



7710 Carondelet Ave. Suite 345 St. Louis, MO 63105 314.721.2828 fax 314.721.2717 www.caseycomm.com

NEWS RELEASE

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For more information contact Kenn Entringer at 314-721-2828.

USA Mortgage/DAS Acquisition Co., LLC. Tops \$1 Billion in Loan Volume for 9th Consecutive Year

On Pace to be #1 Home Lender in Metro STL for 6th Straight Year

ST. LOUIS – In eclipsing the \$1 billion mark in loan volume for the ninth consecutive year in 2017, **USA Mortgage/DAS Acquisition Company, LLC (USA/DAS)** continues to out-distance competitors. “We are well on our way to repeating as the #1 mortgage lender in metro St. Louis for the sixth consecutive year,” stated **Doug Schukar**, president and chief executive officer of USA/DAS, the largest mortgage bank in metro St. Louis.

According to year-to-date statistics compiled by **Markettrac®**, USA/DAS currently holds a 7.86% share of the **total closed home loans** market in metro St. Louis. **Cornerstone Mortgage** is second with 5.43%.

USA/DAS is even more dominant in the **new purchase home loan segment** with an 11.39% market share. Cornerstone is again second with 7.46%.

“Our ability to lead in market share in a highly competitive area such as St. Louis would not be possible without the commitment of every member of our team to extend best practices professionalism and put customers first every day,” said Schukar.

Nationally, USA/DAS is licensed in 21 states and employs more than 400 home loan professionals. The company posted loan volume of \$1.66 billion in 2016.

Focus on Relationship-Based Marketing

A winning differentiator for USA/DAS is its commitment to relationship-based marketing. Unlike many competitors who rely on mass media advertising to drive customers to websites or call centers, licensed USA Mortgage loan officers are expected to know customers by name and to source prospects by being active in their communities. According to Schukar, USA Mortgage staffers participate in more than 200 charitable groups and civic betterment organizations across the metro area.

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Editor's Note: After entering the mortgage industry in 1989 and becoming a key contributor to the success of several St. Louis home lenders, **Douglas A. Schukar** in 2001 launched his own company, **DAS Acquisition Company, LLC**. Its first purchase was the **USA Mortgage** marketing name. Under Schukar's leadership, DAS/USA grew rapidly. Today, as the largest privately held mortgage banker in Missouri, the Equal Housing lender is licensed in 21 states and employs more than 400 licensed loan officers and support professionals.

In the process, **Inc.** magazine named the firm one of America's Top 100 private job creators and on five occasions included DAS/USA on its annual **Inc. 5000** ranking of the nation's fastest-growing private companies. The firm has been tapped as a Top 50 mortgage originator by **Scotsman Guide** and nominated as a finalist to the **Ellie Mae Hall of Fame**. Schukar has also been selected as a regional finalist for the **Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year® Award**.

In its home town and state, DAS/USA has been the #1 lender in metro St. Louis since 2012, the #1 lender in the **Missouri USDA Guaranteed Rural Housing** program since 2011 and Missouri's #1 overall mortgage originator since 2014.

The firm has also established a reputation as an exemplary employer. It has been a finalist in the **St. Louis Business Journal's** "Best Places to Work" competition on multiple occasions and honored with the **Patriot Award**, **Pro Patria Award** and **Above and Beyond Award** from the Missouri office of the **U.S. Department of Defense** for its comprehensive support of associates who serve in the **National Guard and Reserve**.

For more information, visit usa-mortgage.com.

