## PLAN AHEAD: SAVE on YOUR MOVING EXPENSES

If your plans this year include a major move, it is important that you plan ahead to save yourself frustration, time and money.

Start by planning your move at least six to eight weeks before your targeted moving date. Ask friends or neighbors to recommend moving companies that they have been happy with for past moves. Contact these companies to ask about their charges and the types of services they offer, then compare movers to determine which one suits your needs and budget.

Companies will offer estimates to help you approximate moving expenses. Such estimates can be binding (the mover guarantees the price prior to the move) or non-binding (the mover estimates the price and provides final charges after the shipment is weighed). To assist movers in calculating the cost of your move, show them every item to be moved, including the contents of your attic, basement, and garage. Ask the mover to explain the estimate in detail and reach a clear understanding about the amount of packing and other services you'll require. Also, be sure you receive a written and signed copy of the estimate.

Before packing begins, the mover will take an inventory of your household goods to be shipped. Since the inventory record is one of your most important shipping documents, make sure all copies are legible, and that all items are numbered, listed and described correctly. To save on packing charges, you may want to pack part of your belongings yourself. But keep in mind movers usually will not accept liability for breakage to "owner-packed" items, or they may require that the driver inspect the cartons. Be sure to ask your moving company about its own policy, and ask for advice on packing materials and procedures.

Give me a call for answers to all of your real estate questions. I can help with selling your current house, finding you a new home, even relocation services - if you are moving out of the area. I'll help make your move as pleasant as possible. Call me today!



Helpful things to know about moving!

