Walter Group Named Top Team in Rosewood Residences Lido Key Sales Challenge, Tampa Bay Business Journal Top 100

Two 2026 honors highlight the Longboat Key team's performance, including $40.1 million in 2025 sales volume.



Steve and Janet Walter, of Walter Group Real Estate. The team has served Longboat Key's luxury and ultra-luxury waterfront market for more than 25 years, specializing in Longboat Key, Lido Key, Casey Key, Bird Key, Siesta Key, and Downtown Sarasota Waterfront.

LONGBOAT KEY, FL, UNITED STATES, September 15, 2026 / EINPresswire.com/ -- Walter Group of Michael Saunders & Company has earned first place in the Rosewood Residences Lido Key Sales Challenge, the top team recognition in the Sarasota Islands ultra-luxury market. The team has also been named among the Tampa Bay Business Journal's Top 100 Residential Real Estate Professionals in the 2026 Who's Who in Residential Real Estate.

The Rosewood Residences Lido Key Sales Challenge, which ran from November 14, 2023, through June 30, 2026, honored brokerage teams for excellence in representing clients at Rosewood Residences Lido Key, the first stand-alone residential property in the world to carry the Rosewood brand. Walter Group secured the top ranking among participating realtors.

The Tampa Bay Business Journal recognition reflects Walter Group's 2025 performance: a $9.5 million top sale, $40.1 million in total sales volume, and a $3.2 million average sale price.

"These dual recognitions come at a time of dramatically rising activity in Sarasota Islands luxury waterfront real estate," said Steve Walter of Walter Group. "We're seeing heightened demand for Gulf-front and bay-front properties across Longboat Key, Lido Key, and the surrounding islands, with luxury segments posting significant year-over-year gains in closed sales. Being named the

top team in the Rosewood Residences Lido Key Sales Challenge and included among the Tampa Bay Business Journal's Top 100 professionals reflects the trust clients place in us to navigate this dynamic ultra-luxury market with expertise, discretion, and results."

Rosewood Residences Lido Key is an exclusive collection of 65 private beachfront residences developed by The Ronto Group in partnership with Wheelock Street Capital. Located on 3.5 acres with approximately 235 feet of Gulf frontage on Lido Key, the 11-story condominium offers residences ranging from approximately 3,300 to 5,000 square feet, all with Gulf of Mexico views. The project is the first exclusively residential property under the Rosewood brand and is scheduled for delivery in 2026. Amenities include more than 30,000 square feet of private club-style spaces, featuring a private restaurant and chef services, world-class fitness facilities, outdoor pools, guest suites, and full Rosewood-managed hospitality services.



Walter Group Real Estate was named among Tampa Bay Business Journal's Top 100 Residential Real Estate Professionals for 2026, following a 2025 that included a $9.5 million top sale and $40.1 million in total sales volume.

The Ronto Group, a Naples-based luxury real estate developer with more than five decades of experience, has created distinctive residential communities across Southwest Florida. Rosewood Hotels & Resorts, renowned for its ultra-luxury hospitality portfolio, will brand and manage the residences.

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>
> *Steve Walter*

Michael Saunders & Company, founded in 1976 and headquartered in Sarasota, is Southwest Florida's leading independent real estate firm. With multiple offices spanning the Gulf Coast and affiliations with Leading Real Estate Companies of the World®, Luxury Portfolio International®, Forbes Global Properties, and Mayfair International Realty, the company provides comprehensive residential and commercial real estate services along with mortgage, title, insurance, and relocation support.

These latest honors underscore Walter Group's continued leadership in the ultra-luxury segment on the Sarasota Islands amid robust demand for premier waterfront properties.

About Walter Group Real Estate

Walter Group Real Estate, led by Steve and Janet Walter, has served the Longboat Key luxury and ultra-luxury waterfront market for more than 25 years. The team ranked first in Michael Saunders & Company's Longboat Key sales volume in 2016 and 2018 through 2025, and was named a RealTrends Verified Top Small Team, in the top 1.5 percent nationwide, for 2025 and 2026. Walter Group specializes in Longboat Key, Lido Key, Casey Key, Bird Key, Siesta Key, and Downtown Sarasota Waterfront, offering clients the Walter Group Concierge Experience from first consultation through closing and beyond. Contact: 440 Gulf of Mexico Drive, Longboat Key, FL 34228; (941)-809-0907; waltergrouprealestate.com.

To learn more about Longboat Key's ultra-luxury waterfront market or to schedule a private consultation, visit waltergrouprealestate.com.

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