

**Bylaws of the
GREATER IDAHO FALLS ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®, INC.**

Revised August 2013

ARTICLE I - NAME

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Section 1. Name

The name of this organization shall be the Greater Idaho Falls Association of REALTORS®, Incorporated, hereinafter referred to as the “Association.”

Section 2. REALTORS®

Inclusion and retention of the Registered Collective Membership Mark REALTORS® in the name of the Association shall be governed by the Constitution and Bylaws of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® as from time to time amended.

**ARTICLE II - OBJECTIVES**

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The objectives of the Association are:

Section 1. To unite those engaged in the recognized branches of the real estate profession for the purpose of exerting a beneficial influence upon the profession and related interests.

Section 2. To promote and maintain high standards of conduct in the real estate profession as expressed in the Code of Ethics of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®.

Section 3. To provide a unified medium for real estate owners and those engaged in the real estate profession whereby their interests may be safeguarded and advanced.

Section 4. To further the interests of home and other real property ownership.

Section 5. To unite those engaged in the real estate profession in this community with the Idaho Association of REALTORS and the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®, thereby furthering their own objectives throughout the state and nation, and obtaining the benefits and privileges of membership therein.

Section 6. To designate, for the benefit of the public, those individuals authorized to use the terms REALTOR® and REALTORS® as licensed, prescribed and controlled by the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®.

ARTICLE III - JURISDICTION

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Section 1. The territorial jurisdiction of the Association as a Member Association of the National Association of Realtors is City of Idaho Falls, Bonneville County, and the Upper Snake River Valley with the addition of the City of Shelley.

Section 2. Territorial jurisdiction is defined to mean:

(a)The right and duty to control the use of the terms REALTOR® and REALTORS®, subject to the conditions set forth in these Bylaws and those of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®, in return for which the Association agrees to protect and safeguard the property rights of the National Association in the terms.

#### ARTICLE IV - MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. There shall be six classes of members as follows:

- (a) REALTOR® Members. REALTOR® Members, whether primary or secondary shall be:
- (1) Individuals, who as sole proprietors, partners, corporate officers, or branch office managers, are engaged actively in the real estate profession, including buying, selling, exchanging, renting or leasing, managing, appraising for others for compensation, counseling, building, developing or subdividing real estate, and who maintain or are associated with an established real estate office in the state of Idaho or a state contiguous thereto. All persons who are partners in a partnership, or all officers in a corporation who are actively engaged in the real estate profession within the state or a state contiguous thereto shall qualify for REALTOR® Membership (except as provided in the following paragraph) in a Board of REALTORS® within the state or a state contiguous thereto unless otherwise qualified for Institute Affiliate Membership as described in Section 1(b) of Article IV.  
  
In the case of a real estate firm, partnership, or corporation, whose business activity is substantially all commercial, only those principals actively engaged in the real estate business in connection with the same office, or any other offices within the jurisdiction of the board in which one of the firm's principals holds REALTOR® membership, shall be required to hold REALTOR® membership unless otherwise qualified for Institute Affiliate Membership as described in Section 1 (b) of Article IV.  
  
**NOTE:** REALTOR® Members may obtain membership in a "secondary" Board in another state.
  - (2) Individuals who are engaged in the real estate profession other than as sole proprietors, partners, corporate officers, or branch office managers and are associated with a REALTOR® Member and meet the qualifications set out in Article V.
  - (3) Franchise REALTOR® Membership. Corporate officers (who may be licensed or unlicensed) of a real estate brokerage franchise organization with at least one hundred fifty (150) franchisees located within the United States, its insular possessions and the commonwealth of Puerto Rico, elected to membership pursuant to the provisions in the NAR Constitution and Bylaws.

Such individuals shall enjoy all of the rights, privileges and obligations of REALTOR® membership (including compliance with the Code of Ethics) except: obligations related to board mandated education, meeting attendance, or indoctrination classes or other similar requirements; the right to use the term REALTOR® in connection with their franchise organization's name; and the right to hold elective office in the local board, state association and National Association.

- (4) Primary and secondary REALTOR® Members. An individual is a primary member if the Board pays state and National dues based on such Member. An individual is a secondary Member if state and National dues are remitted through another Board. One of the principals in a real estate firm must be a Designated REALTOR® member of the Board in order for licensees affiliated with the firm to select the Board as their "primary" association.
- (5) Designated REALTOR® Members. Each firm (or office in the case of firms with multiple office locations) shall designate in writing one REALTOR® Member who shall be responsible for all duties and obligations of Membership including the obligation to arbitrate (or to mediate if required by the association) pursuant to Article 17 of the Code of Ethics and the payment of Board/Association dues as established in Article X of the Bylaws. The "Designated REALTOR®" must be a sole proprietor, partner, corporate officer or branch office manager acting on behalf of the firm's principal(s) and must meet all other qualifications for REALTOR® Membership established in Article V, Section 2, of the Bylaws. (Amended 11/11)

(b) Institute Affiliate Members. Institute Affiliate members shall be individuals who hold a professional designation by a qualified Institute, Society or Council affiliated with the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® that addresses a specialty area other than residential brokerage or individuals who otherwise hold a class of membership in such Institute, Society or Council that confers the right to hold office. Any such individual, if otherwise eligible, may elect to hold REALTOR® or REALTOR-ASSOCIATE® membership, subject to payment of applicable dues for such membership.

(c) Affiliate Members. Affiliate members shall be real estate owners and other individuals or firms who while not engaged in the real estate business as defined in paragraph (a) or (b) of this section, have interests requiring information concerning real estate, and are in sympathy with the objectives of the Association.

(d) Public Service Members. Public Service Members shall be individuals who are interested in the real estate profession as employees of or affiliated with educational, public utility, governmental or other similar organizations, but are not engaged in the real estate profession on their own account or in association with an established real estate business.

(e) Honorary Members. Honorary members shall be individuals who have performed notable service for the real estate profession, for the Association, or for the public.

(f) Student Members. Student Members shall be individuals who are seeking an undergraduate or graduate degree with specialization or major in real estate at institutions of higher learning, and who have completed at least two years of college and at least one college level course in real estate, but are not engaged in the real estate profession on their own account or not associated with an established real estate office.

## ARTICLE V - QUALIFICATION AND ELECTION

Section 1. Application: Application for membership shall be made in such manner and form as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors and made available to anyone requesting it. The application form shall contain among the statements to be signed by the applicant (1) that applicant agrees as a condition to membership to thoroughly familiarize himself with the Code of Ethics of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®, the Constitutions, Bylaws, and Rules and Regulations of the Board, the State and National Associations, and if elected a Member, will abide by the Constitutions and Bylaws and Rules and Regulations of the Board, State and National Association and if REALTOR® Member will abide by the Code of Ethics of the National Association of REALTORS including the obligation to arbitrate (or to mediate by the association) controversies arising out of real estate transactions as specified by Article 17 of the Code of Ethics, and as further specified in the Code of Ethics and Arbitration Manual of the National Association of REALTORS®, as from time to time amended, and (2) that applicant consents that the Board, through its Membership Committee or otherwise, may invite and receive information and comment about applicant from any Member or other persons, and that applicant agrees that any information and comment furnished to the Board by any person in response to the invitation shall be conclusively deemed to be privileged and not form the basis of any action for slander, libel, or defamation of character. The applicant shall, with the form of application, have access to a copy of the Bylaws, Constitution, Rules and Regulations and Code of Ethics referred to above. (Amended 11/11)

Section 2. Qualification An applicant for REALTOR® Membership who is a sole proprietor, partner, corporate officer, or branch office manager of a real estate firm shall supply evidence satisfactory to the Membership Committee that he is actively engaged in the real estate profession, and maintains a current, valid real estate broker's or salesperson's license or is licensed or certified by an appropriate state regulatory agency to engage in the appraisal of real property, has a place of business within the state or a state contiguous thereto (unless a secondary member), has no record of recent or pending bankruptcy\*, has no record of official sanctions involving unprofessional conduct\*\*, agrees to complete a course of instruction covering the Bylaws and Rules and Regulations of the Association, the Bylaws of the Idaho Association of Realtors, and the Constitution and Bylaws and Code of Ethics of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS, and shall pass such reasonable and nondiscriminatory written examination thereon as may be required by the Committee, and shall agree that if elected to membership, he will abide by such Constitution, Bylaws, Rules and Regulations, and Code of Ethics.

\* No recent or pending bankruptcy is intended to mean that the applicant or any real estate firm in which the applicant is a sole proprietor, general partner, corporate officer, or branch office manager, is not involved in any pending bankruptcy or insolvency proceedings or, has not been adjudged bankrupt in the past three (3) years. If a bankruptcy proceeding as described above exists, membership may not be rejected unless the Board establishes that its interests and those of its members and the public could not

be adequately protected by requiring that the bankrupt applicant pay cash in advance for Board and MLS fees for up to one (1) year from the date that membership is approved or from the date that the applicant is discharged from bankruptcy (whichever is later). In the event that an existing member initiates bankruptcy proceedings, the member may be placed on a "cash basis" from the date that bankruptcy is initiated until one (1) year from the date that the member has been discharged from bankruptcy.

\*\* No record of official sanctions involving unprofessional conduct is intended to mean that the Board may only consider:

A. judgments within the past three (3) years of violations of (1) civil rights laws; (2) real estate license laws; (3) or other laws prohibiting unprofessional conduct against the applicant rendered by the courts or other lawful authorities.

B. criminal convictions if (1) the crime was punishable by death or imprisonment in excess of one year under the law under which the applicant was convicted, and (2) no more than ten (10) years have elapsed since the date of the conviction or the release of the applicant from the confinement imposed for that conviction, whichever is the later date

**NOTE 1:** One or more of the requirements for REALTOR® membership set forth above in Article V, Section 2(a) may be deleted at the association's discretion. However, associations may NOT adopt membership qualifications more rigorous than specified in the *Membership Qualification Criteria for REALTOR® Membership*, approved by the Board of Directors of the National Association.

**NOTE 2:** article IV, Section 2, of the NAR Bylaws prohibits Member Boards from knowingly granting REALTOR® or REALTOR-ASSOCIATE® membership to any applicant who has an unfulfilled sanction pending which was imposed by another Board or Association of REALTORS® for violation of the Code of Ethics.

Section 2(b) Individuals who are actively engaged in the real estate profession other than as sole proprietors, partners, corporate officers, or branch office managers in order to qualify for REALTOR® Membership, shall at the time of application, be associated either as an independent contractor or employee with a Designated REALTOR® Member of the Association or a Designated REALTOR® Member of another Board (if a secondary member) and must maintain a current, valid real estate broker's or salesperson's license or be licensed or certified by an appropriate state regulatory agency to engage in the appraisal of real property, has no record of official sanctions involving unprofessional conduct\*, shall complete a course of instruction covering the Bylaws and Rules and Regulations of the Association, the Bylaws of the State Association, and the Constitution and Bylaws and Code of Ethics of the National Association of REALTORS®, and shall pass such reasonable and nondiscriminatory written examinations thereon as may be required by the Membership Committee and shall agree in writing that if elected to membership he will abide by such Constitution, Bylaws, Rules and Regulations, and the Code of Ethics.

\* No record of official sanctions involving unprofessional conduct is intended to mean that the association may only consider:

A. judgments against the applicant within the past three (3) years of violations of (1) civil rights laws, (2) real estate license laws, and (3) or other laws prohibiting unprofessional conduct against the applicant rendered by the courts or other lawful authorities

B. criminal convictions if (1) the crime was punishable by death or imprisonment in excess of one year under the law under which the applicant was convicted, and (2) no more than ten years have elapsed since the date of the conviction or the release of the applicant from the confinement imposed for that conviction, whichever is the later date

Section 2(c) The Association will also consider the following in determining an applicant's qualifications for REALTOR® membership: (1) All final findings of Code of Ethics violations and violations of other membership duties in any other association within the past three (3) years. (2) Pending ethics complaints (or hearings). (3) Unsatisfied discipline pending. (4) Pending arbitration requests (or hearings). (5) Unpaid arbitration awards or unpaid financial obligations to any other association or association MLS. (6) Any misuse of the term REALTOR® or REALTORS® in the name of the applicant's firm.

"Provisional" membership may be granted in instances where ethics complaints or arbitration requests (or hearings) are pending in other associations or where the applicant for membership has unsatisfied discipline

pending in another association. (except for violations of the Code of Ethics; See Article V, Section 2(a) NOTE 2) provided all other qualifications for membership have been satisfied. Associations may reconsider the membership status of such individuals when all pending ethics and arbitration matters (and related discipline) have been resolved or if such matters have not been resolved within six months from the date that provisional membership is approved. Provisional members shall be considered REALTORS® and shall be subject to all the same privileges and obligations of REALTOR® membership. If a member resigns from another association with an ethics complaint or arbitration request pending, the association may condition membership on the applicant's certification that he/she will submit to the pending ethics or arbitration proceeding (in accordance with the established procedures of the association to which the applicant has made application) and will abide by the decision of the hearing panel.

Section 3. Election: The procedure for election to Membership shall be as follows:

- (a) Applicants for REALTOR® membership shall be granted provisional membership immediately upon submission of a completed application form and remittance of applicable association dues and any application fee. Provisional members shall be considered REALTORS® and shall be subject to all of the same privileges and obligations of membership. Provisional membership is granted subject to subsequent review of the application by the Board of Directors. If the Board of Directors determines that the individual does not meet all of the qualifications for membership as established in the association's bylaws, or, if the individual does not satisfy all of the requirements of membership (for example, completion of a mandatory orientation program) within 120 days from the association's receipt of their application, membership may, at the discretion of the Board of Directors, be terminated.
- (b) Dues shall be computed from the date of application and shall be non-refundable unless the association's Board of Directors terminates the individual's membership in accordance with subsection (a) above. In such instances, dues shall be returned to the individual less a prorated amount to cover the number of days that the individual received association services and any application fee.
- (c) The Board of Directors may not terminate any provisional membership without providing the provisional member with advance notice, an opportunity to appear before the Board of Directors, to call witnesses on his behalf, to be represented by counsel, and to make such statements, as he deems relevant. The Board of Directors may also have counsel present. The Board of Directors shall require that written minutes be made of any hearing before it or may electronically or mechanically record the proceedings.
- (d) If the Board of Directors determines that provisional membership should be terminated, it shall record its reasons with the Secretary. If the Board of Directors believes that termination of provisional membership may become the basis of litigation and a claim of damage by a provisional member, it may specify that termination shall become effective upon entry in a suit by the Board for a declaratory judgment by a court of competent jurisdiction of a final judgment declaring that the termination violates no rights of the individual.

Section 4. New Member Code of Ethics Orientation

Applicants for REALTOR® membership and provisional REALTOR® members shall complete an orientation program on the Code of Ethics of not less than two hours and thirty minutes of instructional time. This requirement does not apply to applicants for REALTOR®

membership or provisional members who have completed comparable orientation in another association, provided that REALTOR® membership has been continuous, or that any break in membership is for one year or less.

Failure to satisfy this requirement within 120 days of the date of application (or, alternatively, the date that provisional membership was granted), will result in denial of the membership application or termination of provisional membership.

NOTE: Orientation programs must meet the learning objectives and minimum criteria established from time-to-time by the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®.

#### Section 5. REALTOR® Code of Ethics Training.

Effective January 1, 2001, through December 31 2004, and for successive four year periods thereafter, each REALTOR® member of the association shall be required to complete quadrennial ethics training of not less than two hours and thirty minutes of instructional time.

This requirement will be satisfied upon presentation of documentation that the member has completed a course of instruction conducted by this or another association, the State Association of REALTORS®, the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®, or any other recognized educational institution or provider which meets the learning objectives and minimum criteria established by the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® from time to time. REALTOR® members who have completed training as a requirement of membership in another association and REALTOR® members who have completed the New Member Code of Ethics Orientation during any four year cycle shall not be required to complete additional training until a new four year cycle commences.

Failure to satisfy this requirement shall be considered a violation of a membership duty for which REALTOR® membership shall be suspended until such time as the training is completed.

Failure to meet the requirement will result in suspension of membership for the first two months (January and February) of the year following the end of any four (4)-year cycle or until the requirement is met, whichever occurs sooner. On March 1 of that year, the membership of a member who is still suspended as of that date will be automatically terminated.

#### Section 6. Status Changes

(a) A REALTOR® who changes the conditions under which he holds membership shall be required to provide written notification to the Association within 30 days. A REALTOR® (non-principal) who becomes a principal in the firm with which he has been licensed or, alternatively, becomes a principal in a new firm which will be comprised of REALTOR® principals may be required to satisfy any previously unsatisfied membership requirements applicable to REALTOR® (principal) Members but shall, during the period of transition from one status of membership to another, be subject to all of the privileges and obligations of a REALTOR® (principal). If the REALTOR® (non-principal) does not satisfy the requirements established in these Bylaws for the category of membership to which they have transferred within 30 days of the date they advised the Association of their change in status, their new membership application will terminate automatically unless otherwise directed by the Board of Directors.

A REALTOR® who is transferring their license from one firm comprised of REALTOR® principals to another firm comprised of REALTOR® principals shall be subject to all of the privileges and obligations of membership during the period of transition. If the transfer is not completed within 10 days of the date the board is advised of the disaffiliation with the current firm, membership will terminate automatically unless otherwise so directed by the Board of Directors. (The board of directors, at its discretion, may waive any qualification which the applicant has already fulfilled in accordance with association's Bylaws.)

(b) Any application fee related to a change in membership status shall be reduced by an amount equal to any application fee previously paid by the applicant.

(c) Dues shall be prorated from the first day of the quarter in which the member is notified of election by the Board of Directors and shall be based on the new membership status for the remainder of the year.

## ARTICLE VI - PRIVILEGES AND OBLIGATIONS

Section 1. The privileges and obligations of REALTOR® Members, in addition to those otherwise provided in these Bylaws, shall be specified in this ARTICLE. It shall be the responsibility of the designated broker of record of each Member office to forward to the Board office, in writing, any change in status of personnel, structure of organization, name change or any change for which the state must be notified. This notification, in writing, must be made within seven (7) days of such change.

Section 2. Any Member of the Association may be reprimanded, fined, placed on probation, suspended, or expelled by the Board of Directors for a violation of these Bylaws and Association Rules and Regulations consistent with these Bylaws, after a hearing as provided in the Code of Ethics and Arbitration Manual of the Association. Although Members other than REALTORS® are not subject to the Code of Ethics nor its enforcement by the Association, such Members are encouraged to abide by the principles established in the Code of Ethics of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® and conduct their business and professional practices accordingly. Further, Members other than REALTORS® may, upon recommendation of the Membership Committee, or upon recommendation by hearing panel of the Professional Standards Committee, be subject to discipline as described above, for any conduct, which in the opinion of the Board of Directors, applied on a nondiscriminatory basis, reflects adversely on the terms REALTOR® or REALTORS®, and the real estate industry, or for conduct that is inconsistent with or adverse to the objectives and purposes of the local Association, the State Association, and the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®.

Section 3. Any REALTOR® Member of the Association may be disciplined by the Board of Directors for violations of the Code of Ethics or other duties of membership, after a hearing as described in the Code of Ethics and Arbitration Manual of the Association, provided that the discipline imposed is consistent with the discipline authorized by the Professional Standards Committee of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® as set forth in the Code of Ethics and Arbitration Manual of the National Association.

Section 4. Resignations of Members shall become effective when received in writing by the Board of Directors, provided, however, that if any Member submitting the resignation is indebted to the Association for dues, fees, fines, or other assessments of the Association or any of its services, departments, divisions, or subsidiaries, the Association may condition the right of the resigning Member to reapply for membership upon payment in full of all such monies owed.

Section 5. If a Member resigns from the Association with an ethics complaint pending, the Board of Directors may condition the right of the resigning Member to reapply for membership upon the applicant's certification that he will submit to the pending ethics proceeding and will abide by the decision of the hearing panel.

(a) If a member resigns or otherwise causes membership to terminate, the duty to submit to arbitration (or to mediate if required by the association) continues in effect even after membership lapses or is terminated, provided that the dispute arose while the former member was a REALTOR®. (Amended 11/11)

Section 6. REALTOR® Members. REALTOR® Members, whether primary or secondary, in good standing whose financial obligations to the Association are paid in full shall be entitled to vote and to hold elective office in the Association; may use the terms REALTOR® and REALTORS®, which use shall be subject to the provisions of Article VIII; and have the primary responsibility to safeguard and promote the standards, interests, and welfare of the Association and the real estate profession.

(a) If a REALTOR® Member is a sole proprietor in a firm, a partner in a partnership, or an officer in a corporation and is suspended or expelled, the firm, partnership, or corporation shall not use the terms REALTOR® or REALTORS® in connection with its business during the period of suspension, or until readmission to REALTOR® Membership, or unless connection with the firm, partnership, or corporation is severed, whichever may apply. The membership of all other principals, partners, or corporate officers shall suspend or terminate during the period of suspension of the disciplined Member, or until readmission of disciplined Member, or unless connection of the disciplined Member with the firm, partnership, or corporation is severed, whichever may apply. Further, the membership of REALTORS® other than principals who are employed by or affiliated as independent contractors with the disciplined Member shall suspend or terminate during the period of suspension of the disciplined Member or until readmission of the disciplined Member or until connection of the disciplined Member with the firm, partnership, or corporation is severed, or unless the REALTOR® Member (non-principal) elects to sever his connection with the REALTOR® and affiliate with another REALTOR® Member in good standing in the Association whichever may apply. If a REALTOR® Member who is other than a principal in a firm, partnership, or corporation is suspended or expelled, the use of the terms REALTOR® or REALTORS® by the firm, partnership, or corporation shall not be affected.

(b) In any action taken against a REALTOR® Member for suspension or expulsion under Section 6(a) hereof, notice of such action shall be given to all REALTORS® employed by

or affiliated as independent contractors with such REALTOR® Member and they shall be advised that the provisions in Article VI, Section 6(a) shall apply.

Section 7. Institute Affiliate Members. Institute Affiliate Members shall have rights and privileges and be subject to obligations prescribed by the Board of Directors consistent with the Constitution and Bylaws of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®.

Note: Local associations establish the rights and privileges to be conferred on Institute Affiliate Members except that no Institute Affiliate Member may be granted the right to use the term REALTOR, REALTOR-Associate, or the REALTOR logo; to serve as President of the local association; or to be a Participant in the local association's Multiple Listing Service.

Section 8. Affiliate Members. Affiliate Members shall have rights and privileges and be subject to obligations prescribed by the Board of Directors.

Section 9. Public Service Members. Public Service Members shall have rights and privileges and be subject to obligations prescribed by the Board of Directors.

Section 10. Honorary Members. Honorary membership shall confer only the right to attend meetings and participate in discussions. unless such member holds an active real estate license and is actively engaged in the listing and selling of properties. In such case the member will have all the rights, privileges and responsibilities of a REALTOR® member as defined in Section 6. (a),(b). Honorary membership waives the requirement of paying local association dues.

Section 11. Student Members. Student Members shall have rights and privileges and be subject to obligations prescribed by the Board of Directors.

Section 12. Certification by REALTOR®. "Designated" REALTOR® Members of the Association shall certify to the Association during the month of October on a form provided by the Association, a complete listing of all individuals licensed or certified in the REALTOR'S® office(s) and shall designate a primary Board of each individual who holds membership. Designated REALTORS® shall also identify any non-member licensees in the REALTOR'S® office(s) and if Designated REALTOR® Dues have been paid to another Board base on said non-member licensees, the Designated REALTOR® shall identify the Board to which dues have been remitted. These declarations shall be used for purposes of calculating dues under Article X, Section 2(a) of the Bylaws. "Designated" REALTOR® Members shall also notify the Board of any additional individual(s) licensed or certified with the firm(s) within 10 days of the date of affiliation or severance of the individual.

Section 13. Harassment any member of the Association may be reprimanded, placed on probation, suspended or expelled for harassment of a Association or MLS employee or association officer or director after an investigation in accordance with the procedures of the Association. As used in this Section, harassment means any verbal or physical conduct including threatening or obscene language, unwelcome sexual advances, stalking, actions including strikes, shoves, kicks, or other similar physical contact, or threats to do the same, or any other conduct with the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work performance by creating a hostile, intimidating or offensive work environment. The decision of the appropriate disciplinary action to be taken shall be made by the investigatory team comprised of the president, and president-elect and/or vice president and one member of

the board of directors selected by the highest ranking officer not named in the complaint, upon consultation with legal counsel for the association. Disciplinary action may include any sanction authorized in the association's Code of Ethics and Arbitration Manual. If the complaint names the President, President-Elect or Vice President, they may not participate in the proceedings and shall be replaced by the Immediate Past President or, alternatively, by another member of the Board of Directors selected by the highest ranking officer not named in the complaint.

NOTE: Suggested procedures for processing complaints of sexual harassment are available online through One Realtor Place® (NAR's intranet site at Realtor.com), the Membership Policy and Board Jurisdiction Manual or from NAR Member Policy Department.)

## ARTICLE VII - PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND ARBITRATION

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Section 1. The responsibility of the Association and the Association Members relating to the enforcement of the Code of Ethics, the disciplining of Members, and the arbitration of disputes, and the organization and procedures incident thereto, shall be governed by the Code of Ethics and Arbitration Manual of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®, as amended from time to time, which is by this reference incorporated into these Bylaws, provided, however, that any provision deemed inconsistent with state law shall be deleted or amended to comply with state law.

Section 2. It shall be the duty and responsibility of every REALTOR® Member of this Association to abide by the Constitution and Bylaws and the Rules and Regulations of the Association, the Constitution and Bylaws of the State Association, the Constitution and Bylaws of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®, and to abide by the Code of Ethics of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS OF REALTORS®, including the duty to arbitrate controversies arising out of real estate transactions as specified by Article 17 of the Code of Ethics, and as further defined and in accordance with the procedures set forth in the Code of Ethics and Arbitration Manual of this Association as from time to time amended. (Adopted 11/11)

Section 3. The Association and Association members are also responsible for the enforcement of the Code of Ethics, the disciplining of members, the arbitration of disputes, and the organization and procedures incident thereto, consistent with cooperative professional standards enforcement agreement entered into by the Association, which by this reference is made part of these Bylaws.

## ARTICLE VIII - USE OF THE TERMS REALTOR® AND REALTORS®

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Section 1. Use of the terms REALTOR® and REALTORS® by Members shall, at all times be subject to the provisions of the Constitution and Bylaws of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® and to the Rules and Regulations prescribed by its Board of Directors. The Board shall have the authority to control, jointly and in full cooperation with the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®, use of the terms within its jurisdiction. Any misuse of the terms by members is a violation of a membership duty and may subject members

to disciplinary action by the Board of Directors after a hearing as provided for in the association's Code of Ethics and Arbitration Manual.

Section 2. REALTOR® Members of the Association shall have the privilege of using the terms REALTOR® or REALTORS® in connection with their places of business within the state or a state contiguous thereto so long as they remain REALTOR® Members in good standing. No other class of Members shall have this privilege.

Section 3. A REALTOR® Member who is a principal of a real estate firm, partnership, or corporation may use the terms REALTOR® or REALTORS® only if all the principals of the firm, partnership, or corporation who are actively engaged in the real estate profession within the state or a state contiguous thereto are REALTOR® Members of the Association or Institute Affiliate Members as described in Section 1(b) of Article IV.

(a) In the case of a REALTOR® member who is a principal of a real estate firm, partnership, or corporation whose business activity is substantially all commercial, the right to use the term REALTOR® or REALTORS® shall be limited to office locations in which a principal, partner, corporate officer, or branch office manager of the firm, partnership, or corporation holds REALTOR® membership, the term REALTOR® or REALTORS® may not be used in any reference to those additional places of business.

Section 4. Institute Affiliate Members shall not use the terms REALTOR® or REALTORS®, nor the imprint of the emblem seal of the National Association of REALTORS®.

## ARTICLE IX - STATE AND NATIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

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Section 1. The Association shall be a Member of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® and the Idaho Association of REALTORS®. By reason of the Association's Membership, each REALTOR® Member of the Member Association shall be entitled to membership in the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® and the Idaho Association of REALTORS® without further payment of dues. The Association shall continue as a Member of the State and National Associations, unless by a majority vote of all of its REALTOR® Members, decision is made to withdraw, in which case the State and National Associations shall be notified at least one month in advance of the date designated for the termination of such membership.

Section 2. The Association recognizes the exclusive property rights of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® in the terms REALTOR® or REALTORS®. The Board shall discontinue use of the terms in any form in its name, upon ceasing to be a Member of the National Association, or upon a designation by the Board of Directors of the National Association that it has violated the conditions imposed upon the terms.

Section 3. The Association adopts the Code of Ethics of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® and agrees to enforce the Code among its REALTOR® and Non-resident Members. The Association and all its Members agree to abide by the Constitution, Bylaws, Rules and Regulations, and policies of the National Association and the Idaho Association of

REALTORS®.

## ARTICLE X -DUES, FEES AND ASSESSMENTS

Section 1. Application Fee The Board of Directors may adopt an application fee for REALTOR® Membership in a reasonable amount, not exceeding three times the amount of the annual dues for REALTOR® Membership, which shall be required to accompany each application for REALTOR® Membership, and which shall become the property of the Association upon final approval of the application.

Section 2. Dues The annual dues of Members shall be as follows:

(a) REALTOR® Members.

The annual dues of each Designated REALTOR® Member shall be in such amount as established annually by the Board of Directors and approved by the membership, plus an additional amount to be established annually by the Board of Directors and approved by the membership times the number of real estate sales persons and licensed or certified appraisers who (1) are employed by or affiliated as independent contractors, or who are otherwise directly or indirectly licensed with such REALTOR® Member, and (2) are not REALTOR® Members of any Board in the state or a state contiguous thereto or Institute Affiliate Members of the Board. In calculating the dues payable to the Board by a Designated REALTOR® Member, non-member licensees as defined in (1) and (2) of this paragraph shall not be included in the computation of dues if the Designated REALTOR® has paid dues based on said non-member licensees in another Board in the state or a state contiguous thereto, provided the Designated REALTOR® notifies the Board in writing of the identity of the Board to which dues have been remitted. In the case of a Designated REALTOR® Member in a firm, partnership, or corporation whose business activity is substantially all commercial, any assessments for non-member licensees shall be limited to licensees affiliated with the Designated REALTOR® (as defined in (1) and (2) of this paragraph) in the office where the Designated REALTOR® holds membership, and any other offices of the firm located within the jurisdiction of this association.

(1) For the purpose of this Section, a REALTOR® Member of a Member Board shall be held to be any Member who has a place or places of business within the state or a state contiguous thereto and who, as a principal, partner, corporate officer, or branch office manager of a real estate firm, partnership, or corporation, is actively engaged in the real estate profession as defined in Article III, Section 1, of the Constitution of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®. An individual shall be deemed to be licensed with a REALTOR® if the license of the individual is held by the REALTOR®, or by any broker who is licensed with the REALTOR®, or by any entity in which the REALTOR® has a direct or indirect ownership interest and which is engaged in other aspects of the real estate business (except as provided for in Section 2 (a) (1) hereof) provided that such licensee is not otherwise included in the computation of dues payable by the principal, partner, or corporate officer of the entity.

A REALTOR® with a direct or indirect ownership interest in an entity engaged exclusively in soliciting and/or referring clients and customers to the REALTOR® for consideration on a substantially exclusive basis shall annually file with the association on a form approved by the association a list of the licensees affiliated with that entity and shall certify that all of the licensees affiliated with the entity are solely engaged in referring clients and customers and are not engaged in listing, selling, leasing, managing, counseling or appraising real property. The individuals disclosed on such form shall not be deemed to be licensed with the REALTOR® filing the form for purposes of this Section and shall not be included in calculating the annual dues of the Designated REALTOR®.

The exemption for any licensee included on the certificate form shall automatically be revoked upon the individual being engaged in real estate licensed activities (listing, selling, leasing, managing, counseling, or appraising real property) other than referrals, and dues for the current fiscal year shall be payable.

Membership dues shall be prorated for any licensee included on a certificate form submitted to the association who during the same calendar year applies for REALTOR® or REALTOR-ASSOCIATE® membership in the association. However, membership dues shall not be prorated if the licensee held REALTOR® or REALTOR-ASSOCIATE® membership during the preceding calendar year.

(b)REALTOR® Members. The annual dues of REALTOR®Members other than the Designated REALTOR® shall be in such amount as established annually by the Board of Directors.

(c)Institute Affiliate Members. The annual dues of each Institute Affiliate Member shall be an amount as established in Article II of the Bylaws of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®.

**NOTE:** The Institutes, Societies, and Councils of the National Association shall be responsible for collecting and remitting dues to the National Association for Institute Affiliate members (\$75). The National Association shall credit \$25 to the account of a local association for each Institute Affiliate Member whose office address is within the assigned territorial jurisdiction of that association, provided, however, if the office location is also within the territorial jurisdiction of a Commercial Overlay Board (COB), the \$25 amount will be credited to the COB, unless the Institute Affiliate member directs that the dues be distributed to the other association. The National Association shall also credit \$25 to the account of state associations for each Institute Affiliate member whose office address is located within the territorial jurisdiction of the state association. Local and state associations may not establish any additional entrance, initiation fees or dues for Institute Affiliate members, but may provide service packages to which Institute Affiliate members may voluntarily subscribe.

(d)Affiliate Members. The annual dues of each Affiliate Member shall be in such amount as established annually by the Board of Directors.

(e)Honorary Member. Honorary members holding an active real estate license and actively engaged in the listing or selling of properties shall pay State and National Association assessments and local dues will be waived.

(f)Public Service Members. The annual dues of Public Service Members shall be in such amount established annually by the Board of Directors.

(g) Student Members. The annual dues of Student Members shall be in such amount established annually by the Board of Directors.

Section 3. Dues Payable: Dues for all Members shall be payable annually in advance on the first day of January. Dues for new members shall be computed from the date of application and granting of provisional membership.

(a) In the event a sales licensee or licensed or certified appraiser who holds REALTOR® membership is dropped for nonpayment of association dues, and the individual remains with the designed REALTORS® firm, the dues obligation of the "designated" REALTOR® (as set forth in Article X, Section 2 (a)) will be increased to reflect the addition of a non-member licensee. Dues shall be calculated from the first day of the current fiscal year and are payable within 30 days of the notice of termination.

Section 4. Nonpayment of Financial Obligations: If dues, fees, fines, or other assessments including amounts owed to the Association or the Association's Multiple Listing Service are not paid within one (1) month after the due date, the nonpaying Member is subject to suspension at the discretion of the Board of Directors. Two (2) months after the due date, membership of the nonpaying Member may be terminated at the discretion of the Board of Directors. Three (3) months after the due date, membership of the nonpaying Member shall automatically terminate unless within that time the amount due is paid. However, no action shall be taken to suspend or expel a Member for nonpayment of disputed amounts until the Board of Directors has confirmed the accuracy of the amount owed. A former Member who has had his membership terminated for nonpayment of dues, fees, fines, or other assessments duly levied in accordance with the provisions of these Bylaws or the provisions of other Rules and Regulations of the Association or any of its services, departments, divisions or subsidiaries may apply for reinstatement in a manner prescribed for new applicants for membership, after making payment in full of all accounts due as of the date of termination.

Section 5. Deposit and Expenditures: Deposits and expenditures of funds shall be in accordance with policies established by the board of directors.

Section 6 Notice of Dues, Fees, Fines, Assessments, and Other Financial obligations of Members: All dues, fees, fines, assessments, or other financial obligations to the Association or Association Multiple Listing Service shall be noticed to the delinquent member in writing setting forth the amount owed and due date.

Section 7 The dues of REALTOR® members who are REALTOR® Emeriti (as recognized by the National Association), Past Presidents of the National Association or recipients of the Distinguished Service Award shall be as determined by the Board of Directors.

**NOTE:** A Member Board's dues obligation to the National Association is reduced by an amount equal to the amount which the association is assessed for a REALTOR® member, times the number of REALTOR® Emeriti (as recognized by the National Association), past presidents of the National Association, and recipients of the Distinguished Service Award of the National Association who are REALTOR® members of the association. The dues obligation of such individuals to the local association should be reduced to reflect the reduction in the association's dues obligation to the National Association. The association may, at its option, choose to have no dues

requirement for such individuals except as may be required to meet the association's obligation to the State Association with respect to such individuals. Member Boards should determine whether the dues payable by the association to the State Association are reduced with respect to such individuals. It should be noted that this does not affect a "designated" REALTOR®'s dues obligation to the association with respect to those licensees employed by or affiliated with the "designated" REALTOR® who are not members of the local association.

## ARTICLE XI - OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

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Section 1. Officers

The elected officers of the Association shall be a President, a Vice-President/President-Elect, a Secretary/Treasurer-Elect. The President, Vice-President/President-Elect, Secretary/Treasurer-Elect shall be elected for a term of one year. The Vice President/President-Elect and the Secretary/Treasurer-elect will automatically succeed to the offices of President and Secretary/Treasurer respectively, of the Association for a one-year term upon completion of term as Vice President/President-Elect and Secretary/Treasurer-Elect. In the absence of the President, the Vice President/President-Elect shall perform the normal and customary duties. The Association may employ the services of a Chief Executive Officer.

Section 2. Duties of Officers

The duties of the officers shall be such as their titles, by general usage, would indicate and such as may be assigned to them by the Board of Directors. It shall be the particular duty of the Secretary/Treasurer to keep the records of the Association and to carry on all necessary correspondence with the National Association of REALTORS® and the Idaho Association of REALTORS®.

Section 3. Board of Directors

The governing body of the Association shall be a Board of Directors consisting of the elected officers, the immediate past President of the association, and at least three elected REALTOR® members of the Association. Directors shall be elected to serve a term of three years, except that at organization, one-third of the elected directors shall be elected for terms of one (1), two (2), and three (3) years, respectively, or for lesser terms as may be necessary to complete the first fiscal year. Thereafter as many directors shall be elected each year as are required to fill vacancies and to maintain three, plus a one year director term for the outgoing President and one state director per IAR guidelines.

Section 4. Election of Officers and Directors

- (a) At least two (2) months before the annual election, a Nominating Committee of three REALTOR® Members shall be appointed by the President with the approval of the Board of Directors. The Nominating Committee shall select one candidate for each office and one candidate for each place to be filled on the board of directors. The report of the nominating committee shall be mailed or, where permitted by state law, electronically transmitted to each member eligible to vote at least three (3) weeks preceding the election. Additional candidates for the offices to be filled may be placed in nomination by petition signed by at least 5% of the REALTOR® members eligible to vote. The petition shall be filed with the chief executive office at least two (2) weeks before the election. The chief executive officer shall send notice of such additional nominations to all members eligible to vote before the election. The President-elect shall be nominated from the current directors or past directors or

officers. Director vacancies shall be filled from the general membership.

- (b) The election of officers and directors shall take place at the annual meeting. Election shall be by ballot and all votes shall be cast in person. The ballot shall contain the names of all candidates and the offices for which they are nominated. Absentee balloting will be done in person at the Association office.
- (c) The President, with the approval of the Board of Directors, shall appoint an Election Committee of three REALTOR® members to conduct the election. In case of a tie vote, lot shall determine the issue.

Section 5. Vacancies

The Board of Directors shall fill vacancies by a simple majority vote among the officers and the Board of Directors until the next annual election.

Section 6. State Director

State Director shall be elected by the membership for a term of three (3) years and will represent the local Association on the state level. The local Association will elect one State Director for each two hundred (200) members.

Section 7. Removal of Officers and Directors

In the event that an Officer or Director is deemed to be unable or incapable of fulfilling the duties for which elected, but will not or cannot resign from office voluntarily, the Officer or Directors may be removed from office under the following procedure:

- (a) A petition requiring the removal of an Officer or Director and signed by not less than a majority of all REALTOR® members shall be filed with the President, or if the President is the subject of the petition, with the next ranking Officer, and shall specifically set forth the reasons the subject thereof is deemed disqualified from further service.
- (b) Upon receipt of the petition, and not less than (20) twenty days or more than (45) forty five days thereafter, a special hearing before the REALTOR® members shall be scheduled and the sole business of the hearing shall be to consider the charge against the Officer or Director who is the subject of the petition and to render a decision on such petition.
- (c) The special meeting shall be noticed to all REALTOR® members at least (10) ten days prior to the meeting and shall be conducted by the President of the Board unless the President's continued service in office is being considered at the hearing. In such case, the next ranking Officer will conduct the meeting of the hearing by the Members. A three-fourths vote of Members present and voting, shall be required for removal from office.

Section 8. Chief Executive Officer. There shall be a Chief Executive Officer, appointed by the Board of Directors, who shall be the chief administrative officer of the Association. The Chief Executive Officer shall have the authority to hire, supervise, evaluate and terminate other staff, if any, and shall perform such other duties as prescribed by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE XII - MEETINGS

Section 1. Annual Board Meeting

An annual planning meeting of the Board shall be held during November of each year, the date, place and hour to be designated by the Board of Directors.

Section 2. Annual Membership Meeting.

An annual membership meeting will be held in October of each year, the date, place and hour to be designated by the Board of Directors.

Section 3. Meetings of Directors

The Board of Directors shall designate a regular time and place of meetings. Absence from three regular meetings without an excuse deemed valid by the Board of Directors shall be construed as a resignation.

Section 4. Other Meetings

Meetings of the members may be held at such other times as the President or the Board of Directors may determine, or upon the written request of at least (10%) ten percent of the REALTOR® members eligible to vote.

Section 5. Notice of Meeting

Written notice shall be given to every member entitled to participate in the meeting at least one week preceding all meetings. If a special meeting, it shall be accompanied by a statement of the purpose of the meeting.

Section 6. Quorum

A quorum for the transaction of business shall consist of 50% of the Board of Directors or 5% of the members eligible to vote.

Section 7. Electronic Transaction of Business.

To the fullest extent permitted by law, the Board of Directors or membership may conduct business by electronic means.

Section 8. Action without Meeting.

Unless specifically prohibited by the articles of incorporation, any action required or permitted to be taken at a meeting of the board of directors may be taken without a meeting if a consent in writing, setting forth the action so taken, shall be signed by all the directors. The consent shall be evidenced by one or more written approvals, each of which sets forth the action taken and bears the signature of one or more directors. All the approvals evidencing the consent shall be sent to the Chief Executive Officer to be filed in the corporate records. The action taken shall be effective when all the directors have approved the consent unless the consent specifies a different effective date.

ARTICLE XIII - COMMITTEES

Section 1. Standing Committees

The President shall appoint, from among the REALTOR® Members, subject to confirmation by the Board of Directors, the following standing committees:

Grievance	Professional Standards
Education/Finally Home!	Budget/Finance
Governance	Luncheons
Social	Community Service
RPAC	Public Relations/Media/Legislative

Section 2. Special Committees

The President shall appoint, subject to confirmation by the Board of Directors, such special committees as may be deemed necessary.

Section 3. Organization

All committees shall be of such size and shall have such duties, functions and powers as assigned to them by the President or the Board of Directors except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws.

Section 4. President

The President shall be ex-officio member of all standing committees and shall be notified of their meetings.

Section 5. Executive Committee

The President, Immediate Past President, President-elect and Secretary/Treasurer shall constitute the Executive Committee. The Chief Executive Officer shall also serve on the Executive Committee as an ex-officio member without a vote. The Association President shall act as presiding officer of the Executive Committee. A quorum of the Executive Committee shall consist of not less than three (3) members.

Section 5. Action without Meeting.

Any committee may act by unanimous consent in writing without meeting. The consent shall be evidenced by one or more written approvals, each of which sets forth the action taken and bears the signature of one or more of the members of the committee.

Section 6. Attendance by Telephone.

Members of a committee may participate in any meeting through the use of a conference telephone or similar communications equipment by means of which all persons participating in the meeting can hear each other. Such participation shall be at the discretion of the President and shall constitute presence at the meeting.

ARTICLE XIV - FISCAL AND ELECTIVE YEAR

Section 1. The fiscal year of the Association shall be from January 1st to December 31st

Section 2. The elective year of the Board shall be from annual retreat to annual retreat.

ARTICLE XV - RULES OF ORDER

Section 1. Robert's Rules of Order, latest edition, shall be recognized as the authority governing the meetings of the association, its board of directors, and committees, in all instances wherein its provisions do not conflict with these Bylaws.

ARTICLE XVI - AMENDMENTS

Section 1. These Bylaws may be amended by the majority vote of the members present and qualified to vote at any meeting at which a quorum is present, provided the substance of such proposed amendment or amendments shall be plainly stated in the call for the meeting.

(a) When Bylaws amendments are mandated by NAR policy, these Bylaws may be automatically amended to reflect the mandate as of the effective date of the mandatory policy authorized by the National Association of REALTORS®. The Board shall provide notice of that change in a regular or special membership communication.

Section 2. Notice of all meetings at which amendments are to be considered shall be mailed to every REALTOR® member at least one week prior to the time of the meeting.

Section 3. Amendments to these Bylaws affecting the admission or qualification of REALTOR® members and institute Affiliate Members, the use of the terms "REALTOR®" or "REALTORS®", or any alteration in the territorial jurisdiction of the Association shall become effective upon their approval by the Board of Directors of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®.

ARTICLE XVII - DISSOLUTION

Section 1. Upon the dissolution of this association, the board of directors, after providing the payment of all obligations, shall distribute any remaining assets to the Idaho Association of REALTORS®, or within its discretion, to any other non-profit tax exempt organization.

ARTICLE XVIII – MULTIPLE LISTING

Section 1. Authority: The Greater Idaho Falls Association of REALTORS® shall participate in and be a major stockholder in the Snake River Regional Multiple Listing Service, a lawful corporation of the State of Idaho, all the stock of which shall be owned by the Greater Idaho Falls Association of REALTORS®, the Greater Blackfoot Association of REALTORS® and the Upper Valley Association of REALOTRS®.

Section 2. Purpose: A Multiple Listing Service is a means by which authorized Participants make blanket unilateral offers of cooperation and compensation to other Participants (acting either as buyer agents, or in other agency or non-agency capacities defined by Idaho law); by which cooperation among participants is enhanced: information is accumulated and

disseminated to enable authorized Participants to prepare appraisals, analyses, and other valuations of real property for bona fide clients and customers; by which Participants engaging in real estate appraisal contribute to common databases; and is a facility for the orderly correlation and dissemination of listing information so Participants may better serve their clients and the public. Entitlement to compensation is determined by the cooperating broker's performance as a procuring cause of the sale (or lease). (NOTE: Idaho does not recognize sub agency)

Section 3. Governing Documents: The Board of Directors shall cause any Multiple Listing Service in which it is a stockholder and its members are participants/subscribers to conform its corporate Charter, Constitution, Bylaws, Rules, Regulations and Policies, Practices and Procedures at all times to the Constitution, Bylaws, Rules, Regulations, and Policies of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®

Section 4. Participation. Any REALTOR® of this or any other association who is a principal, partner, corporate officer, or branch office manager acting on behalf of a principal, without further qualification, except as otherwise stipulated in these Bylaws, shall be eligible to participate in multiple listing upon agreeing in writing to conform to the rules and regulations thereof and to pay the costs incidental thereto.* However, under no circumstances is any individual or firm, regardless of membership status, entitled to multiple listing service "membership" or "participation" unless they hold a current, valid real estate broker's license and offer or accept compensation to and from other participants or are licensed or certified by an appropriate state regulatory agency to engage in the appraisal of real property.** Use of information developed by or published by an association multiple listing service is strictly limited to the activities authorized under a participant's licensure(s) or certification and unauthorized uses are prohibited. Further, none of the foregoing is intended to convey "participation" or "membership" or any right of access to information developed by or published by an association multiple listing service where access to such information is prohibited by law.

Mere possession of a broker's license is not sufficient to qualify for MLS participation. Rather, the requirement that an individual or firm offers or accepts cooperation and compensation means that the participant actively endeavors during the operation of its real estate business to list real property of the type listed on the MLS and/or to accept offers of cooperation and compensation made by listing brokers or agents in the MLS. "Actively" means on a continual and ongoing basis during the operation of the participant's real estate business. The "actively" requirement is not intended to preclude MLS participation by a participant or potential participant that operates a real estate business on a part-time, seasonal, or similarly time-limited basis or that has its business interrupted by periods of relative inactivity occasioned by market conditions. Similarly, the requirement is not intended to deny MLS participation to a participant or potential participant who has not achieved a minimum number of transactions despite good faith efforts. Nor is it intended to permit an MLS to deny participation based on the level of service provided by the participant or potential participant as long as the level of service satisfies state law.

The key is that the participant or potential participant actively endeavors to make or accept offers of cooperation and compensation with respect to properties of the type that are listed

on the MLS in which participation is sought. This requirement does not permit an MLS to deny participation to a participant or potential participant that operates a “Virtual Office Website” (VOW) (including a VOW that the participant uses to refer customers to other participants) if the participant or potential participant actively endeavors to make or accept offers of cooperation and compensation. An MLS may evaluate whether a participant or potential participant actively endeavors during the operation of its real estate business to offer or accept cooperation and compensation only if the MLS has a reasonable basis to believe that the participant or potential participant is in fact not doing so. The membership requirement shall be applied in a nondiscriminatory manner to all participants and potential participants.

Any applicant for MLS participation and any licensee (including licensed or certified appraisers) affiliated with an MLS participant who has access to and use of MLS generated information shall complete an orientation program of no more than eight (8) classroom hours devoted to the MLS rules and regulations and computer training related to MLS information entry and retrieval and the operation of the MLS within four months (120) days after access has been provided.

Participants and subscribers may be required, at the discretion of the MLS, to complete additional training of not more than four (4) classroom hours in any twelve (12) month period when deemed necessary by the MLS to familiarize participants and subscribers with system changes and enhancement and/or changes to MLS rules or policies. Participants and subscribers must be given the opportunity to complete any mandated additional training remotely.

Section 5. Subscribers: Subscribers (or users) of the MLS include non-principal brokers, sales associates, and licensed and certified appraisers affiliated with Participants.

Subscribers also include affiliated unlicensed administrative and clerical staff, personal assistants, and individuals seeking licensure or certification as real estate appraisers who are under direct supervision of an MLS Participant or the Participant’s licensed designee.

ADOPTED - MAY 1979
REVISED - JULY 1995
REVISED – JULY 2007
REVISED – MARCH 2010

REVISED - OCTOBER 1993
REVISED - AUGUST 1999
REVISED –FEBRUARY 2008
REVISED – FEBRUARY 2011

REVISED – SEPTEMBER 2001
REVISED – AUGUST 2006
REVISED – FEBRUARY 2009
REVISED –JUNE 2012

REVISED AUGUST 2013