



Date: Monday, May 1, 2006
Time: 3-7 p.m.
Location: Boston
Program: "WBZ News"/Q1 housing trends

Company: Devine Millimet
Story: Q1 housing sales
Length: 1 minute

Summary: Devine Millimet attorney Robert Lavoie discusses trends within the Massachusetts housing market.

ANTHONY SILVA (WBZ anchor): The Boston and Worcester areas are apparently bucking some of the sluggish trends in the state's housing market. Over the first three months of the year The Warren Group reports that sales of single family homes grew nearly 10 percent in Suffolk County during the first three months of 2006.

And in Worcester County, condo sales rose 34 percent, but statewide sales of single family homes and condos both dropped in the first quarter.

I asked attorney Robert Lavoie, at Devine Millimet in Andover, if the backlog of unsold homes is now growing across the state.

ROBERT LAVOIE (attorney, Devine Millimet): Definitely, that's what's happening in my view. As sales decrease, the normal number of homes are coming onto the market, older sale prospects are staying on the market, and it's just building up the inventory. And the corresponding benefit of that is to buyers of homes--that they are seeing better prices.

AS: In fact, in the first three months of the year, the median selling price for single-family homes in Massachusetts was absolutely flat at \$325,000.

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