

**BYLAWS OF THE TRI-COUNTY BOARD OF REALTORS, INC d/b/a**

**CLEARFIELD-JEFFERSON ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS INC.**

**ORIGINAL BYLAWS ADOPTED NOVEMBER, 1973**

(2023)

**ARTICLE 1 - NAME**

Section 1. Name. The name of this organization shall be the Clearfield-Jefferson 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 11 - OBJECTIVES**

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 PENNSYLVANIA 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, individuals authorized to use the terms REALTOR and REALTORS as licensed, prescribed, and controlled by the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS.

## **ARTICLE 111 - JURISDICTION**

Section 1. The territorial jurisdiction of the Board as a Member of the National Association of REALTORS is:

The counties of Clearfield and Jefferson in the State of Pennsylvania.

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 1V - 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 Pennsylvania 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 only, and each is required to hold 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. (Amended 1/05, 2018)

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. (Amended 1/05, 2018)

(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. (2018)

(3) Franchise REALTOR Member. 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; the right to hold elective office in the local association, state association and National Association. (Amended 1/96, 2018, 2022)

(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 Association. One of the principals in a real estate firm must be a Designated REALTOR member of the Association 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 association dues. 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. (Amended 11/11, 2018, 2022)

(b) **Institute Affiliate Members.** Institute Affiliate members shall be individuals who hold a professional designation awarded by an 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. (Amended 1/02)

(c) **Affiliate Members.** Affiliate Members shall be real estate owners and other individuals or firms who, while not engaged in the real estate profession as defined in paragraphs (a) or (b) of this Section, have interests requiring information concerning real estate, and are in sympathy with the objectives of the Association. Affiliate membership shall also be granted to individuals licensed or certified to engage in real estate practice who, if otherwise eligible, do not elect to hold REALTOR® membership in the association, provided the applicant is engaged exclusively in a specialty of the real estate business other than brokerage of real property.

(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 not engaged in the real estate profession who have performed notable service for the real estate profession, for the Board, or for the public.

(f) Student Members. Student Members shall be individuals who are seeking an undergraduate or graduate degree with a 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.

(g) The President of the Pennsylvania Association of REALTORS, during his/her term of office, shall be a full REALTOR member of the Board/Association without payment of dues, with the right to act on behalf of, and serve as a Full Voting Delegate of the Clearfield/Jefferson Association at meetings of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS.

## **ARTICLE V - QUALIFICATION AND ELECTION**

### **Section 1. Application.**

(a) An 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 of 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 Associations. and if a REALTOR Member will abide by the Code of Ethics of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS including the obligation to arbitrate, (or to mediate if required 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.**

(a) 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 Board

through it's Membership Committee or otherwise 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 Board, 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 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. (\*) (Amended 1/05)

NOTE 2: Article 1V, 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. (Adopted 1/01)

(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 employee or as an independent contractor 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, shall complete a course of instruction covering the Bylaws and Rules and Regulations of the Board, 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 committee and shall agree in writing that if elected to membership he will abide by the Code of Ethics of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS, and by the constitution, Bylaws, and Rules and Regulations of the local Board, State Association, and the Code of Ethics.

### Section 3. Election.

The procedure for election to membership shall be as follows:

- (a) The chief staff executive (or duly authorized designee) shall determine whether the applicant is applying for the appropriate class of membership. If the association has adopted provisional membership, applicants for REALTOR membership may 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 final review of the application by the board of directors. The chief staff executive shall submit application to the board of directors for approval.

- (b) 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 90 days from the association's receipt of their application, membership, may, at the discretion of the board of directors, be terminated. If board of directors shall vote on the applicant's eligibility for membership. If the applicant receives a majority vote of the board of directors, he/she shall be declared elected to membership and shall be advised by written notice.
- (c) The board of directors may not reject an application without providing the applicant with advance notice of the findings, an opportunity to appear before the board of directors, to call witnesses on his/her behalf, to be represented by counsel, and to make such statements as he/she 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 the application should be rejected, it shall record its reasons with the chief staff executive (or duly authorized designee). If the board of directors believes that denial of membership to the applicant may become the basis of litigation and a claim of damage by the applicant, it may specify that denial shall become effective upon entry in a suit by the association for a declaratory judgment by a court of competent jurisdiction of a final judgment declaring that the rejection violates no rights of the applicant. (2018)

#### Section 4. Status Changes.

(a) A REALTOR who changes the conditions under which he holds membership shall be required to provide written notification to the Board within thirty (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 forty five (45) days of the date they advised the Board of their change in status, their new membership application will terminate automatically unless otherwise so 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 ten (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.

Note: The Board of Directors, at its discretion, may waive any qualification which the applicant has already fulfilled in accordance with the Board'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.

#### Section 5 - New Member Code of Ethics Orientation: (10/2020)

Applicants for REALTOR membership and provisional REALTORS members (where applicable) shall complete an orientation program of the Code of Ethics of not less than two (2) hours and thirty (30) 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 (1) year or less.

Failure to satisfy this requirement within 90 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. (Adopted 1/01)

#### Section 6. Continuing REALTOR Member Code of Ethics Training:

Effective January 1, 2019, through December 31, 2021 and for successive three year periods thereafter, each REALTOR member of the association (with the exception of REALTORS granted REALTOR Emeritus status by the National Association) shall be required to complete ethics training of not less than two (2) hours and thirty (30) 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 three (3) year cycle shall not be required to complete additional ethics training until a new three (3) year cycle commences.

Failure to satisfy the required periodic ethics training shall be considered a violation of a membership duty. Failure to meet the requirement in any three (3) year cycle will result in suspension of membership for the first two months (January and February) of the year following the end of any three (3) year cycle or until the requirement is met, whichever occurs sooner.

On March 1 of that year, the membership of member who is still suspended as of that date will be automatically terminated. (Adopted 1/01, revised 5/05) (Amended 11/08, revised 2018, 2022)

## **ARTICLE VI - PRIVILEGES AND OBLIGATIONS**

Section 1. The privileges and obligations of Members, in addition to those otherwise provided in these Bylaws, shall be specified in this Article.

Section 2. Any Member of the Board may be reprimanded, fined, placed on probation, suspended, or expelled by the Board of Directors for a violation of these Bylaws and Board Rules and Regulations not inconsistent with these Bylaws, after a hearing as provided in the Code of Ethics and Arbitration Manual of the Board. Although Members other than REALTORS are not subject to the Code of Ethics or its enforcement by the Board, 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 a 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 Board, the State Association, and the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS.

Section 3. Discipline of REALTOR Members. Any REALTOR Member of the Board 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 Board for dues, fees, fines, or other assessments of the Board or any of its services, departments, divisions, or subsidiaries, the Board 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 or otherwise causes membership to terminate with an ethics complaint pending, the complaint shall be processed until the decision of the association with respect to disposition of the complaint is final by this association (if respondent does not hold membership in any other association) or by any other association in which the respondent continues to hold membership. If an ethics respondent resigns or otherwise causes membership in all Boards to terminate before an ethics complaint is filed alleging unethical conduct occurred while the respondent was a REALTOR, the complaint, once filed, shall be processed until the decision of the association with respect to disposition of the complaint is final. In any instance where an ethics hearing is held subsequent to an ethic respondent's resignation or membership termination, any discipline ratified by the Board of Directors shall be held in abeyance until such time as the respondent rejoins the association of REALTORS. (2018)



(a) If a member resigns or otherwise causes membership to terminate, the duty to submit to arbitration, (or to mediation 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 1/00, 11/11, 9/12)

Section 6. Privileges of REALTOR Members. REALTOR Members, whether primary or secondary, in good standing are entitled to vote and to hold elective office in the Association; and may use the terms REALTOR. For purposes of this section, the term “good standing” means the member satisfies the “Obligations of REALTOR Members,” is current with all financial and disciplinary obligations to the association and MLS, has completed any new member requirements, and complies with NAR’s trademark rules. (Amended 2/2022)

(a) If a REALTOR Member is a principal in a firm, partnership, or 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 the 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 Board, 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(d) 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(d) 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. (Amended 1/02)

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.

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 Board shall certify to the Board during the month of January on a form provided by the Board, a complete listing of all individuals licensed or certified in the Realtor's office(s) and shall designate a primary Board for 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 based 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 30 days of the date of affiliation or severance of the individual.

Section 13. Legal Liability Training. Within two years of the date of election to membership, and every two years thereafter, each REALTOR Member of the Board shall be required to demonstrate that they have completed a course of instruction on anti-trust laws, agency laws, civil rights laws or the REALTORS Code of Ethics, its interpretation and meaning and/or the procedures related to its enforcement.

This requirement will be considered satisfied upon presentation of evidence that the member has completed an educational program conducted by another Member Board, the State Association of REALTORS, the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS or any of its affiliated institutes, societies or councils, or any other recognized educational institution which, in the opinion of the Board of Directors, is an adequate substitute for the training programs conducted by the Board. Failure to satisfy this requirement biennially will result in membership being suspended from the date it otherwise would be renewed until such time that the member provides evidence of completion of the aforementioned educational requirements.

Note: Any education requirement must comply with interpretation No. 37\_of Article 1, Section 2, Bylaws, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS.

Section 14. Harassment Any member of the association may be reprimanded, placed on probation, suspended or expelled for harassment of an 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 the 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. (Accepted May, 2004)

NOTE: Suggested procedures for processing complaints of harassment are available online at <http://www.REALTOR.org>, or from the Member Policy Department.

## **ARTICLE V11 - PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND ARBITRATION**

Section 1 Enforcement of the Code. The responsibility of the Association and of 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. Obligation of REALTOR Members. It shall be the duty and responsibility of every REALTOR Member of this association to safeguard and promote the standards, interests, and welfare of the association and the real estate profession, and to protect against conduct that may cause a lack of public confidence in the real estate profession or in REALTORS. REALTOR members also must abide by the governing documents and the policies of the association, the State Association, and the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS, as well as the Code of Ethics of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION 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 in accordance with the procedures set forth in the Code of Ethics and Arbitration Manual.

Every REALTOR member shall maintain a high level of integrity and adhere to the association's membership criteria. Any violent act or threat of violence to person or property, hateful conduct, or acts of moral turpitude impacting the public shall not be tolerated and may be cause for disciplinary action, up to and including termination of membership. (Amended 2/2022)

Section 3. The Board and Board 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 the Cooperative Professional Standards Enforcement Agreement entered into by the Board, which by this reference is made a part of these Bylaws.

## **ARTICLE V111 - USE OF THE TERMS REALTOR AND REALTORS**

REALTOR Trademark. 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. (2018)

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 association 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. (Amended 5/06, 2018)

Section 2. REALTOR Members of the association shall have the privilege of using the terms REALTOR and 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. (Amended 1/96, 2018)

Section 3. A REALTOR principal Member may use the terms REALTOR and REALTORS only if all the principals of such firm, partnership, or corporation who are actively engaged in the real estate profession within the state or a state contiguous thereto are REALTOR Members or Institute Affiliate Members. (2018)

(a) In the case of a REALTOR principal member 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 holds REALTOR membership. If a firm, partnership, or corporation operates additional places of business in which no principal holds REALTOR membership, the term REALTOR or REALTORS may not be used in any reference to those additional places of business. (Amended 1/01, 2018).

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.

Section 5: The President of the Pennsylvania Association of REALTORS, during his/her term of office, shall be a full REALTOR member of the Clearfield/Jefferson Association without payment of dues, with the right to act on behalf of, and serve as a Full Voting Delegate of the Association at meetings of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS.(2/98).

## **ARTICLE 1X - STATE AND NATIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

Section 1. The association shall be a Member of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF

REALTORS and the PENNSYLVANIA ASSOCIATION of REALTORS. By reason of the Association's Membership, each REALTOR Member of the Member Board shall be entitled to membership in the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS and the Pennsylvania 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 Association shall be notified at least one month in advance of the date designated for the termination of such membership. (2018)

Section 2. The association recognizes the exclusive property rights of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS in the terms REALTOR and REALTORS. The association 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 determination by the Board of Directors of the National Association that it has violated the conditions imposed upon the terms. (2018)

Section 3. The Board adopts the Code of Ethics of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS and agrees to enforce the Code among its REALTOR Members. The association and all of its Members agree to abide by the Constitution, Bylaws, Rules and Regulations, and policies of the National Association. (2018)

## **ARTICLE X** **DUES AND ASSESSMENTS**

Section 1. Application Fee. The Board of Directors may adopt an application fee for REALTOR Membership in 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 Board upon final approval of the application. (Amended 1/02)

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 plus an amount equal to the amount established annually by the Board of Directors times the number of real estate salespersons 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 association in the state or a state contiguous thereto or Institute Affiliate Members of the association. In calculating the dues payable to the association 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 Association in the state or a state contiguous thereto, provided the Designated REALTOR notifies the association in writing of the identity of the association to which dues have been remitted. In the case of 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 board. (Amended 1/01, Amended 9/12, 2018)

(1) 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 is actively engaged in the real estate profession as defined in Article 111, 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 provided that such licensee is not otherwise included in the computation of dues payable by the principal of the entity. (2018)

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, renting, 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. Designated REALTORS shall notify the association within three (3) days of any changes in status of licensees in a referral firm. (2018)

The exemption for any licensee included on the certification form shall automatically be revoked upon the individual being engaged in real estate licensed activities (listing, selling, leasing, renting, managing, counseling, or appraising real property) other than referrals, and dues for the current fiscal year shall be payable. (2018)

Membership dues shall be prorated for any licensee included on a certification form submitted to the association who during the same calendar year applies for REALTOR membership in the association. However, membership dues shall not be prorated if the licensee held REALTOR membership during the preceding calendar year.(Adopted 2004) (Amended 11/09 and 11/14, 2018)

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

(c) The annual dues of each INSTITUTE AFFILIATE Member shall be as established in Article 11 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 (\$105.00). The National Association shall credit \$35.00 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 \$35.00 amount will be credited to the COB, unless the Institute Affiliate Member directs that the dues be distributed to the other board. The National Association shall also credit \$35.00 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. (Amended 11/2013)

(d) Affiliate Members. The dues of each AFFILIATE Member shall be in such amount as established annually by the Board of Directors. (Amended 1/05)

(e) Public Service Members. The dues of each PUBLIC SERVICE Member shall be in such amount as established annually by the Board of Directors. (Amended 1/05)

(f) Honorary Members. The dues of each HONORARY Member shall be at the discretion of the Board of Directors. (Amended 1/05)

(g) Student Members Dues payable, if any, shall be at the discretion of the Board of Directors. (Amended 1/05)

Section 3. Dues Payable. Dues for all Members shall be payable annually in advance on the first day of January. Dues shall be computed from the first day of the month in which a Member is notified of election and shall be prorated for the remainder of the year

(a) In the event a sales licensee or licensed or certified appraiser who holds REALTOR membership is dropped for nonpayment of Board dues, and the individual remains with the designated 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 Board or the Board'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 accuracy of the amount owed has been confirmed by the Board of Directors. 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 Board 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 amounts due as of the date of

termination.

Section 5. Deposit. All monies received by the Board for any purpose shall be deposited to the credit of the Board in a financial institution or institutions selected by resolution of the Board of Directors.

Section 6. n/a

Section 7. Notice of Dues, Fees, Fines, Assessments, and Other Financial Obligations of Members. All dues, fees, fines, assessments, or other financial obligations to the Board or Board Multiple Listing Service shall be noticed to the delinquent Board Member in writing setting forth the amount owed and due date.

Section 8. The dues of REALTOR Members who are REALTOR Emeriti (as recognized by the National Association), Past Presidents and past treasurers of the National Association or recipients of the Distinguished Service Award shall be as determined by the Board of Directors. (Amended 11/2013)

NOTE: A Member Board's dues obligation to the National Association is reduced by an amount equal to the amount which the Board is assessed for a REALTOR Member, times the number of REALTOR Emeriti (as recognized by the National Association), Past Presidents and past treasurers of the National Association, and recipients of the Distinguished Service Award of the National Association who are REALTOR Members of the Board. The dues obligation of such individuals to the local Board should be reduced to reflect the reduction in the Board's dues obligation to the National Association. The Board may, at its option, choose to have no dues requirement for such individuals except as may be required to meet the Board's obligation to the State Association with respect to such individuals. Member Boards should determine whether the dues payable by the Board 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 Board with respect to those licensees employed by or affiliated with the "designated" REALTOR who are not Members of the local Association. (Amended 11/2013)

## **ARTICLE X1 - OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS**

Section 1. Officers. The elected officers of the Board shall be: a President, a Vice-President, a Corresponding Secretary. They shall be elected for terms of one year. (10/2016)

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 Chief Staff Executive to keep the records of the Board and to carry on all necessary correspondence with NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS and the Pennsylvania Association of REALTORS. (Amended 1/05)

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 Board and seven (7) elected REALTOR Members of the Board. Directors shall be elected to serve for terms of three years, except that at organization, one-third of the elected Directors shall be elected for terms of one, two, and three 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. (Amended 1/05, 10/2013)

(a) Term Limits. No director shall serve for more than two consecutive three year terms.

#### Section 4. Election of Officers and Directors.

(a) At least two (2) months before the annual election, a Nominating Committee of three (3) REALTOR Members shall be appointed by the President with the approval of the Board of Directors. The Nominating Committee shall submit the names of all willing candidates for each office and 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 20% of the REALTOR Members eligible to vote. The petition shall be filed with the Secretary/Chief Staff Executive (Select one) at least two (2) weeks before the election. The Secretary/Chief Staff Executive (select one) shall send notice of such additional nominations to all Members eligible to vote before the election. (Amended 1/05)

(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.

(c) The President, with the approval of the Board of Directors, shall appoint an Election Committee of three (3) REALTOR Members to conduct the election. In case of a tie vote, the issue shall be determined by lot.

Section 5. Vacancies. Vacancies among the Officers and the Board of Directors shall be filled by a simple majority vote of the Board of Directors until the next annual election.

Section 6. Removal of Officers and Directors. In the event that an Officer or Director is deemed to be incapable of fulfilling the duties for which elected, but will not resign from office voluntarily, the Officer or Director 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 one-third of the voting membership or a majority of all Directors 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 individual is deemed to be disqualified from further service.

(b) Upon receipt of the petition, and not less than twenty (20) days or more than forty-five (45) days thereafter, a special meeting of the voting membership of the Board shall be held, and the sole

business of the meeting shall be to consider the charge against the Officer or Director, and to render a decision on such petition.

(c) The special meeting shall be noticed to all voting Members at least ten (10) 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 meeting. In such case, the next-ranking officer will conduct the meeting of the hearing by the Members. Provided a quorum is present, a three-fourths vote of members present and voting shall be required for removal from office. .

Section 7. Chief Staff Executive. There shall be a Chief Staff Executive, appointed by the Board of Directors, who shall be the chief administrative officer of the Board. The Chief Staff Executive 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 X11 - MEETINGS**

Section 1. Annual Meetings. The annual meeting of the Association shall be held during October of each year, the date, place, and hour to be designated by the Board of Directors.

Section 2. Meetings of Directors. The Board of Directors shall designate a regular time and place of meetings. Attendance of members of the Board of Directors at all regular and special meetings is mandatory. If a CJAR director has two unexcused absences during his or her annual term, the Director will be removed from the board and will be prohibited from serving for two years thereafter. Any member of the Board of Directors who is also an Officer as defined in Article X1 Section 1 who is removed through the above procedure set forth in this section shall be deemed ineligible to hold any office so defined in Article X1 during the first two calendar years following the date of their removal. (Adopted by Board of Directors 08-16-2004) A quorum for the transaction of business shall be a majority of the board of directors, except as may otherwise be required by state law. (Amended 05/2013)

Section 3. Other Meetings. Meetings of the Members may be held at other times as the President or the Board of Directors may determine, or upon the written request of at least 10% of the Members eligible to vote.

Section 4. Notice of Meetings. Written notice shall be given to every Member entitled to participate in the meeting at least one (1) week preceding all meetings. If a special meeting is called, it shall be accompanied by a statement of the purpose of the meeting.

Section 5. Quorum for Membership Meetings. A quorum for the transaction of business shall consist of 20% of the Members eligible to vote.

Section 6 Electronic Transaction of Business. To the fullest extent permitted by law, the Board of Directors or membership may conduct business by electronic means. (Amended 1/05)

Section 7 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 of 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 delivered to the Secretary/Chief Staff Executive (select one) 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. (Amended 1/05)

## **ARTICLE X111 - 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:

- \*Professional Standards
- \*Grievance
- \*Multiple Listing (when the MLS is a committee).

Note: Other standing committees which may be listed under this section include, but are not limited to, Finance, Legislative, Public Relations, Membership, REALTOR Protection, Education, Equal Opportunity, RPAC, Fundraising, International, Commercial, Affordable Housing, Community Service, REALTOR of the Year, etc.

Section 2. Special Committees. The President shall appoint, subject to confirmation by the Board of Directors, special committees as deemed necessary.

Section 3. Organization. All Committees shall be of such size and shall have duties, functions, and powers as assigned by the President or the Board of Directors, except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws.

Section 4. President The President shall be an ex-officio member of all standing committees and shall be notified of their meetings.

Section 5. Action without Meeting. Any committee may act by unanimous consent in writing without a 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.

Appointments to the Professional Standards Committee and Grievance Committee shall be consistent with the cooperative Professional Standards Enforcement Agreement of the

Board.(June, 1997). Effective January 1, 2012, the Board of Directors of the Association have voted to join the Statewide Professional Standards Cooperative offered through the Pennsylvania Association of Realtors with regard to enforcement of Professional Standards. (Amended 09/2011)

#### **ARTICLE X1V - FISCAL AND ELECTIVE YEAR**

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

Section 2. The elective year of the Board shall be January 1 to December 31.

#### **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 XV1 - AMENDMENTS**

Section 1. These Bylaws may be amended by a 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.

Section 2. Notice of all meetings at which amendments are to be considered shall be mailed to every member eligible to vote at least one (1) week prior to the meeting.

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

#### **ARTICLE XV11 - DISSOLUTION**

Section 1. Upon the dissolution of this Association, the Board of Directors, after providing for the payment of all obligations, shall distribute any remaining assets to the Pennsylvania Association of REALTORS or, within its discretion, to any other non-profit tax exempt organization.

#### **ARTICLE XV111 - MULTIPLE LISTING**

##### **Multiple Listing Service Operated as a Committee of the Board**

Section 1. Authority. The Association of REALTORS shall maintain for the use of its Members a Multiple Listing Service which shall be subject to the Bylaws of the Association of REALTORS and such Rules and Regulations as may be hereinafter adopted

Section 2. Purpose. A Multiple Listing Service is a means by which authorized Participants make blanket unilateral offers of compensation to other Participants (acting as subagents, buyer agents, or in other agency or non-agency capacities defined by law); by which cooperation among participants is enhanced; by which 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 data bases; 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). Amended 11/04)

Section 3. Participation. Any REALTOR Member of this or any other Board who is a principal, partner, or corporate officer, or branch manager acting on behalf of the principal, without further qualification, 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 a Board 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 or published by a Board Multiple Listing Service where access to such information is prohibited by law. (Amended 11/08, 9/12)

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. (Adopted 11/08)

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. (Adopted 11/08)

Section 4. Supervision. The activity shall be operated under the supervision of the Multiple Listing Committee, in accordance with the Rules and Regulations, subject to approval of the Board of Directors of the Association of Realtors.

Section 5. Appointment of Committee. The President shall appoint, subject to the confirmation of the Board of Directors, a Multiple Listing Committee of not less than four Members. All members of the Committee shall be Participants in Multiple Listing except, at the option of the local Board, REALTORS affiliated with Participants may be appointed to serve in such numbers as determined by the local Board. The Committee Members so named shall serve two-year terms. The Committee shall select its Chairman from among the members thereof. (The Chairman may be designated by the President.)

Section 5A. Appointment of Committee

1. To supervise and operate the MLS in accordance with the authority granted to it in the Bylaws of the local Association and the MLS Rules and Regulations as adopted by the Board of Directors.
2. To recommend to the Board of Directors a schedule of charges made to Participants for the services provided by the MLS.
3. To authorize the distribution of all information as published by the MLS under such terms and conditions as allowed by the MLS Rules and Regulations.

Section 5B.

1. The committee shall meet at least once per year at a time and place agreed to by the members of the Committee. (2016)
2. A quorum shall constitute four(4) Members, including the chairman.
3. Special meetings can be called at the direction of the local Association President or the Committee Chairman.
4. From time to time, the MLS Committee or the President may call meetings of all of the Participants which shall be known as meetings of the Multiple Listing Service.

Section 6. Vacancies. Vacancies in unexpired terms shall be filled as in the case of original appointees.

Section 7. Attendance. Any Committee Member who fails to attend three(3) consecutive regular or special meetings of the Committee, without excuse acceptable to the Chairman of the Committee, shall be deemed to have resigned from the Committee and the vacancy shall be filled as herein provided for original appointees.

Section 8 Access to Comparable and Statistical Information. Board Members who are actively

engaged in real estate brokerage, management, appraising, land development or building, but who do not participate in the MLS, are nonetheless entitled to receive, by purchase or lease, information other than current listing information that is generated wholly or in part by the MLS including "comparable" information, "sold" information, and statistical reports. This information is provided for the exclusive use of Board Members and individuals affiliated with Board Members who are also engaged in the real estate business and may not be transmitted, retransmitted, or provided in any manner to any unauthorized individual, office or firm except as otherwise specified in the MLS Rules and Regulations. Board members who receive such information, either as a Board service or through the Board's MLS, are subject to the applicable provisions of the MLS Rules and Regulations whether they participate in the MLS or not. (Amended 1/05)

(\*NOTE: Generally, Boards of REALTORS, when there is more than one principal in a real estate firm, define the chief principal officer of the firm as the MLS "Participant." Brokers or salespersons other than principals are not considered "Participants" in the Service, but have access to and use of the Service through the principal(s) with whom they are affiliated.

Subscribers (or users) of the MLS include non-principal brokers, sales associates, and licensed and certified appraisers affiliated with participants. (Optional provision: Subscribers also include affiliated unlicensed administrative and clerical staff, personal assistants, and individuals seeking licensure or certification as real estate appraisers who are under the direct supervision of an MLS participant or the participant's licensed designee.) (Adopted 4/92)

**PENNSYLVANIA ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS  
BYLAW PROVISION  
LIMITING PERSONAL LIABILITY OF DIRECTORS**

**ARTICLE XIX Personal Liability of Directors**

Section 1. General Rules. A director of the Association shall not be personally liable for monetary damages for any action taken or any failure to take any action, except to the extent that exemption from liability for monetary damages is not permitted under the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as now or hereafter in effect. The provisions of this Section are intended to exempt the directors of the Association from liability for monetary damages to the maximum extent permitted under the Pennsylvania Directors' Liability Act (42 PA.C.S.8361 et seq.) or under any other law now or hereafter in effect.

Section 2. Specific Rule Under Directors' Liability Act: Without limitation of Section 1 above, a director of the Association shall not be personally liable for monetary damages for any action taken or any failure to take any action, unless:(1) the director has breached or failed to perform the duties of his office under Section 8363 of the Directors' Liability Act, and (2) the breach or failure to perform constitutes self-dealing, willful misconduct or recklessness. The provisions of the preceding sentence shall not exempt a director from: (a) the responsibility of liability of a director pursuant to any criminal statute; or (b) the liability of a director for the payment of taxes pursuant to local, state or federal law.

Section 3. Modification or Repeal: The provisions of this Section may be modified or repealed in accordance with the procedures for amending these Bylaws; provided, however, that any such modification or repeal shall not have any effect upon the liability of a director relating to any action taken, any failure to take any action, or events which occurred prior to the effective date of such modification or repeal.

**PENNSYLVANIA ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS  
BYLAW PROVISION  
RELATING TO INDEMNIFICATION**

**ARTICLE XX Indemnification**

Section 1. General Rule. Subject to the provisions of Section 2 below, the Association shall, to the fullest extent permitted under the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is now or hereafter in effect, indemnify any person (and his heirs, executors and administrators) who was or is a party, witness or other participant, to any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative(including, without limitation, actions by or in the right of the Association), by reason of the fact that he is or was a director or officer, of the Association, or is or was serving at the request of the Association as a director or officer of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise, and may, to the fullest extent permitted under the law of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as now or hereafter in effect, indemnify any person (and his heirs, executors and administrators) who was or is a party, witness or other participant, or is threatened to be made a party, witness or other participant, to any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative (including, without limitation, actions by or in the right of the Association), or is or was serving at the request of the Association as an employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise, against all expenses(including attorneys' fees, court costs, transcript costs, fees of experts and witnesses, travel expenses and all other similar expenses), judgments, fines, penalties and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred by him in connection with such action, suit or proceeding.

Section 2 Standard of Conduct. Indemnification shall be provided under Section 1 above only if it is determined that: (a) the person seeking indemnification acted in good faith in a manner he reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the Association; and (b) the act or failure to act giving rise to the claim for indemnification does not constitute willful misconduct or recklessness. Notwithstanding the foregoing, no person shall be indemnified in any case where the act or failure to act giving rise to the claim for indemnification is determined by a court to have constituted willful misconduct or recklessness.

Section 3. Procedure. Indemnification under Section 1 above (unless ordered by a court) shall be made by the Association only as authorized in the specific case upon a determination that indemnification is proper in the circumstances because the person seeking indemnification has met the applicable standard of conduct set forth in Section 2 above All such determinations shall be made by the Board of Directors.



Section 4. Advance Payment of Expenses. Subject to such terms, conditions and limitations, if any, as the Board of Directors may in its discretion determine to be appropriate, the Association shall (in the case of a director or Officer) and may (in the case of an employee or agent) advance all reasonable expenses (including attorneys' fees, court costs, transcript costs, fees of experts and witnesses, travel expenses and all other similar expenses) reasonably incurred in connection with the defense of or other response to any action, suit or proceeding referred to in Section 1 above upon receipt of an undertaking by or on behalf of the person seeking the advance to repay all amounts advanced if it shall ultimately be determined upon final disposition of such action suit or proceeding that he is not entitled to be indemnified by the Association under the provisions of this Article. Notwithstanding the provisions of the preceding sentence, the Association shall not be required to make any advance payment of expenses (or to make any further advance if one or more advances shall have been previously made) in the event that a determination is made by the Board of Directors that the making of an advance or further advance would be inappropriate in the circumstances because there is reason to believe that the person seeking the advance did not meet the applicable standard of conduct set forth in Section 2.