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JUNE 2025

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JASON HARPER

Agent Spotlight
Kimberlee Haralson

Partner Spotlight
Leslie Key
Union Home Mortgage

Where Are They Now?
**Felix and Rashida
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Summertime Favorites!

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Jason
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Central Mississippi Real Producers’ Core Values #4

BE HUMBLE

In a field as dynamic and people-centered as real estate, success often hinges not just on knowledge, negotiation skills, or market savvy—but on character. Among the many values that define truly exceptional realtors, **humility stands out as foundational.**

Humility is not about diminishing your accomplishments or second-guessing your expertise. It’s about leading with empathy, listening more than speaking, and understanding that every client’s story is unique. It’s about staying teachable—even after years in the business—and recognizing that trust is earned, not assumed. The real estate professionals we feature are prime examples of this!

In today’s competitive market, it can be tempting to lead with ego or flash. But the professionals who earn lifelong clients, referrals, and respect are those who prioritize service over self. They ask questions. They own their mistakes. They treat first-time buyers and seasoned investors with the same dignity. In short, they let humility guide every interaction.

As we continue to grow together as a community, let this value remain at the core of what we do. Because when we serve with humility, we build lasting relationships and stronger communities.

Happy Summer and Happy Father’s Day!



Dees

- Happy Birthday to:
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 - June 11 - Tena Myers
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 - June 16 - Caroline Marshall
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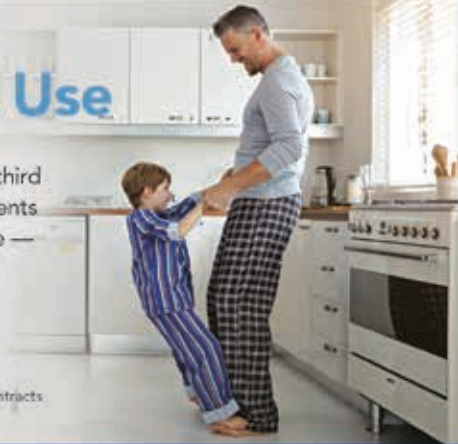
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Garrett Reese, Owner



JASON HARPER

Jason Harper Says Real Estate is a “Different Level of Excitement”

WRITTEN BY SUSAN MARQUEZ PHOTOGRAPHY
BY ABE DRAPER PHOTOGRAPHY

From working in a General Motors plant to being a plane captain with a civilian contract for an Air Force base, to finding his way to sales, Jason Harper has had an interesting career path that eventually led him to real estate. “I love what I do,” he says. This month’s Top Producer, Jason is proving that he has a passion for his work.

As the broker of Harper Homes Real Estate, Jason handles residential properties primarily, but he also does some commercial and land deals. “We also have a property management company, and we manage 14 commercial properties in Madison along with managing several residential properties, mostly in Rankin County.”

Jason didn’t set out to work in real estate. The Meridian native attended Meridian Community College before getting a job at the Delco Remy plant in Meridian. “My aunt worked there for 20-plus years and was able to get my name in the hat for a job.” When the plant closed 4 years later, Jason went to work with Boeing Aerospace, which has a civilian contract at the Air Force base in Meridian. “I was a plane captain for two-seater fighter jets. Every time they went ‘on work trips,’ we had the option to stay on land or go out on the aircraft carriers for eight to fourteen days. I only chose to go on the aircraft carrier one time, but it was an awesome experience. I chose to stay on land the rest of the time. While it was kind of fun working on the aircraft carriers, it was also very dangerous.”

Four years into that work, Jason was sidelined by a softball incident that resulted in multiple injuries in a tournament in Meridian. They would not do the surgery there, so they rushed him to UMC in Jackson. “A few months

TOP PRODUCER





“That’s a whole different level of excitement. I love seeing how excited they get about every little thing.”

before this incident, a lady I knew from Meridian set me up on a blind date with her niece in Brandon. When I woke up in the hospital, I watched the second World Trade Center tower get hit in New York on the television in my hospital room on September 11. At the end of that day, a doctor came in and told me that all elective surgery was postponed – they were worried our country was going to war. Because of that, I was sent home and had to wait ten days before I could have the needed surgery. When the lady told her niece I was at UMC, she came to see me.” That was the beginning of a relationship that resulted in marriage for Jason and his wife, Jennifer.

Jason ended up moving to Brandon, where Jennifer had a good job as a

dental hygienist. “I sold insurance from 2002 to 2006, which involved a good bit of travel.” On March 28, 2006, Jason got his real estate license and worked with Century 21 Maselle. “In 2008, Doug Maselle encouraged me to get my broker’s license, which I did. He made me the managing broker of his Brandon office.”

After 17 years with Century 21 Maselle, on May 3, 2023, Jason hung out his own shingle, opening Harper Homes Real Estate in the old Elliott Law Firm building downstairs in Brandon, across from Home Depot. “We have twelve agents now, and I owe our success to my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. I am also grateful to my mentors, Doug Maselle and Bill Bogan. Doug took me under his wing and taught me to be a broker and all the ins and outs of the real estate business. Bill trained me on managing rental property as well as flipping properties, where we did a few flips as partners. I owe a lot to those two,” Jason says. “I can’t speak highly enough of Doug and Bill.”

Jason says the most rewarding part of what he does is working with first-time home buyers. “That’s a whole different level of excitement,” he says. “I love seeing how excited they get about every little thing.”

Jennifer, after 25 years as a dental hygienist for Castlewoods Dental Clinic, now helps Jason in his business. She manages their personal rental houses while Jason manages the commercial and residential rentals for some of their clients. “I couldn’t do it without her,” said Jason. “The couple have one daughter, Kennedy Laine, who will be 15 in August. “She plays soccer and basketball at East Rankin Academy as well as travel basketball with Jazz. That keeps us busy,” Jason says. “We are also active in our church, Brandon Baptist.” When they have free time, the Harper family enjoys spending time in their condo in Starkville and attending games at Mississippi State. “We also go on an annual family trip to the beach, which we all enjoy.”

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Kimberlee Haralson

Kimberlee Haralson: Making Homeowners’ Dreams Come True at Keysource Real Estate

WRITTEN BY SUSAN MARQUEZ
PHOTOGRAPHY BY ABE DRAPER PHOTOGRAPHY



Like many people, Kimberlee Haralson began thinking about real estate as a career while she was buying her first home. “Before that, real estate was not on my radar,” she recalls. “During the process of buying my house, I asked my agent a million questions. I was drawn to what she was doing.” Paying attention to every detail, Kimberlee realized that working in real estate would provide her with more flexibility while also working to help people. “My agent was very encouraging.”

She took the real estate course online, but Kimberlee didn’t jump into real estate right away. She interviewed



with a couple of brokerages while still working full time at University Medical Center, but she was also considering a career in business administration.

Born in Columbus, Georgia, Kimberlee says she moved around a lot as a child. “I lived the first half of my life in Georgia, then we moved to Florida. I graduated high school in Boca Raton, then stayed in Florida for a year before moving to Massachusetts for a couple of years, then to Texas with my mom for six weeks while trying to figure out my next step.”

Kimberlee’s mother’s family was from Mississippi, and she had spent summers in Mississippi all her life, staying with an aunt. “I moved to Mississippi in December 2008.”

She got her real estate license in January 2017 and joined the same brokerage where her agent worked. The plan was to keep working at the hospital and do real estate on the side. “I was working full time at the hospital and working my real estate business on nights and



“**My fiancé (now husband) talked me into taking the dive and leaving my hospital job to pursue real estate full time.**”





“
**I’m a really
simple person,
and that
fits in with
the relaxed
lifestyle in
Mississippi.”**



weekends,” Kimberlee says. “Within a couple of months of getting my license, everyone I knew was ready to buy a house. I was overwhelmed. My fiancé (now husband) talked me into taking the dive and leaving my hospital job to pursue real estate full time.”

Kimberlee and her husband, Keith, were married in 2017, and he continually encouraged her as she worked to build her business. The couple had a daughter, Georgia, in December 2018. “In the first half of 2020, when our daughter was turning one year old, I decided to get my broker’s license. I was approved to sit for the test in mid-2021 and did so in 2022.”

By June of that year, past clients began calling Kimberlee to sell their houses. “From June to December, it was non-stop.”

The thing that drives Kimberlee each day at Keysource Real Estate is helping people. The feeling it gives me to help others fulfill their dream of owning a home makes me so happy. Especially when it’s a first-time home buyer or someone who is in a desperate situation, such as divorce or the death of a loved one. Along the way, I have built true friendships. Most of my business is based on referrals, and I cherish that. I am so grateful when my clients and others recommend me.”

When she’s not working, Kimberlee says she loves spending time with her family. “Our daughter just graduated from kindergarten, so she’ll be headed to first grade this fall. She is the funniest, sweetest little girl, and the only grandchild on both sides of the family. We spend a lot of time at my in-laws’ home in Terry,” she says. “We also go visit my parents in Georgia.” Kimberlee also loves shopping. “It’s a hobby for me. I am an avid bargain hunter, and I rarely pay retail!”

Kimberlee says she also likes to spend time with her girlfriends and relax as much as possible. “I’m a really simple person, and that fits in with the relaxed lifestyle in Mississippi. We live at the reservoir, and I love it. It’s a great place to raise our daughter.”



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Leslie Key

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WRITTEN BY SUSAN MARQUEZ
PHOTOGRAPHY BY ABE DRAPER PHOTOGRAPHY

UNION HOME MORTGAGE

Leslie Key has always been skilled with numbers, her true passion lies in people and ensuring accuracy. When she was saved at age 17, she says doors opened for her that she never imagined. “I have had an uncommon career path, but one that I’m so thankful for.”

Raised in northeast Alabama, a trip to visit friends in Mississippi in the summer of 2005 turned out differently from what she expected. “I was promised a trip to New Orleans, and maybe a Braves game. Instead, I ended up attending a church service, a young adult event, and then a staff meeting where Pastor David threw out his agenda and began casting vision,” Leslie recalled.

The next day, she returned to the offices of Christ Life Church, where she was offered the opportunity to be part of something bigger. Although the church couldn’t offer her a salary at the time, Leslie knew it was where she was meant to be. Having previously worked at a bank in Alabama, she accepted a position at Citizens’ National Bank locally and volunteered at the church until it grew enough to create a paid role for her on staff.

That job led to connections and an opportunity to do missionary work in India. “I went on a two-week trip to India with a friend from the church in 2008, and it changed my life. I worked my way out of my job at the church and returned to India, where I lived for the next two years. I did various things, including serving in a coffee shop and working with children.”

In 2011, Leslie returned to the United States, married and expecting her first child. She began working as the manager of an apartment complex. After walking through a difficult divorce and becoming a single mother of two, she eventually moved to a small town in Alabama with a population of about 4,500 people. “I couldn’t find a job because I was overqualified,” she recalled. In 2015, Leslie moved back to Mississippi, ready for a fresh start. It was around this time that she reached out to her friend from church—the same friend who had first

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A woman with reddish-brown hair, smiling, wearing a black top and a long, light-colored cardigan with a colorful floral pattern. She is standing in a room with a stone fireplace mantel and a large mirror in the background.

Leslie says one of the reasons she chose Union Home Mortgage is that she likes the company's culture. "I



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have worked for other companies, and I like the commitment here – we try to make every transaction a world-class, white glove, red-carpet experience, which makes it a better, smoother process for everyone.”

Repeat clients and referral partners are the lifeblood of Leslie’s business. “Someone once asked me, ‘How would your industry be different without you?’ and it stuck with me. It reminds me that what we do matters. When a client tells me I made the process easier or less stressful for them, that’s when I know I’m doing what I’m called to do,” she said.

Leslie has two sons, William (12) and David (13), who are both homeschooled. “They have their own lawn care business and take it very seriously,” she says. “I hope by starting young, they’ll develop an entrepreneurial mindset and a heart for serving others as they grow.”



“It reminds me that what we do matters. When a client tells me I made the process easier or less stressful for them, that’s when I know I’m doing what I’m called to do.”



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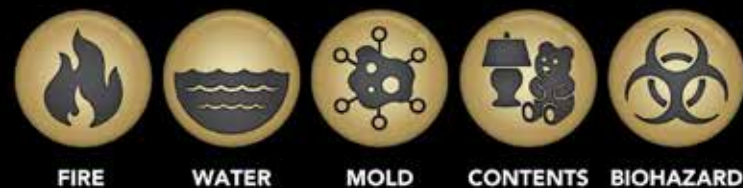
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WHERE ARE THEY NOW?



FELIX & RASHIDA WALKER

W Real Estate LLC

Felix and Rashida Walker were our Top Producers featured in the December 2019 issue. We recently caught up with them to see where they are now!

WHAT CHANGES HAVE OCCURRED IN YOUR CAREER SINCE YOU WERE FEATURED?

Our company has experienced growth - We have 37 agents today. We consistently rank in the top 20.

WHAT CHANGES HAVE OCCURRED IN YOUR PERSONAL LIFE SINCE YOU WERE FEATURED?

Felix and I celebrated our 29th Anniversary this year.



WHAT ARE YOUR REAL ESTATE GOALS FOR THE FUTURE?

Our goal is to be ranked in the top 5 companies in our association!

WHAT WOULD YOU SAY IS YOUR SECRET IN YOUR CONTINUED SUCCESS?

Our secret sauce is providing superior personalized client experiences! We are intentional in treating every client like family. By understanding their unique needs, we create tailored strategies that ensure a smooth and enjoyable buying or selling process. Our main secret sauce is - Prayer! We pray incredibly hard for our clients! It eases the burdens of the real estate transaction when we hand God the baton at the very beginning of each transaction and follow him to the finish line!

WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO NEW OR ASPIRING REALTORS®?

People do business with People not Businesses! Be your authentic self as a Realtor - Authenticity speaks louder than your words! Also, real estate requires a Winning Mindset no matter what is going on around you. Last, your clients have a choice on who they could use as a Realtor. Make sure you have the work ethic required for them and this business!

HOW DO YOU ACHIEVE A WORK/LIFE BALANCE?

We are intentional about taking small breaks and trips around our work life. We have to escape to be refreshed and re-energized! Felix and I pray together often before our days start! We get into each other's worlds intentionally. I can be caught watching football intensely with Felix on the couch and you could find him watching reality trash tv with me!

IF YOU WERE NOT IN THE REAL ESTATE INDUSTRY, WHAT WOULD BE YOUR CHOSEN CAREER AND WHY?

Rashida - I would be a travel agent blogger or Influencer on social media!

WHAT IS THE BEST VACATION YOU HAVE BEEN ON IN THE PAST 5 YEARS?

Last July we went to The Flagler Club, a private access 21 room guest hotel nestled on top of the iconic Breakers Palm Beach. It was definitely a new level of Luxe!

IF YOU COULD HELP ANY CELEBRITY BUY A HOME, WHO WOULD IT BE AND WHY?

Rashida: Oprah Winfrey - Why? One she's a Billionaire! Two she's the world's greatest influencer! Three - She's from MS!

"We are both so blessed to be in a business that we have so much passion and love for; and the blessing is we get to do it together!"





SUMMERTIME FAVORITES!

Summer is a special time of year when everything feels a little more relaxed and carefree. Unlike the busy routines of school or work during other seasons, summer often brings a few break from responsibilities, giving people a chance to slow down and enjoy life. The days are longer and sunnier, perfect for outdoor adventures, vacations, and spending time with friends and family. Whether it's swimming, traveling, or just lounging in the shade, summer is a season meant for fun, freedom, and recharging. We asked our CMRP community what they enjoy in the summertime and here are some responses.



Candance Brown

Jason Harper



Well the last few summers we have enjoyed traveling to TN, GA, AL, MS, and LA to watch our little girl (Kennedy Laine Harper) play travel basketball with Team Jazz. They are very fun to watch and a great group of girls. We also make time to go to Seaside (30A) for a full week so my girls can shop and get their tan on. lol.
– Jason Harper



Candance Brown with Next Level Real Estate LLC enjoys traveling and listening to the waves on the beach.



My favorite summer fun is riding jet skis up river at the Rez and in Florida!
– Jill Gordon



Jill Gordon

James Renfroe (pictured far right) loves to play pickleball all year long, but especially in the Summer! He teaches beginner pickleball classes several times a week and frequently plays in tournaments all around the state.



James Renfroe



Sun, sand, and water! There is just something about the sand between my toes, the sun on my skin and a refreshing swim that makes summer complete!
– Holly Pace



Holly Pace



MEET THE TEAM BEHIND CMR

At Central Mississippi REALTORS®, it's not just about real estate—it's about relationships. Behind the scenes is a team of professionals working daily to support, empower, and advocate for over 2,100 REALTOR® members across ten counties.

Get to Know the CMR Staff



David Ostrander
Chief Executive Officer

David brings steady leadership and a collaborative spirit to CMR. He's focused on building strong relationships, navigating challenges with care, and ensuring the association stays responsive to what

REALTORS® need most. He's not just leading from the top—he's walking alongside the team every step of the way.



Rachel Gibert
Communications Director

Creative and detail-driven, Rachel is the voice behind CMR's messaging. Whether it's crafting member emails, managing social media, or working behind the camera at events, she's passionate about keeping members informed, inspired, and connected.



Sharonica Gibson
Member Services Director

Often the first friendly voice members hear when they call, Sharonica brings warmth and efficiency to everything she does. She's passionate about helping REALTORS® get the most out of their membership, one question at a time.



Neikeya Glover
Office Administrator

Neikeya is the calm in the center of the storm. From managing logistics to keeping everything running smoothly behind the scenes, her organization and steady leadership are essential to the daily success of CMR.



Gabby White
Education and Events Coordinator

Gabby brings energy and creativity to every member event and class. With a strong background in planning and a love for making things memorable, she ensures CMR's programming is

both educational and fun.



Stuart Tirey
Government Affairs Director

As CMR's Government Affairs Director, he's your local REALTOR® advocate. From zoning and taxes to local issues impacting your business, Stuart is protecting the industry, our communities, and private property rights every step of the way.

We're Here for You!

We invite all Central Mississippi REALTORS® to reach out to any member of our staff—whether you want to share ideas, ask questions, or offer feedback on how we can better serve you. Your input helps shape a stronger association, and we're always ready to listen.



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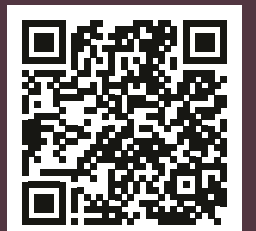
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