EXECUTIVE AGENT

Written by Haley Freeman



hristine Brantingham was inspired to become a Realtor® after a negative experience taught her ✓ the importance of a knowledgable and caring advocate. Her first home buying experience was a disappointing one. She and her husband were newly married,

and after moving into their condo, a wave of horror hit. It was dirty and in need of repair, and they felt overwhelmed when they learned there was a lawsuit pending with the homeowner's association. This was hardly the homecoming they had imagined.



While buying their next home, Christine decided that she wanted to make her career in real estate. The mother of two small children, she went to work as a broker's assistant and applied herself to observing other agents and learning the nuances of the business. She went out on her own as a licensed agent a short time later, and she quickly succeeded because of her genuine, peoplecentered approach to real estate. "I've learned that if you put clients first, the money will come," she says. "I believe in building relationships and taking care of people. When someone is making the biggest purchase of their lives, they need to know the person representing them is someone they can trust. My own bad experience as a home buyer gave me perspective on what I needed to do to be successful, and that lesson is part of the core values I take with me to this day."

Christine built her successful career around her family, grateful for the flexibility real estate allowed so she could be present for her two children while giving uncompromising service to her clients. "I was always blessed to have the best of both worlds. When they were little and went to bed, that was my time to get the work done. There were times I lived on very little sleep and a lot of caffeine. As they got older, I could be the soccer mom and work my appointments around my kids' activities. I'm proud to say I hardly ever missed a game, while most of the time holding my spot as a top 10 agent!"

During the down market of the late 2000s, Christine continued to thrive by leading with professionalism and empathy. She sold numerous foreclosures and short sales, helping distressed sellers move on to their next chapter by navigating complex banking processes quickly and efficiently. She also took on property management for select clients, which she continues today.

"I think all that made me better at what I do today. I learned there is plenty of business to go around, and there is no need to be cutthroat with your peers. It's important to share what you know and teach others, and build relationships not just with clients, but with other agents."

After 17 prosperous years, Christine decided to up her game and join Reliance Real Estate Services, a boutique agency committed to highly experienced, hyper-local real estate representation tailored to the needs of individual clients. This model fit perfectly with Christine's philosophy. "I had been a top producer at Century 21 for eight years, and I felt I was getting stagnant and was ready for a change. I called Tom Tennant, the broker at Reliance. I had worked with him before and knew he was a sharp, out-of-the-box thinker who could make the deal happen and cared about his client. He invited me to hang my license, and I started working at the Corona office. I love the people here."

With a referral-based business focused in Rancho Cucamonga and Fontana, Christine is bringing renewed vitality to her business with fresh marketing and increased value for clients. She continues to hone her professional skills by taking classes, reading books and surrounding herself with successful people who challenge her to achieve more.

Christine's core approach to real estate has remained strong over the years, with an emphasis on communication, honesty and, above all, her fiduciary duty to clients. "Listening is just as important as speaking. This is their home, and I want people to get as many items on their wants and needs list as possible. I am here for my clients from the beginning to beyond closing day. My job is to keep clear, open communication and advise them while protecting their interests. I love what I do, and I can't imagine doing anything else!"

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