

# USING A MORTGAGE BROKER & NEGOTIATING WITH THE LENDER

Module 7 - Video 5

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# VIDEO OVERVIEW

#### What's covered:

- Advantages of using a mortgage broker
- What terms you can negotiate with your lender





#### WHY YOU SHOULD USE A MORTGAGE BROKER



- Advantages of using a mortgage broker:
  - ✓ Relationships with numerous lenders to find you the best lender and mortgage for your deal & strategy
  - ✓ Can cause lenders to compete for your deal
  - ✓ Advocate for you with lender:
    - You don't have to negotiate directly, with no leverage broker has leverage based on relationships with lender
    - Can negotiate away certain bad terms of loans
    - Can advocate for flexibility on requirements (like experience, etc.)
    - Represent your interests at site visit
  - √ Their execution makes due diligence easier for you

#### WHY YOU SHOULD USE A MORTGAGE BROKER



## Disadvantages:

- ✓ Many don't have relationships with community banks
- ✓ Often focused on deals over \$1,000,000
- ✓ Placement fee of 75 to 100 basis points (0.75 1.00 %) of loan amount
  - Only due if loan closes
  - Most lenders waive their origination fee if you use a mortgage broker
  - Even if you pay a fee, the cost is worthwhile because you get better loan terms and don't have to negotiate directly



#### WHAT CAN YOU NEGOTIATE WITH LENDER?



- There is very little you can negotiate with lender
- Loan documents are one-sided to favor lender and you must take-it-or-leave-it to get the loan
- However, there are a couple of provisions you can negotiate that impact your bottom line:
  - ✓ Annual financial reporting
  - ✓ Escrow refund amount
- And always check with your broker and lawyer whether lenders are negotiating other provisions

## ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORTING



- Lender's default position is to require audited annual financial statements
- You need to hire an auditing firm to audit your books
- Very expensive \$10,000 and up
- That could be your entire sponsor take in a year
- However, your mortgage broker can negotiate this away so you only have to provide compilation statements, rather than a full audit (depending on deal size)
- Your usual CPA firm compiles year-end statements based on your operating statements – much, much cheaper

# MINIMUMS FOR RETURN OF ESCROW



- For commercial loans, you must contribute to repair escrows each month
- To obtain return of escrows, you must pay vendor and then submit bills to lender
- But lender does not want to pay one bill at a time; they require you to aggregate bills to a certain minimum before they will pay
- This minimum could be more than you incur in repairs in a year
- You can negotiate this downward, and should as much as possible
- This will help you smooth your cash flow and not get stuck with a liquidity problem from having money tied up in lender escrows





# Q&A IN THE FACEBOOK GROUP

Next up:

Module 7 - Video 6
Finding a Balance Sheet Partner

