As she looks to the future, Maria plans to expand her expertise into commercial properties and short-term rentals. “For me, real estate is a way of life; I think and hope to do this for the rest of my life,” she said.

For aspiring agents, Maria recommends that they learn patience. “Like any business, it requires time, marketing strategies, and a clearly defined niche,” she said. Maria also emphasized the importance of being fully committed, pursuing continuous education, and surrounding oneself with supportive peers.

Maria is all about building bridges between cultures and helping people find a place to call home, which has set her apart in the competitive real estate industry. As she continues to inspire, she remains committed to her clients and her community as she seeks ways to make a positive impact on others.



“I love that every day you **learn something different**, you meet new people, you go to new places.”



Mike Smallegan
KW- Smallegan Real Estate
Grand Rapids Agent
of the Year

Renee Jadan
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RP Elevate

The Real Producers community reached a milestone this year with the launch of **RP Elevate**, the first national Real Producers event. For the first time, every Real Producers market across the United States selected an Agent of the Year, recognizing more than 100 of the nation's top real estate professionals. Each honoree had 10 days to rally nominations and votes for the title of **National Agent of the Year**, creating excitement throughout the industry.

Four agents represented Michigan: **Renee Jadan**, Oakland County Real Producers Agent of the Year; **Justin Ford**, Wayne County Real Producers Agent of the Year; **Erick Monzo**, Macomb County Real Producers Agent of the Year; and **Mike Smallegan**, Grand Rapids Real Producers Agent of the Year.

Renee, Justin and Mike traveled to Arlington, Texas, for the event, held at the new Loews Arlington Hotel between AT&T Stadium and Globe Life Field. The two-day experience brought together top agents, publishers and partners from across the country for learning, networking and celebration.

Michigan Agents Reflect on Their Experience

Justin Ford, Wayne County's Agent of the Year — and ultimately the 2025 **National Real Producers Agent of the Year** — said Real Producers has been a defining part of his growth.

"I was first introduced to Terra and Real Producers magazine back in 2019. Before then, I had never even heard of it, and since that time, Real Producers has become a true staple in our industry. I've been honored to be featured multiple times, and I still look forward to seeing who's on the cover every month when it shows up in my mailbox.

Getting the chance to attend the Real Producers Elevate conference

RP ELEVATE MARKS FIRST NATIONAL REAL PRODUCERS EVENT

was another level. I not only got to connect with incredible agents from across the country, but I also had the opportunity to meet Remington and so many of the amazing people who make Real Producers what it is.

I'm grateful for the impact Real Producers continues to have on our industry, and proud to be part of the community they've built."

— Justin Ford, National Agent of the Year

Renee Jadan, Oakland County's Agent of the Year, said Real Producers has shaped her career since her early days in real estate.

"When I first stepped into real estate five years ago as a full-time agent, I had never even heard of Real Producers. My very first feature was as a Rising Star — and that moment opened my eyes to the incredible community and platform RP provides. Soon after, I began seeing colleagues and peers gracing the cover, and I thought to myself: What do I need to do to get there? From that point on, I set the goal — and I made it happen.



Real Producers has been more than just a magazine: It has created aspiration, motivation and a deeper passion to succeed. Watching others rise to the top in such a short period of time has been inspiring, and without RP, I truly don't believe I'd be where I am today.

On top of that, RP Elevate was one of the most impactful events I've attended. It brought together world-class speakers

who poured into us, challenging me to become the best version of myself. The lessons I took away and the people I met there will continue to shape my business and my journey for years to come."

— Renee Jadan, Oakland County Agent of the Year

Mike Smallegan, Grand Rapids' Agent of the Year, reflected on his longtime connection with Real Producers.

"When I was featured on the very first Grand Rapids Real Producers cover, it felt like a defining moment in my career. At that point, I was still building my name and growing my team, and seeing myself on that cover was both humbling and motivating. Being featured again in August 2023 was another milestone, a reminder of how far I have come and how much this community has meant along the way.

Real Producers has always been about more than magazine features: It is about the connections, collaboration and inspiration that come from being part of something bigger than yourself. Watching peers succeed, learning from their stories, and building lasting relationships through RP has been a huge part of my growth as both an agent and a leader.

The recent RP Elevate conference took that impact to another level. It was one of the most energizing events I have attended. The speakers stretched my vision, and the agents who came from across the country shared openly. I left Elevate with fresh ideas, a sharper focus, and a renewed passion for what is possible."

— Mike Smallegan,
Grand Rapids Agent of the Year

A Proud Moment for Michigan

The second day of RP Elevate culminated with the announcement of the National Agent of the Year. The top 10 finalists were revealed before Justin Ford was named the winner, earning national recognition for his leadership, influence and extraordinary success.

The celebration continued that evening with a networking event at the hotel, closing out a weekend filled with connection, learning and collaboration.

Real Producers extends congratulations to **Justin Ford** and to all 2025 Agents of the Year for representing their markets and embodying the mission to connect, inspire and elevate. Their achievements reflect the spirit of the Real Producers community — one that continues to raise the standard of excellence in real estate nationwide.

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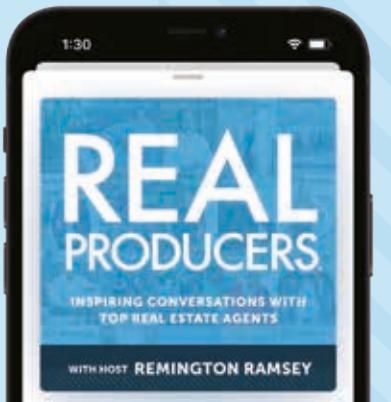
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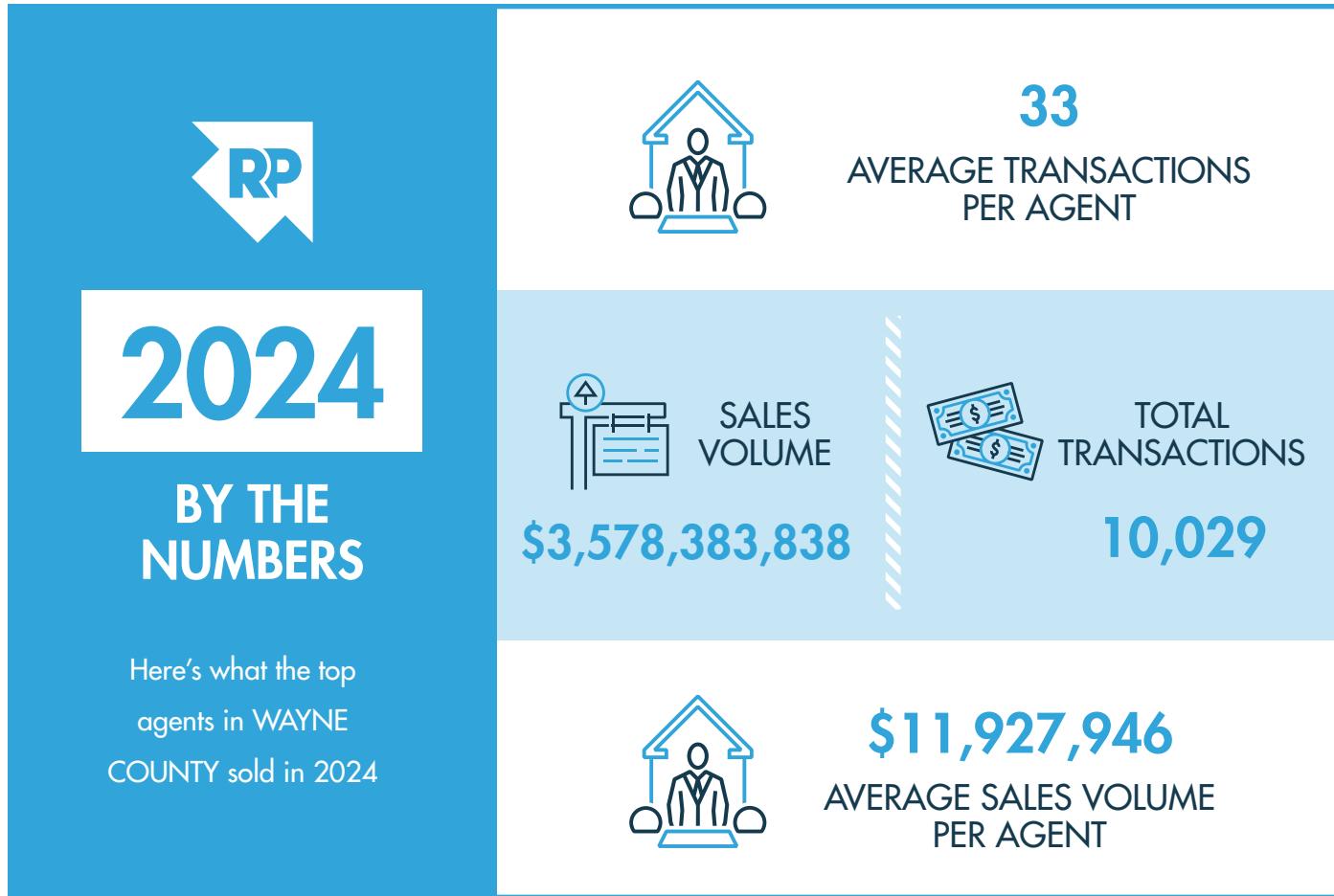


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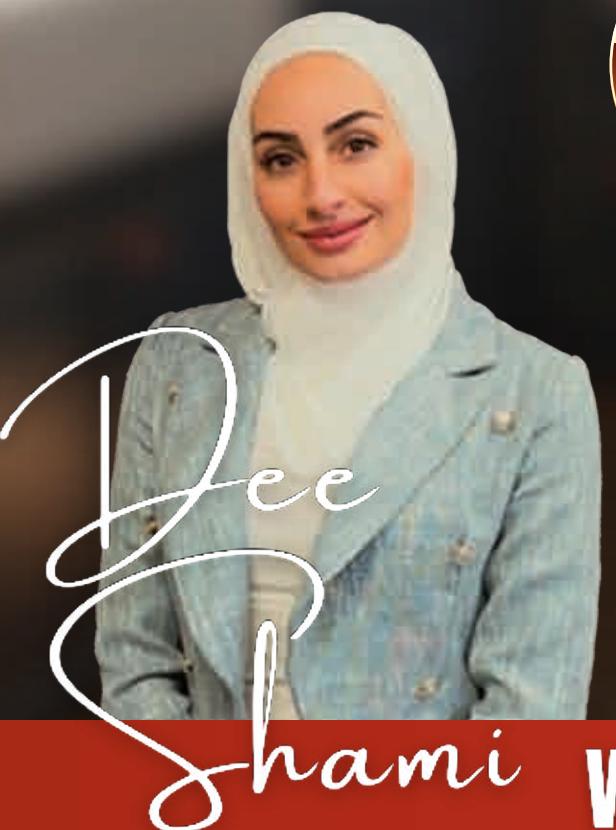


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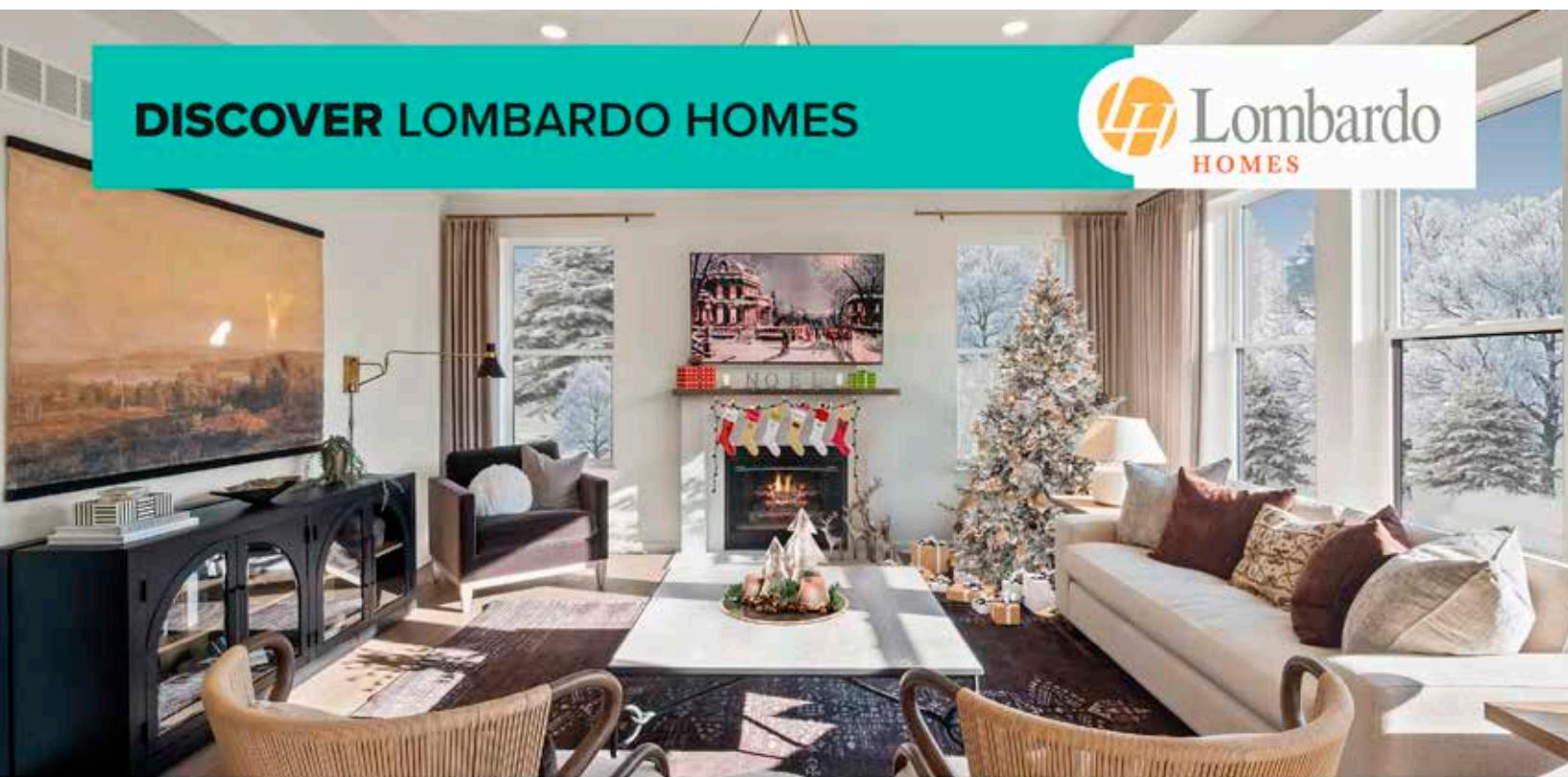
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