## Sean Tyler Keys

Sean Keys is an Oregon business owner with deep family roots in the local homebuilding community and a life-long passion for real estate. Sean is a husband and father, whose values and career are built upon the foundation

of three generations of Oregonians – each committed to leaving their community better than they found it.

Sean is the founder of Metropolitan Land Group, LLC, (MLG) a company he started in 2003 after a decade of owning and leading a variety of successful homebuilding, rental management and land development businesses. The mission



Sean with his mother, Nora Keys, and uncle, Stuart Lindquist.

of MLG is to envision and create high-quality single and multi-family residential communities that embrace Oregon's pioneering land use system, carefully planning for growth to create livable, sustainable communities for people of all income levels. Fortify Holdings, a residential real estate company also founded by Sean, is one of the largest Housing and Urban Development (HUD) borrowers in Oregon, helping to expand access to affordable housing throughout the Portland area.

## "The real estate legacy of Sean and his family extends back more than a century to his great grandparents, Erik and Anna Lindquist."

The real estate legacy of Sean and his family extends back more than a century to his great grandparents, Erik and Anna Lindquist. After arriving at Ellis Island in New York City in 1902, the Lindquist's journeyed across the country and settled on a farm near Oregon City. For more than 100 years, the descendants of Erik and Anna have engaged in homebuilding and real estate enterprises in the Portland area that include charming Tudor homes in eastside neighborhoods, historic apartment buildings in Northwest Portland and modern homes near the Nike world headquarters.

Sean grew up in a home built by his grandfather Hugo Lindquist in the Raleigh Hills neighborhood of Southwest Portland. He has an older brother and younger sister who have both worked in real estate businesses with him. Sean graduated from Jesuit High School and Santa Clara University, where he earned a B.S. in civil engineering and accounting. After graduation, he worked in the Portland office of Price Waterhouse Coopers and earned his CPA.

## **PROFESSIONAL HISTORY**

- Metropolitan Land Group Founder and Investor, 2003-Present
- Fortify Holdings Founder and Investor, 2018-Present
- K & F Homes Managing Partner, 2000-2003
- Keys Rental Holding Company Founder and Investor, 1998-2013
- Price Waterhouse Coopers Auditor, CPA (not active) 1993-1994
- Keys & Schuler Homes President & Division Manager, 1998-2000
- Keys Homes, Inc. and LLC President, 1994-1999

Hard work and community service were values deeply embedded in the Keys household.

Sean's father, William "Bill" Keys, was a respected Multnomah County judge; and his mother, the former Nora Lindquist, started her own real estate and property management business to sell homes in the communities her brother Stuart built. In the 1970's and 80's, as a working mom with three young kids, Nora was an inspiration and entrepreneurial role model for her children. As a teenager, Sean spent summers working on homebuilding sites; and during college, with a loan from his parents, he bought, renovated and sold his first house. As a young CPA, on evenings and weekends, he continued to build and sell his first homes.

"Sean didn't inherit a business from his family, but believes he was given something more valuable: the example of entrepreneurship and the expectation to serve and leave your community better than you found it."

Sean prides himself on being a hands-on leader. He combines a positive can-do attitude and deep experience with an accountant's eye for detailed financial analysis. Sean believes MLG has endured and thrived through economic challenges by building a team of talented people, establishing trusting relationships with investment partners and creating a diversified portfolio of quality properties.

Sean lives with his wife Gretchen and their two young daughters in an historic home in Northwest Portland that, along with their neighbors, they helped save from demolition. Gretchen and Sean reimagined and renovated the house together. The property, originally built in 1898, was designed by prominent Portland architect Edgar Lazarus, known for designing numerous Arts & Crafts houses in the Portland-area and Oregon landmarks such as the Vista House in the Columbia River Gorge, the Dome Building in Salem and the Clatsop County Courthouse in Astoria.

Sean didn't inherit a business from his family, but believes he was given something more valuable: the example of entrepreneurship and the expectation to serve and leave your community better than you found it. These values have driven Sean to support organizations that help those in need, create opportunities and strengthen the community. It's why he created a partnership with Portland's De La Salle High School for student internships at MLG and scholarships for students attending the University of Portland. It is also why he and Gretchen turned a small family tradition of assembling Thanksgiving food boxes for the St. Vincent De Paul into an annual company-wide event that now feeds over 150 families a year. Sean also supports Transitional Youth and Door to Grace, both programs for at-risk youth. In addition, MLG supports numerous community organizations, including the Virginia Garcia Health Center, Centro Cultural, the Portland Community College Foundation, Habitat for Humanity, and the Beaverton Arts Foundation.



Scarlett, Gretchen, Sean and Campbell Keys.

## **VOLUNTEER & EDUCATION HISTORY**

- Santa Clara University, Real Estate Association and Lacrosse Club 2017 - Present
- Search Ministries, Board Member, 2012 - Present
- Doernbecher Children's Hospital Foundation, Honorary Trustee, 2005 - Present
- YMCA of Columbia-Willamette, Board Member, 2012 - 2015

- Santa Clara University, B.S. Civil Engineering and Accounting CPA (not active)
- Jesuit High School
- Whitford Junior High
- Raleigh Park Elementary School