### NEBRASKA LICENSE LAW COURSE 2016

Written by: Mari Jo Mentzer Real Estate Kinetics



- In 2015, NREC (Nebraska Real Estate Commission) identified a need to rebuild course instruction for its real estate population in the area of Real Estate License Law.
- This course instruction has been developed as a 30-hour Pre-License Course, with 10 different modules that can be split into CE (Continued Education) for Nebraska Licensed Real Estate Professionals.
- Any suggestions are welcomed on how to enhance the learners experience and should be directed to Mari Jo Friehe, Instructional Designer, Real Estate Kinetics at <a href="mailto:marijofriehe@outlook.com">marijofriehe@outlook.com</a>.

### Introduction

Mari Jo Mentzer graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Adult Education, from Bellevue University in 2014, and has been a licensed Real Estate Professional since 1999. She has been licensed in both Iowa and Nebraska, as well as an approved Instructor of Pre-Licensing courses for NREC. Earlier in her career she participated on several committees for both local and state organizations.

Away from real estate Mari Jo enjoys traveling, family and cooking for her three grown children, Kayla, Arthur and Caitlyn. In addition, she enjoys being a Grandma!

### About the Author





### Module 1: **GETTING YOUR NEBRASKA REAL ESTATE LICENSE**

#### License Law

Definition of a license and license law.

### **Governing Powers**

ARELLO, NAR, NREC, and NRA

#### Real Estate Licensee Information

- Where do I find testing information?
- When should I start interviews?

 YOU WILL NEED: A Nebraska License Law Packet for this 30hour pre-license course. If one is not provided by your instructor, please go to the Nebraska Real Estate Commission website, www.nrec.ne.gov.

### **OBJECTIVES**

# What is the definition of license?

#### License

• The permission granted by competent authority to exercise a certain privilege that, without such authorization, would constitute an illegal act, a <a href="Irespass">Irespass</a> or a TORT. The certificate or the document itself that confers permission to engage in otherwise proscribed conduct.

http://financial-dictionary.thefreedictionary.com/license

## What are License Laws?

#### License Laws

 Particular state laws having to do with qualifications, licensing, and oversight of real estate or other professionals within the state in order to (1) ensure minimal levels of expertise, (2) promulgate enforceable standards to protect consumers from fraud, abuse, or negligence, and (3) provide mechanisms for self-policing of the industry. One can check the license status of any purported real estate broker or agent by going to the Web site of the Association of Real Estate License Law Officials www.arello.org and clicking on License Registration Verification.

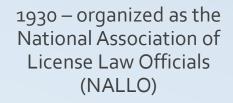
http://financial-dictionary.thefreedictionary.com/license+laws



### The Real Estate Agent's Best Friend!



### Who is ARELLO?



1993 – recognized its international membership in 1993 by becoming the Association of Real Estate License Law Officials (ARELLO)







1965 — distinguished itself from other regulators by renaming itself the National Association of Real Estate License Law Officials (NARELLO)

### History of Association of Real Estate License Law Officials



### Nebraska Real Estate Commission

http://www.nrec.ne.gov





http://www.realtor.org





http://www.nebraskarealtors.com

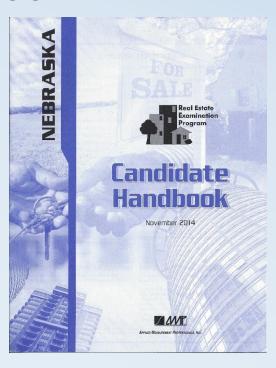
### "Are license laws constitutional?"

- Does the state have the right to demand that only persons with certain qualification of education, knowledge, or character be permitted to engage in the real estate brokerage business?
- Does it violate the "due process" clause of the Fourteenth Amendment of the Federal Constitution? Which provides; "...nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property without due process of law;..."

Semenow, "Questions and Answers On Real Estate," Fourth Edition, 1964

In 1935 Nebraska Passed a Real Estate License Law.

### The "NEBRASKA Candidate Handbook!"



### "Scheduling an Examination Appointment."

- Go to <a href="www.goAMP.com">www.goAMP.com</a> to schedule an Exam <a href="mailto:after">after</a> your name has been released by NREC.
- Or call AMP (Applied Measurement Professionals, Inc.) at 800-345-6559, from 7:00 am to 9:00 pm (Central Time) Monday through Thursday, 7:00 am to 7:00 pm on Friday and 8:30 am to 5:00 pm on Saturday.
- This information is found on page 2 of the Nebraska Candidate Handbook.

### Where do I find testing information?

#### **National Salesperson Portion**

### **Topic**

Number of Questions

1.	Agency Relationships and Contracts	28
2.	Real Property Ownership	14
3.	Finance	15
4.	Real Property	14
5.	Marketing Regulations	8
6.	Property Management	8
7.	Real Estate Calculations	13

#### **State Sales Person Portion**

"The Nebraska Real Estate Salesperson examination deals with topics relating particularly to Nebraska real estate license law. There ae 50 multiple-choice questions on the salesperson's exam."

• This information is found on page 5 of your handbook....(and is subject to change.)

### What's on the test?



# Tips for Proceeding through the Application Process

### 81-885.19. License; form; broker's branch office; license; fee.

"The commission shall prescribe the form of license. Each license shall have placed thereon the seal of the commission. The license of each salesperson and associate broker shall be delivered or mailed to the broker by whom the salesperson or associate broker is employed and shall be kept in the custody and control of such broker. It is the duty of each broker to display his or her own license and those of his or her associate brokers and salespersons conspicuously in his or her place of business....."

**Source:** Laws 1973, LB 68, § 19; Laws 1983, LB 182, § 17; Laws 1990, LB 350, § 9; Laws 1991, LB 204, § 3; Laws 2002, LB 863, § 17; Laws 2009, LB29, § 1; Laws 2011, LB23, § 2.



#### Effective Date: August 31, 2003

- "(5) An applicant for an original broker's or salesperson's license shall be subject to fingerprinting and a check of his or her criminal history record information maintained by the Federal Bureau of Investigation through the Nebraska State Patrol.....The applicant shall authorize release of the national criminal history record check to the commission."
- Source: Laws 1973, LB 68, \$ 17; Laws 1980, LB 936, \$ 3; Laws 1983, LB 182, \$ 15; Laws 1983, LB 447, \$ 95; Laws 1990, LB 350, \$ 7; Laws 2002, LB 863, \$ 15; Laws 2003, LB 60, \$ 2; Laws 2006, LB 819, \$ 2; Laws 2008, LB715, \$ 1; Laws 2011, LB25, \$ 16; Laws 2014, LB687, \$ 3.

### Criminal History Check; Who's Checking?

### "4 Pillars to Finding a Brokerage"

by: Twenty New Clients



How to Choose A Real Estate Brokerage (4 Pillars) ... /Twenty-New-Clients/397215317021805?focus\_composer=true&ref=hl 4

### Developing Interview Questions

"Being ready isn't enough; you have to be prepared for a promotion or any other significant change." (Pat Riley)



What does working as an independent contractor mean to you?

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- Do you have a business plan in place?

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- What advice would you share with your peers?

### For FREE business plan information go to www.sba.org.



### Module 2:

### **NEBRASKA FAIR HOUSING ACT** Part 1

#### FAIR HOUSING in Today's World

 Introduction to Fair Housing practices in Real Estate

#### Key Terms

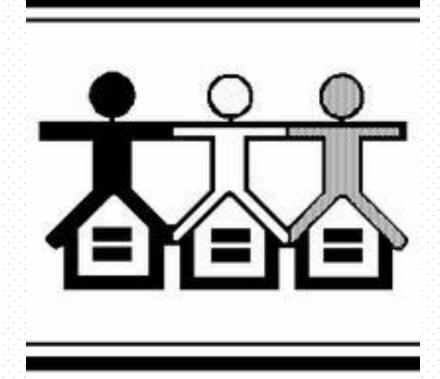
 Learn key terms and words associated with Fair Housing

The FAIR HOUSING ACT

 YOU WILL NEED: A copy of NEBRASKA FAIR HOUSING ACT. If one is not provided by your instructor, please go to the Nebraska Real Estate Commission website, www.nrec.ne.qov.

#### **OBJECTIVES**

What would you do if you were at your first listing appointment alone and the home seller off-the-cuff said to you; "I don't want you to sell my home to an Hispanic family"?

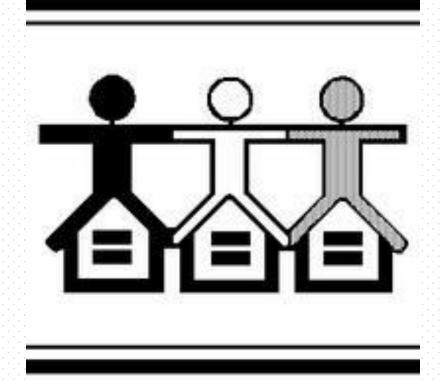


## "Matter of Place"

by The Fair Housing Justice Center

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WkYfa5IX-nU

What would you do if you were at your first listing appointment alone and the home seller off-the-cuff said to you; "I don't want you to sell my home to an Hispanic family"?



## What is discrimination?

**Definition of Discrimination**; the unjust or prejudicial treatment of different categories of people or things, especially on the grounds of race, age, or sex.

www.google.com

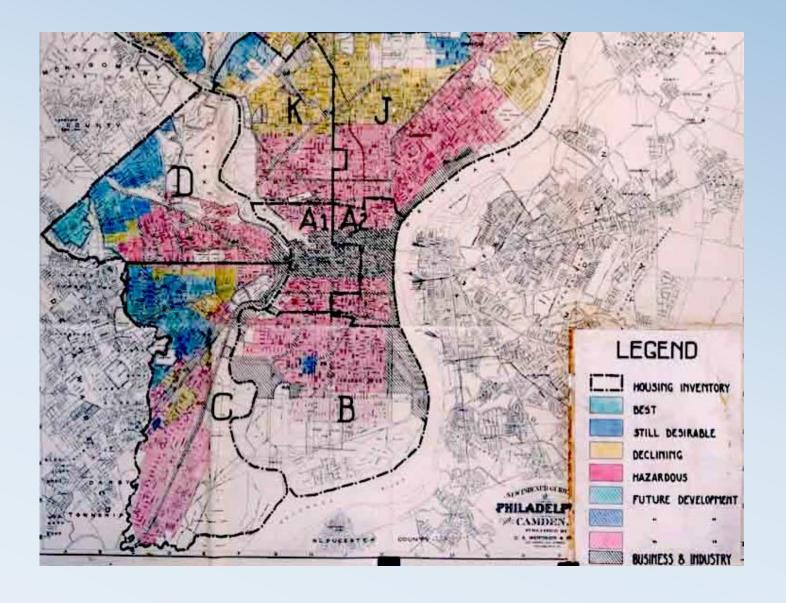
- Race
- Age
- Sex
- Color
- Religion
- National Origin
- Physical or Mental Handicaps
- Families with Children
- Marital Status

### What does this list represent?

## What is Redlining?

In the United States, redlining is the practice of denying services, either directly or through selectively raising prices, to residents of certain areas based on the racial or ethnic makeups of those areas.

www.wikopedia.com



## What is BLOCKBUSTING?

Blockbusting was a business practice of U.S. real estate agents and building developers to convince white property owners to sell their house at low prices out of fear that persons of color will soon move into the neighborhood. The agents then sold the houses at much higher prices to black families desperate to escape the overcrowded ghettos.

www.wikapedia.com



owner when Negroes moved into his block. But a short time later he panicked-and sold his house at a loss.

In this week's Post, you'll read how speculators decide which blocks are "ripe" for racial change. How they use vicious tactics to force

"I'm broad-minded," said one home out the whites. And how one speculator brags that he could "bust" your block in no time at all.



## Who is HUD?

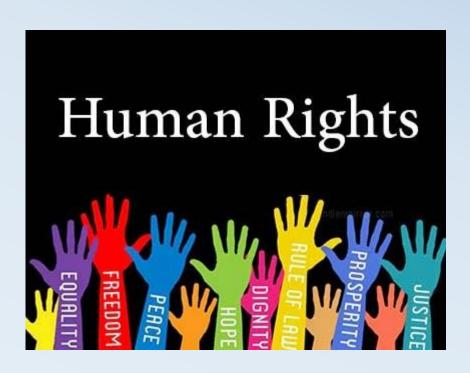
**HUD: The United States** Department of Housing and Urban Development is a Cabinet department in the Executive branch of the United States federal government. Although its beginnings were in the House and Home Financing Agency, it was founded as a Cabinet department in 1965, as part of the "Great Society" program of President Lyndon Johnson, to develop and execute policies on housing and metropolises.

www.wikipedia.com



## What is the FAIR HOUSING ACT?

• YOU WILL NEED:A copy of FEDERAL FAIR HOUSING ACT. You will find one in the application packet provided by the Commission. If one is not provided by your instructor, please go to the Nebraska Real Estate Commission website, <a href="https://www.nrec.ne.gov">www.nrec.ne.gov</a>.



**Definition** of **Fair Housing** Act. **Fair Housing** Act. A law enacted as part of civil rights legislation that prohibits discrimination of home sales, rentals and financing based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status or those with disabilities

www.google.com

- "Fair Housing Act (Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968) introduced meaningful federal enforcement mechanisms. It outlawed: Refusal to sell or rent a dwelling to any person because of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin."
  - www.wikapedia.org

• Protected: Race, color, religion, national origin.

#### Fair Housing Act 1968

• NE Fair Housing Act; Article 3; Housing; 20-302. Civil rights; policy of state. It is the policy of the State of Nebraska that there shall be no discrimination in the acquisition, ownership, possession or enjoyment of housing throughout the State of Nebraska in accordance with Article 1, section 25, of the Constitution of Nebraska.

#### **NEBRASKA Fair Housing ACT**

- "The Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, (12 U.SC. 1706e), is a United States Federal Law that, among other provisions, amended the Housing Act of 1937 to create Section 8 housing, authorizes "Entitlement Community Grants" to be awarded by the United States Depart of Housing and Urban Development...."
  - www.wikapedia.org

Protected: Sex

#### The 1974 Housing and Community Development Act

- "The Federal Fair Housing Act (codified at 42 U.S.C.3601-3619, penalties for violation at 42 U.S.C.3631), Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, was intended to protect the buyer/renter of a dwelling from seller/landlord discrimination. Its primary prohibition makes it unlawful to refuse to sell, rent to, or negotiate with any person because of that person's inclusion in a protected class."
  - www.wikapedia.org

**Protected:** Persons with physical or mental handicaps, families with children.

#### The 1988 Fair Housing Amendment Act

- NE Fair Housing Act; Article 3; Housing; 20-318. Unlawful acts enumerated. Except as exempted by section 20-322 it shall be unlawful to:
- (1) Refuse to sell or rent after making of a bona fide offer, refuse to negotiate for the sale or rent of, or otherwise make unavailable or deny, refuse to show, or to receive.....(20-318 through 20-322.)

#### **NEBRASKA FAIR HOUSING ACT**

Explain;

WHY is Section 20-322 **EXEMPT**?

Reference; Section 20-322 Nebraska Fair Housing Book





#### Module 3:

#### NEBRASKA FAIR HOUSING ACT, Part 2

#### FAIR HOUSING in Today's World

Housing Problems We Face Today

#### NREC Role

 Discover what roles NREC plays in NE Fair Housing.

**HUD Advertising** 

 YOU WILL NEED: A copy of NEBRASKA FAIR HOUSING ACT. If one is not provided by your instructor, please go to the Nebraska Real Estate Commission website, www.nrec.ne.qov.

#### **OBJECTIVES**

#### In 2014, Fremont, NE made National News Headlines

Housing Problems We Face Today in Nebraska



1) Did the City of Fremont, NE employ a discriminatory housing practice when they enacted this ordinance?

#### Stop the Invasion

Illegal Immigrants are Invaders of the USA – Criminals!

Our government is not following the Constitution to protect us from these invaders.

**Providing Housing to Invaders is Treason!** 

Vote to Support the Illegal Immigration Ordinance on February 11th!

2) If the Fair Housing Act of 1968 prohibited discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex and national origin why would this new ordinance be exempt from the Fair Housing ACT?



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3) Based on the information in these articles, do you project more communities in Nebraska will enact similar city ordinances in the future?



# What is NREC's role in Fair Housing?

20-324. Equal Opportunity Commission; educational and conciliatory activities; programs of compliance and enforcement.

20-325. Commission; duties.

Also reference\*;

20-326; Discriminatory housing practice ; complaint; procedure; investigation.

20-337. Hearing officer; powers and duties; civil penalties; order; effect.

# How to file a complaint with NEOC?

Reference 20-327 through 20-334.

- Aggrieved person MUST file the complaint within 12 months of an alleged discriminatory housing practice with the NEOC.
- Complaint MUST be in writing.
- Commission may also investigate housing practices to decide if they should hear the complaint.

Section 20-326. Discriminatory housing practice; complaint; procedure; investigation. Nebraska Fair Housing Book

#### After the filing of the complaint;

• NEOC will serve notice to the aggrieved person acknowledging they have received the complaint, in addition to sharing with them other forums provided under the Nebraska Fair Housing Act. No later than 100 days after filing the complaint, or identification of an additional respondent, will serve notice of the complaint.

Section 20-326. Discriminatory housing practice; complaint; procedure; investigation. Nebraska Fair Housing Book

**EACH** respondent will file, within 10 days, a response to the complaint.

- The NEOC then has 100 days to investigate the complaint or take further action under section 20-332. If the commission cannot complete the investigation within 100 days after the filing of the complaint, they will notify the complainant and respondent in writing for the reasons of not doing so. Complaints and answers will be under oath.
- A person who is not named as a respondent in the complaint, but is identified as one in the course of the investigation may be joined as an additional or substitute respondent.

Section 20-326. Discriminatory housing practice; complaint; procedure; investigation. Nebraska Fair Housing Book

1) Did a discriminatory act occur? 2) Can Julie and Sam file a complaint with the NREC? If so, against whom? 3) If Kayla and Juan had not hired Roger to represent them, would they have been exempt from the fair housing Act?



1) Did a discriminatory act occur? Answer: YES! Licensed

property managers are not allowed to consider risk and circumstances of a home when making rental decisions. For that reason they cannot discriminate based on

Familial Status.



2) Can Julie and Sam file a complaint with the NREC? If so, against whom?
Answer: YES! They can file a complaint against Roger the Property
Manager.



3) If Kayla and Juan had not hired Roger to represent them, would they have been exempt from the fair housing Act?

Answer: Yes, they would have been exempt if they had no agent.

Reference; Section 20-322 of the Nebraska Fair Housing Book .





### The Real Estate Agents Best Friend! GOTO: www.hud.gov

PPT\_NREC2015.mjf

It is unlawful "to make, print, or publish, or cause to be made, printed, or published, any notice, statement, or preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or an intention to make such preference, limitation, or discrimination."

### Section 804(C) of the Fair Housing Act

### Applies to ALL advertising media, including;

- Newspapers
- Magazines
- Television
- Radio
- AND Internet & Social Media!

Section 804(C) of the Fair Housing Act

#### DATES TO REMEMBER;

- 1989 HUD published advertising guidelines,
- 1995 additional guidelines were published.

#### GUIDELINES;

- Advertising that contains words, phrases, symbols or visual aids that indicate a discriminatory preference or limitation.
- Advertising that selectively uses media, human models, logos and location to indicate an illegal preference or limitation.
- 3. Various types of discriminatory advertising practices condemned by the Fair Housing Acts.

4. If Kayla and Juan had rented out their home using an online ad that stated "NO CHILDREN" would they have been exempt?

Reference Section 20-327 through 20-334 of Nebraska Fair Housing Book.



Answer: NO! They would have lost their exemption because of discriminatory advertising.

Reference Section 20-327 through 20-334 of Nebraska Fair Housing Book.



MUST be on ALL real Estate for sale or rent.

Logo choice depends on the type of advertising and the size of the advertisement.

Other types of advertising; Equal Housing Logo should be the size at least equal to the largest of other types of logos. If no logos are used, 3-5% of the advertisement should be a Fair Housing Logo.

**Equal Housing Opportunity Logo** 



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### Where should this poster be displayed?

Why?

**Fair Housing Poster** 

U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development





#### We Do Business in Accordance With the Federal Fair Housing Law

(The Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988)

It is illegal to Discriminate Against Any Person Because of Race, Color, Religion, Sex, Handicap, Familial Status, or National Origin

- In the sale or rental of housing or residential lots
- In the provision of real estate brokerage services
- In advertising the sale or rental of housing
- In the appraisal of housing
- In the financing of housing
- Blockbusting is also illegal

Anyone who feels he or she has been discriminated against may file a complaint of housing discrimination:

1-800-669-9777 (Toll Free) 1-800-927-9275 (TTY) www.hud.gov/fairhousing U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Assistant Secretary for Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity Washington, D.C. 20410

Previous editions are obsolete

form HUD-928.1 (6/2011)

# Which Words are Acceptable in Fair Housing Advertising?

Fair Housing Advertising Word and Phrase Quiz.
www.neoc.ne.gov







### Module 4: Understanding Real Estate Law

#### Real Estate Law

• Introduction the importance of Real Estate Law.

#### Nebraska License Law Act

 Learners should be able to interpret basic concepts of Nebraska License Law Act.

### Key Terms.

• Define Key Terms.

 YOU WILL NEED: A copy of NEBRASKA REAL ESTATE LICENSE ACT. If one is not provided by your instructor, please go to the Nebraska Real Estate Commission website, www.nrec.ne.gov.

#### **OBJECTIVES**

## What makes real estate operations successful?



Successful real estate operations depend on;



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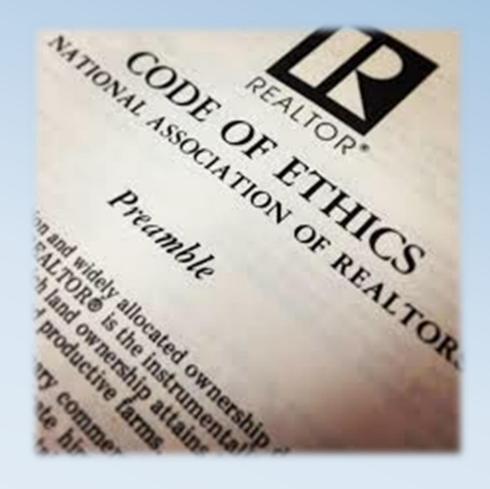
1. Ethics and honesty of its brokers and agents.



### Successful real estate operations depend on;

- 1. Ethics and honesty of its brokers and agents.
- 2. That the public also sees them as ethical and honest and trusts them.

NAR (National Association of REALTORS) is a Professional organization which has a strict Code of Ethics to which all members must adhere.



Many problems stem from Licensees having financial difficulty, driving them to make decisions which may fall in the gray area, forgetting to work in a fair and ethical manner with **BOTH** their clients and their peers.

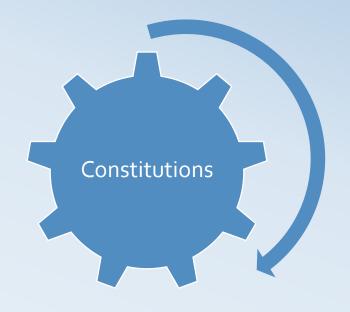




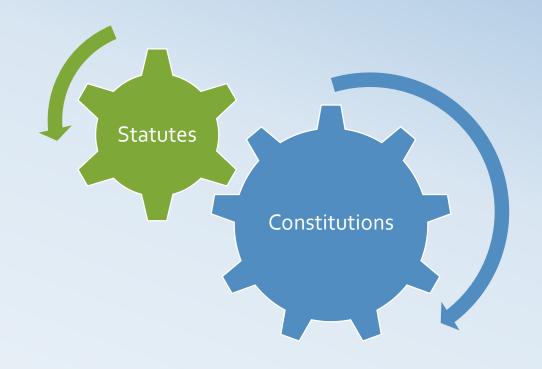
To be successful in the real estate industry you must have a basic understanding of License Law & the legal process.

"In everything that you do, every statement you make, and every paper you prepare, remember that there is a possibility that your action may be the subject of a court decision. Conduct yourself as if it is not only possible but likely."

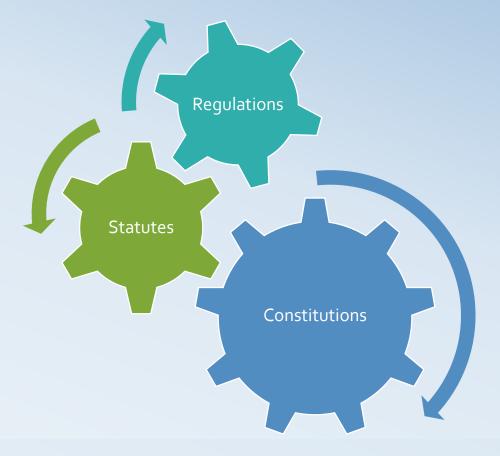
~unknown broker



### General Framework of Law and Regulation in the United States



### General Framework of Law and Regulation in the United States



### General Framework of Law and Regulation in the United States

### Common Law

### Case Law

### **DEFINE:**

### Common Law

 Doctrines established by court precedent, any principles of contract law come from common law.

### Case Law

#### **DEFINE:**

### Common Law

 Doctrines established by court precedent, many principles of contract law come from common law.

### Case Law

• Interpreting statutes and regulations, also ruling statutes or other government actions unconstitutional.

#### **DEFINE:**

### What are the two types of law?



### What are the two types of law?

Written Law;
 constitutions, statutes,
 and court decisions.

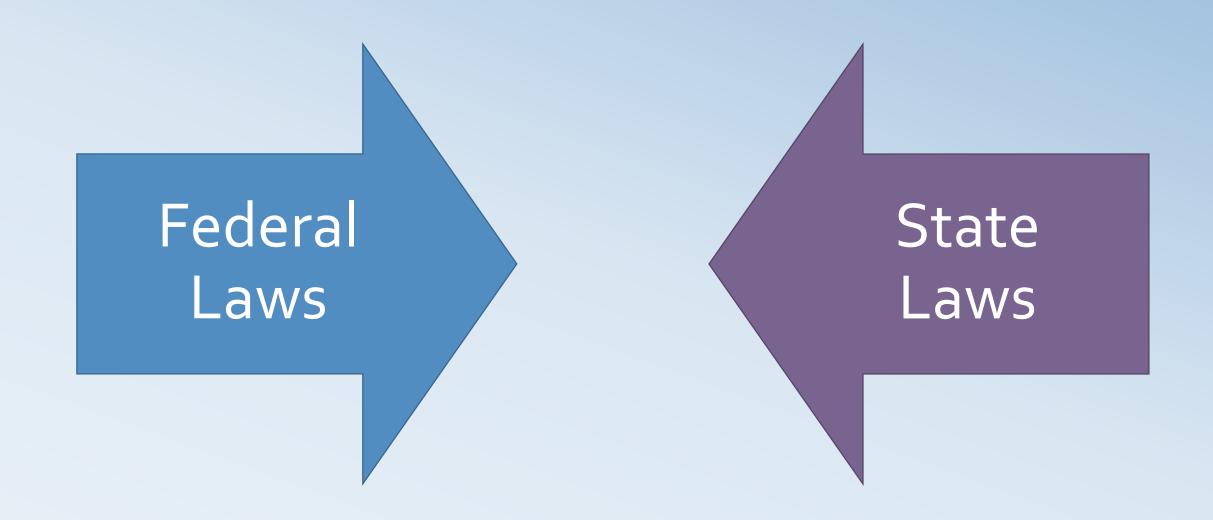


### What are the two types of law?

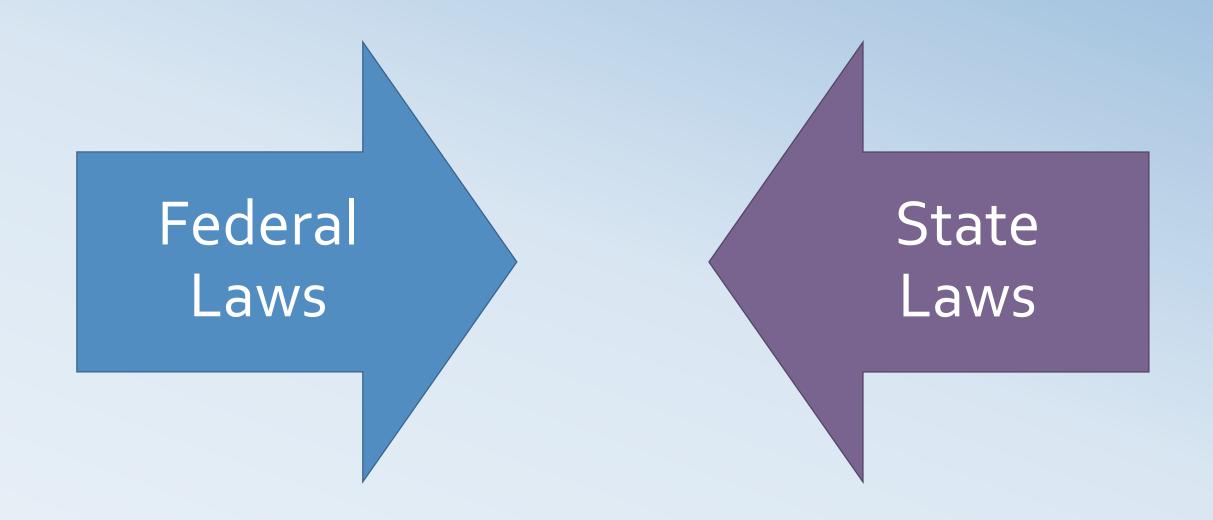
- Written Law; constitutions, statutes, and regulations
- Case law; and Court decisions.

Also, Custom & Practice; not officially written law.





Who governs real estate conflicts?



Real estate conflicts are governed by both!

Principle of Jurisdiction

- Principle of Jurisdiction
- Principle of Equity

- Principle of Jurisdiction
- Principle of Equity
- Statutes of Limitations

- Principle of Jurisdiction
- Principle of Equity
- Statutes of Limitations
- Doctrine of Laches

### Federal and State Laws follow these basic principles.

- Principle of Jurisdiction
- Principle of Equity
- Statutes of Limitations
- Doctrine of Laches
- Estoppel

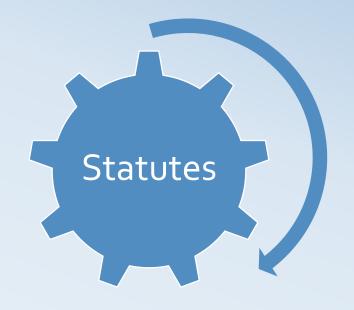
### Federal and State Laws follow these basic principles.

- Principle of Jurisdiction
- Principle of Equity
- Statutes of Limitations
- Doctrine of Laches
- Estoppel
- Doctrine of Clean Hands

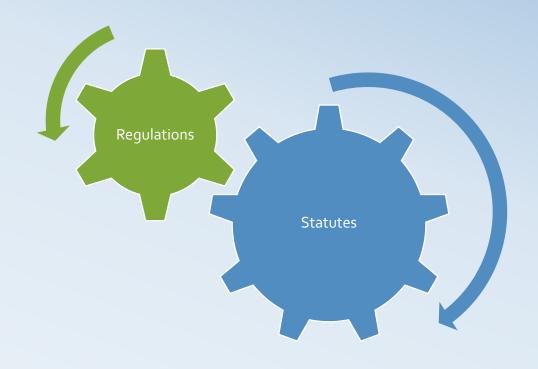
### Federal and State Laws follow these basic principles.

The specific framework of law and the regulations of real estate licensees is controlled by the enactment of statutes and general structure of the government, both federal and state.

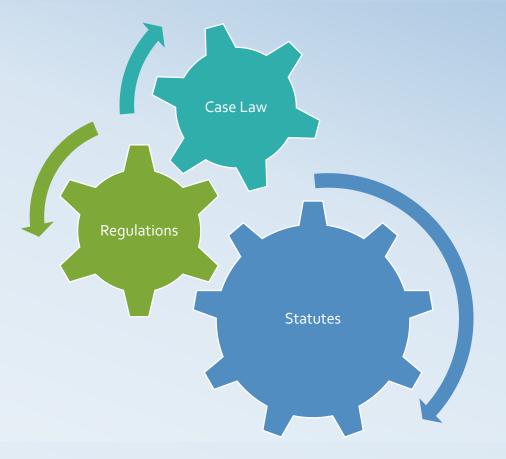
## Specific Framework of Law and Regulation of Real Estate Licensees



# Specific Framework of Law and Regulation of Real Estate Licensee



# Specific Framework of Law and Regulation of Real Estate Licensee



# Specific Framework of Law and Regulation of Real Estate Licensee

What happens if **YOU** get caught acting as an agent or providing brokerage services without a license?



81-885.01(2)

"A rule of civil conduct prescribed by the supreme power in the State, commanding what is right and prohibiting what is wrong."

~Blackstone





### Module 5: Understanding Real Estate Law

#### Real Estate Law

• Introduction of the importance of Real Estate Law.

#### Nebraska License Law Act

 Learners should be able to interpret basic concepts of Nebraska License Law Act.

#### Key Terms.

• Define Key Terms.

 YOU WILL NEED: A copy of NEBRASKA REAL ESTATE LICENSE ACT. If one is not provided by your instructor, please go to the Nebraska Real Estate Commission website, www.nrec.ne.gov.

#### **OBJECTIVES**

# Which of these things is NOT like the others?

**Appraisal Broker's Price Opinion** Comparative Market Analysis

81.885.16. Real Property Appraiser Act; applicability; broker's price opinion or comparative market analysis; requirements. Nebraska License Law Act

#### **Appraisal**

- The process of estimating and supporting an opinion of value.
- MUST be a Licensed Appraiser to perform this duty.

#### Broker's Price Opinion

• (BPO) The brokers estimate of probable selling price, rather than the estimate of value.

#### Comparative Market Analysis

- (CMA) A simplified version of the sales comparison approach used by brokers to help determine the value of the real estate.
- No Compensation, fee, or other consideration shall be charged for a BPO or CMA other than a real estate commission or brokerage fee charged or paid for brokerage services in connection with the sale of a property....(81.885.16 paragraph 2.)
- 81.885.16. Real Property Appraiser Act; applicability; broker's price opinion or comparative market analysis; requirements. Nebraska License Law Act



"Train-the-Trainer"

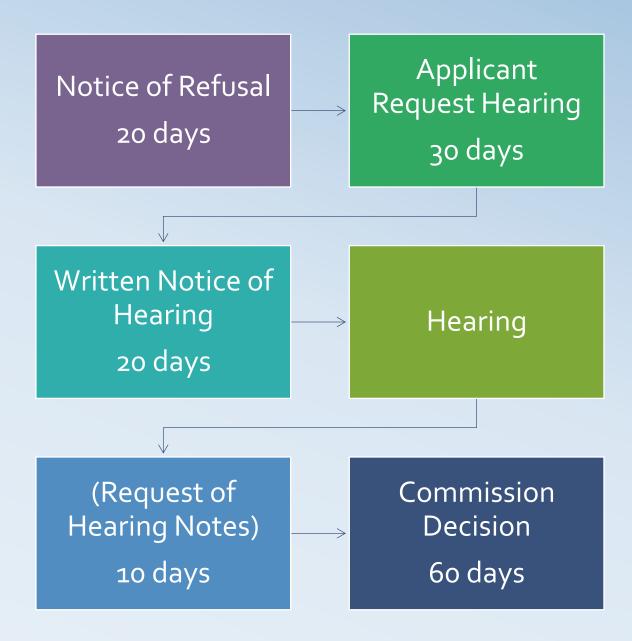
When the Commission denies your application.

81.885.18 Application; refusal; hearing; decision.



# When the Commission denies your application.

81.885.18 Application; refusal; hearing; decision.



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"...and shall be kept in the custody and control of such broker....duty of each broker to display his or her own license and those of his or her associate brokers and salespersons conspicuously in his or her place of business."

-81.885.19

81-885.19 License; form; issuance; brokers' branch office; license; fee.

Susie Salesperson leaves company A for a better opportunity at Company B. What should Susie do with her license?



81-885.20 Broker, salesperson; change in place of business; notify commission; fee.





## Module 6: TRUST ACCOUNTS

#### **Trust Accounts**

• Introduction of Students to the basic concepts of Trust Accounts.

#### Discover

• Discover information found on NREC website.

#### Key Terms

• Familiarize students with key terms and definitions.

- YOU WILL NEED: A copy of NEBRASKA REAL ESTATE LICENSE ACT. If one is not provided by your instructor, please go to the Nebraska Real Estate Commission website, www.nrec.ne.gov.
- It is also advised to have a copy of the TRUST ACCOUNT MANUAL.

#### **OBJECTIVES**

## TRUST ACCOUNTS WORD FIND

Attachment 6A



## What is a Trust Account?



### What is a Trust Account?

An account that is managed by one party for the benefit of another.



- 1. Can trust accounts be interest bearing?
- 2. On July 1, 2017 what change is made to trust accounts?
- 3. Is there a limit of how many trust accounts a broker can have?
- 4. If a trust account is deemed "unsafe" by the Commission, to whom does the Commission report this?
- 5. What happens?
- 6. Can a salesperson or associate broker open a trust account?

- 1. Can trust accounts be interest bearing? YES! Interest may be distributed or otherwise accrue only to nonprofit organizations that promote housing in Nebraska and are exempt from the payment of federal income taxes.
- 2. On July 1, 2017 what change is made to trust accounts?
- 3. Is there a limit of how many trust accounts a broker can have?
- 4. If a trust account is deemed "unsafe" by the Commission, to whom does the Commission report this?
- 5. What Happens?
- 6. Can a salesperson or associate broker open a trust account?

- 1. Can trust accounts be interest bearing?
- 2. On July 1, 2017 what change is made to trust accounts? Such Trust Accounts shall be a non-interest-bearing account.
- 3. Is there a limit of how many trust accounts a broker can have?
- 4. If a trust account is deemed "unsafe" by the Commission, to whom does the Commission report this?
- 5. What Happens?
- 6. Can a salesperson or associate broker open a trust account?

- 1. Can trust accounts be interest bearing?
- 2. On July 1, 2017 what change is made to trust accounts?
- 3. Is there a limit of how many trust accounts a broker can have? NO.
- 4. If a trust account is deemed "unsafe" by the Commission, to whom does the Commission report this?
- 5. What Happens?
- 6. Can a salesperson or associate broker open a trust account?

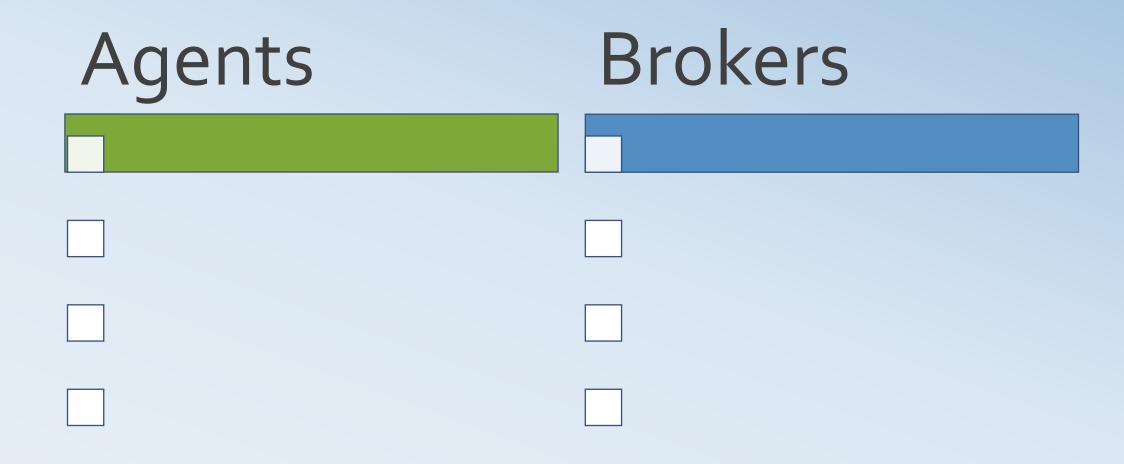
- 1. Can trust accounts be interest bearing?
- 2. On July 1, 2017 what change is made to trust accounts?
- 3. Is there a limit of how many trust accounts a broker can have?
- 4. If a trust account is deemed "unsafe" by the Commission, to whom does the Commission report this? Attorney General
- 5. What Happens?
- 6. Can a salesperson or associate broker open a trust account?

- 1. Can trust accounts be interest bearing?
- 2. On July 1, 2017 what change is made to trust accounts?
- 3. Is there a limit of how many trust accounts a broker can have?
- 4. If a trust account is deemed "unsafe" by the Commission, to whom does the Commission report this?
- 5. What Happens? "...in an unsafe or unsound condition and the commission shall forthwith submit a compete report to the Attorney General of all information available to it...liquidation of such property and business.....conferred upon him or her by the court."
- 6. Can a salesperson or associate broker open a trust account?

- 1. Can trust accounts be interest bearing?
- 2. On July 1, 2017 what change is made to trust accounts?
- 3. Is there a limit of how many trust accounts a broker can have?
- 4. If a trust account is deemed "unsafe" by the Commission, to whom does the Commission report this?
- 5. What happens?
- 6. Can a salesperson or associate broker open a trust account? No.



The Real Estate Agents Best Friend!
GO TO: www.nrec.ne.gov/legal/trustaccountinfo.html



What records do Agents NEED to keep copies of? What do you turn into Brokers?

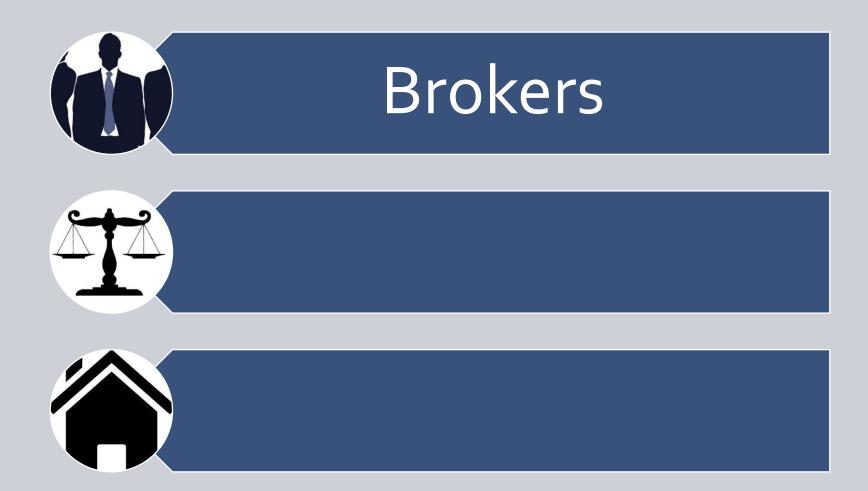
AGENTS MUST
MAKE IT A
PRIORITY TO
RECEIVE AND
DELIEVER FUNDS
IMMEDIATELY!



AGENTS MUST RECEIVE A CHECK WHEN WRITING THE OFFER, NOT AFTER THE OFFER IS ACCEPTED!









### Brokers



### Attorneys





#### **Brokers**



### Attorneys



Licensed Title Insurance Agents



 NO FUNDS can be dispersed prior to closing without the written consent of ALL parties.
 Persons closing are required to have "GOOD FUNDS."



What happens when a broker uses a check on the trust account to pay an expense on behalf of the owner, but the owner does not have sufficient funds in the account to cover it?



## What may be considered "Trust Funds"?



# What will a broker be asked to provide for a Trust Account examination?



- 1. Management agreements
- 2. Lease agreements
- 3. Checkbooks and checkbook registers
- 4. Checks canceled, voided, and unused
- 5. Financial institution statements and reconciliations
- 6. Deposit Slips originals and/or duplicates
- 7. Bookkeeping system general ledger and sub-ledgers
- 8. Supporting Vendor Invoices
- 9. Any other Pertinent files or documents

#### **BROKER EXAMINATION LIST**





### Module 7: "THOU SHALT NOT"

#### Real Estate Law

Learn Nebraska License Law
 81-885.24

### Case Study

 Learners will be challenged with potential license law violations and questions. They will become decision makers using license law to answer the questions.  YOU WILL NEED: A copy of NEBRASKA REAL ESTATE LICENSE ACT. If one is not provided by your instructor, please go to the Nebraska Real Estate Commission website, www.nrec.ne.gov.

#### **OBJECTIVES**

### "Thou Shalt Not" Crossword

Attachment 7A







81-885.24. Commission investigative powers; disciplinary powers; civil fine; violations of unfair trade practices.

PPT\_NREC2015.mif

### "Thou Shalt Not" Worksheet

Attachment 7B



160

### UNFAIR TRADE PRACTICES COMPLAINTS PROCESS



81.885.25 Censure, revoke, or suspend license; impose civil fine; ease and desist order; hearing notice; contents THROUGH 81.885.31 Civil fines; distribution; collection procedure.

Commission vs Dani D. Drinker, Broker; Dani was caught driving under the influence of alcohol. Dani has held an ACTIVE Nebraska Real Estate license for 10 years and did not report the incident to the Nebraska Real Estate Commission on the renewal application for his/her real estate license.

What happens to Dani next?

CASE STUDY 1, Attachment 7c

Commission vs Dani D. Drinker, Broker; the hearing was held in 2008. License was suspended for two years, with the entire suspension period stayed and served on probation. Dani must abstain from alcohol; attend Alcoholics Anonymous meetings on a regular basis and provide documentary proof of such regular attendance on at least a monthly basis to the Commission; obtain a sponsor and provide documentary proof of such sponsorship to the Commission; and if charged with another criminal offense during the two year period, Dani must report such charge to the Commission within 7 days of such charge.

Do you think Dani should be able to continue to sell real estate?

CASE STUDY 1, Attachment 7C

Commission vs Mark Talksalot; Mark who has been a builder representative for ABC Builders since 2013, was accused of not disclosing that he was working strictly on behalf of the builder/seller as a Seller's Agent to Megan and Kyle at first substantial contact. Megan and Kyle were customers of both Mark and his builder. The day they signed a Purchase Agreement was the first time they were given an Agency Agreement to sign stating they were "Customers" of Mark. When Megan and Kyle left the builder meeting and read the Agency Agreement paperwork, they were very upset to learn that they were not represented by Mark and filed a complaint with the NREC.

What happens next?

CASE STUDY 2, Attachment 7C

Commission vs Mark Talksalot; Salesperson Stipulation and Consent Order. License censured plus an additional three (3) hours of continuing education in the area of agency to be completed within 12 months. [Violated Neb. Rev. Stat 76-2421 (1) Licensee offering brokerage services duties. (1) At the earliest practicable opportunity during or following the first substantial contact with the seller landlord, buyer or tenant wo has not entered into a written agreement for brokerage services to that person or who is providing brokerage services for that property shall: (a) Provide that person with a written copy of the current brokerage disclosure pamphlet which has been prepared and approved by the commission; and

CASE STUDY 2, Attachment 7C

(b) Disclose in writing to that person the types of brokerage relationships the designated broker and affiliated licensees are offering to that person or disclose in writing to that person which party the licensee is representing. Respondent Mark failed to have the buyers sign an Agency Disclosure at the earliest practicable opportunity during or following first substantial contact with the parties.]

What should Mark have done differently?

Do you think Mark's punishment fit the crime?

CASE STUDY 2, Attachment 7C

Hemant and Jillayne vs Aaron Appleseed, Salesperson; Aaron listed Hemant and Jillayne 500 acre forest in October, 2011 for 1.1 million dollars for a period of a year. Aaron had discussed with Hemant and Jillayne that there were not many buyers in the market for 500 acre forest, it could take a while for the property to sell, which they said they understood. In September of 2012 Hemant and Jillayne contacted Aaron to let him know they appreciated his service but would be relisting the property with another agent at the end of the contract. Aaron told Hemant and Jillayne the Listing Agreement was actually open-ended, which he thought they understood. Since they did not have a copy of the contract, they had no way of checking this information. Hemant and Jillayne filed a complaint with the Commission.

What happens next?

CASE STUDY 3, Attachment 7c

Hemant and Jillayne vs Aaron Appleseed, Salesperson; Stipulation and Consent Order entered April, 2013. License censured; Plus a civil fine of \$250.00 to be paid by May, 2013; plus three (3) hours of additional continuing education in the area of "License Law", to be completed by July, 2013. [Violated Neb. Rev. Stat. 81-885.24(14) Failing to include a fixed date of expiration in any written listing agreement and failing to leave a copy of the agreement with the principle; for failing to leave a copy of the Listing Agreement with the seller.]

Do you believe Aaron's penalty was fair? What should he have done differently?

CASE STUDY 3, Attachment 7C



### Module 8: SUBDIVISIONS, TITLE 299 & 305

#### Subdivisions

 Assess Students knowledge of Real Estate Law regarding Subdivisions.

#### Title 299 & 305

 Review laws and procedures in Title 299 & 305 which are drafted and enacted by the NREC.

#### Key Terms.

• Define Key Terms.

 YOU WILL NEED: A copy of NEBRASKA REAL ESTATE LICENSE ACT, Title 299 & Title 305 If one is not provided by your instructor, please go to the Nebraska Real Estate Commission website, www.nrec.ne.gov.

#### **OBJECTIVES**

### What is the definition of a subdivision?



81-885.01 (9) Subdivision or Subdivided Land 81-885.33 Subdivision real estate; sale or offer to sell; requirements. THROUGH 81-885.42 Subdivision real estate; sales of twenty-five or more lots.

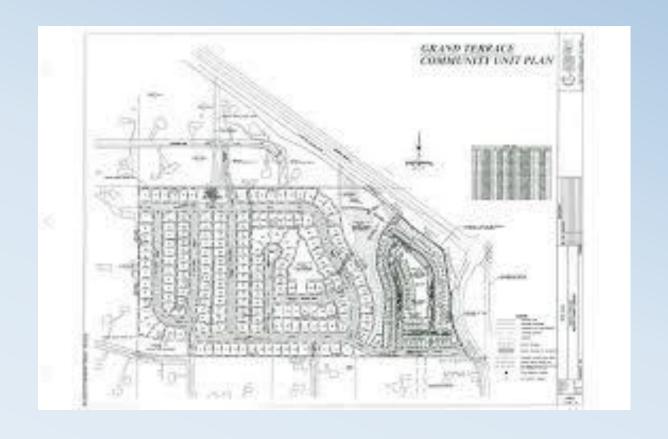
### What is the definition of a subdivision?

A tract of land which has been divided into blocks, lots and streets, then recorded on a plat map following local ordinances and regulations.



#### However, for purposes of the Nebraska Real Estate License Act:

81-885.01 (9) Subdivision or Subdivided Land 81-885.33 Subdivision real estate; sale or offer to sell; requirements. THROUGH 81-885.42 Subdivision real estate; sales of twenty-five or more lots.



### What information must be included when making application for a subdivision in the State of Nebraska?



Why is it important to understand subdivision laws?

#### "BUST TO BOOM:

The Standing Stone subdivision near Gretna filed for bankruptcy protection a few years ago, when it had 150 empty lots. But today, the subdivision is bustling with construction again."

Nebraska is King of Chapter 9 bankruptcies – how'd that happen?
Posted by Deena Winter 7/26/2013
Nebraska Watchdog.org



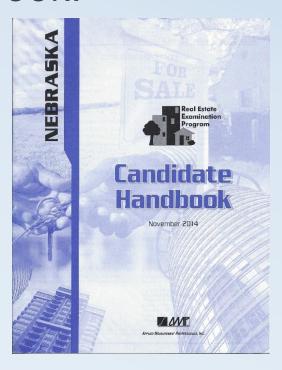
### What is Title 299?

# MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS BY YOU!

Write one multiple choice question for each chapter; Chapters 1 THROUGH 6 of Title 299.



### The "NEBRASKA Candidate Handbook!"



### Title 299; Chapter 1

LICENSES; APPLICATIONS; TERMS, DEFINED; EXAMINATIONS; SURRENDER, SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION; RENEWAL; CANCELLATION; REINSTATEMENT; TRANSFER OF LICENSE.

**BUSINESS PRACTICES**; **EMPLOYMENT OF** SALESPERSON OR **ASSOCIATE BROKER**; ADVERTISING; **SOLICITING LISTINGS** OR REPRESENTATION; TRANSMISSION OF **WRITTEN OFFER TO OWNER; CLOSING REAL ESTATE** TRANSACTIONS....

Title 299; CHAPTER 2



### Title 299; CHAPTER 3

RECORDS; TRUST ACCOUNTS; REQUIREMENT; DISPOSITION OF EARNEST DEPOSITS.



SUBDIVISIONS; ADVERTISING; DESIGNATED NEBRASKA REAL ESTATE BROKER; FINANCIAL STATEMENT REQUIREMENTS



Title 299; CHAPTER 4



DISCIPLINARY MATTERS;
COMMISSION DISPUTES;
DISCUSSION BY
COMMISSIONERS; ACTIONS
DEMONSTRATING
NEGLIGENCE,
IMCOMPETENCY, OR
UNWORTHINESS.

Title 299; CHAPTER 5

### COMPLAINT PROCEDURE; FILING; INVESTIGATION; HEARINGS.

Repealed.

(Title 305, Chapter 4 replaces this Chapter effective November 19, 1997.)



Title 299; CHAPTER 6

## What is Title 305?



## Title 305

Rules of Practice and Procedure for Negotiated Rulemaking.

 Rules of Practice and Procedure for Petitioning for Rulemaking.

## Title 305

2. Rules of Practice and Procedure for Negotiated Rulemaking.

2. Rules of Practice and Procedure for Petitioning for Rulemaking.

3. Rules of Practice and Procedure for Declaratory Orders.

## Title 305

1. Rules of Practice and Procedure for Negotiated Rulemaking.

2. Rules of Practice and Procedure for Petitioning for Rulemaking.

3. Rules of Practice and Procedure for Declaratory Orders.

4. Rules of Practice and Procedure for Contested Cases.

## Title 305





# Module 9: **AGENCY RELATIONS**

### Agency

• Students should be able to differentiate and explain between the different types of agency available to the consumer.

### First Substantial Contact

 Learners should be able to explain First Substantial Contact and when to initiate it.

### Key Terms.

• Define Key Terms.

 YOU WILL NEED: A copy of a ARTICLE 24 and a NEBRASKA AGENCY DISCLOSURE. If one is not provided by your instructor, please go to the Nebraska Real Estate Commission website, www.nrec.ne.qov.

### **OBJECTIVES**

## What is AGENCY?

Agency is the relationship between real estate brokers or salespersons who represent the interest of or act as an agent for persons who are sellers, landlords, buyers or tenants who have rights and/or interest in real property.

"Agency Relationship – someone who represents your best interest in a real estate transaction and owes you fiduciary responsibilities. Agency relationships are usually established in writing with buyer agency agreements and require;

- ➤ Loyalty
- ➤ Obedience
- ➤ Disclosure
- ➤ Confidentiality
- > Reasonable care and diligence
- > Accounting"

~NAR

- First Substantial Contact
- Chapter 76. Real Property
- Article 24, Agency Relationships
- SS 76-2421 (1) contains two phrases (in bold italics) for which the Nebraska Real Estate Commission has provided some clarification to guide the conduct of real estate licensees in their practice with clients and customers, to assist designated brokers in their supervision of their affiliated licensees, and to help real estate trainers formulate and implement practical, meaningful agency disclosure training.



• Section 76-2421 (1) requires that "At the earliest practicable opportunity during or following first substantial contact [emphasis added], landlord, buyer, or tenant . . . the licensee who is offering brokerage services to that person or who is providing brokerage services for that property shall" provide that person, whether a client or customer, with a written copy of the current brokerage disclosure pamphlet and disclose in writing to that person the types of brokerage services offered or which party the licensee is representing.

 Although, as has been said in Commission Comment before (see Winter 2000 issue), "earliest practicable opportunity" is somewhat subjective and "depends on the circumstances of each situation," the Commission interprets "earliest practicable opportunity" to mean that the required brokerage disclosure pamphlet should be presented and signed and the disclosure of the types of brokerage services offered or of which party the licensee is representing should be made BEFORE the licensee provides "specific assistance" to that client or customer. IF the written disclosure is not made before the specific assistance is provided, it must be made immediately thereafter.

- Specific assistance means eliciting or accepting compromising information about a potential or actual client's or customer's real estate needs. Compromising information is information that would reduce, impair or erode that party's bargaining power in an arm's length negotiation. Compromising information may include but is not necessarily limited to:
- > The person's motivations or motivating factors.
- > That a buyer or tenant is willing to pay more than the offered purchase price or lease rate.
- > That a seller or landlord is willing to accept less than the asking sale price or lease rate.
- > That a client or customer will agree to financing terms other than those offered.

 Specific assistance shall also mean showing a specific property or properties to a specific buyer by prearrangement. Specific assistance MAY be provided at an open house if compromising information is elicited or accepted from the buyer at the open house, but specific assistance to a buyer WILL be deemed to be provided when there is a pre-arranged showing of a particular property or properties to that buyer.



 Specific assistance may be offered anywhere and not necessarily at a formal showing or appointment, so it is important that the required disclosures be made BEFORE any compromising information is elicited or accepted, even if the setting is an open house or a public place. It is not the venue, but rather the content of the interchange that determines if specific assistance has been provided.

- However it is possible to enumerate some things that are not generally considered to be specific assistance within the meaning of this policy interpretation. In the absence of the items listed above, specific assistance will not be considered to include:
- Preliminary conversations about the market, general real estate values and general financing terms;
- Conveying publically available information about the property's or properties' general factual features including price, location, style, amenities, etc.
- Eliciting or accepting general, non-compromising information about a buyer's or tenant's real estate needs or desires, such as the person's general preferences for location, price range, features, etc.

- Two useful criteria can be assessed in determining whether specific assistance has been provided:
- The direction information is flowing should be considered. It can generally be held that the licensee eliciting or accepting personal, compromising information from the person constitutes specific assistance, but the licensee conveying general information to the person about the market, financing or a specific property or properties is not offering specific assistance.
- The nature of the information being conveyed should be considered. Generally, if the information being elicited or accepted is compromising (i.e. information a rational person would not share with the other principal in an arm's length negotiation because that information could reduce, erode or impair that person's bargaining power), then specific assistance is being provided, but if the licensee is eliciting or accepting general information that is not compromising to the person's bargaining power or position, then the licensee is not providing specific assistance.

• The point at which the licensee first provides specific assistance will be deemed to be **"first substantial contact"** under this section.

 On a related matter, the Commission will deem an electronic copy of the current brokerage disclosure language that has been appropriately checked and completed by the licensee and which has been emailed to the person to whom disclosure is being made to be in compliance with Section 76-2421 (1) (a), provided that the recipient client or customer sends the licensee an email response acknowledging receipt of the disclosure language.



Adopted January 17, 2013



The Real Estate Agents Best Friend!
GO TO: www.nrec.ne.gov/legal/trustaccountinfo.html

PPT\_NREC2015.mjf

Case 2008-029 Commission vs. (Tyler Doe,) Salesperson. Stipulation and Consent Order. License censured; plus an additional three (3) hours of continuing education in the area of agency to be completed by March 25, 2009. [Violated Neb. Rev. Stat. 76-2421 (1) Licensee offering brokerage services; duties. (1) At the earliest practicable opportunity during or following the first substantial contact with a seller, landlord, buyer, or tenant who has not entered into a written agreement for brokerage survives to that person or who is providing brokerage services for that property shall: (a) Provide that person with a written copy of the current brokerage disclosure pamphlet which has been prepared and approved by the commission; and (b) Disclose in writing to that person which party the license the licensee is representing....

CASE STUDY 1, Attachment 9B

2006-030 - Commission vs. (Tyler Doe,) Salesperson. Stipulation and Consent Order. License Censured; plus additional six (6) hours of continuing education with three (3) hours in the area of license law and (3) hours in the area of agency, all to completed by September 12, 2006. [Violated Neb. Rev. Stat. 76-2418 (1) A licensee representing a buyer or tenant as a buyer's tenant's agent shall be a limited agent with the following duties and obligations: (b)To exercise reasonable skill and care for the client; (c) To promote the interest of the client with utmost good faith, loyalty, and fidelity, including: (ii) Presenting all written offers to and from the client in a timely manner regardless of whether the client is already a party to a contract to purchase property.....

CASE STUDY 2, Attachment 9B





# Module 10: MAKING SENSE OF IT ALL

#### Violations

### **Continuing Education**

### Seller Property Disclosure

• Review of Violations, CE & SPD.

### Other Statutory References

• What are SID's, Homesteads, etc.

### Preparing for the Exam.

• Q&A

 YOU WILL NEED: A copy of NEBRASKA REAL ESTATE LICENSE ACT. If one is not provided by your instructor, please go to the Nebraska Real Estate Commission website, www.nrec.ne.gov.

### **OBJECTIVES**



How important is E&O insurance to your business plan?

How much do you need?
Why do you need it at all?

81-885.43 Violations; Attorney General; maintain action. THROUGH 81-885.48. Term, how construed. 81-885.55. Errors an omissions insurance; commission; duties; certificate of coverage; required when; group plan unavailable at a reasonable premium; effect.



# Active licensees are required to complete 18 clock hours of education every two years.

At least 12 hours of the 18 must be in continuing education activities approved by the Commission. Of these 12 hours, at least 6 hours must be in designated subject matter. These courses are indicated with the letter "R" in the four-digit course content number that is assigned to the course



Continuing Education Credit will not be granted when activities or substantial activity content is duplicated within 4 years.

However, "R" courses are an exception to this rule and may be duplicated in subsequent continuing education periods but NOT in the same continuing education period.

The course content number is used to determine duplication of content between courses i.e. don't take the same number within 4 years.



# What does that mean to a new licensee?



What does that mean to a new licensee?

No education is due during the first calendar year of license.

Your license must be renewed by November 30<sup>th</sup> of the licensing year.

Beginning on January 1 of following year, education period begins for a 24 month cycle.



# SELLER PROPERTY CONDITION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT GO TO: www.nrec.ne.gov/licensing-forms/formlist.html#Form5

> Recognition of Acknowledgements

- > Recognition of Acknowledgements
- >State of Frauds Provisions

- > Recognition of Acknowledgements
- >State of Frauds Provisions
- > Dual Contracts

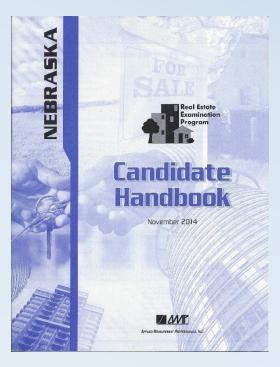
- > Recognition of Acknowledgements
- >State of Frauds Provisions
- > Dual Contracts
- **≻**Real Estate Closing Agents

- > Recognition of Acknowledgements
- >State of Frauds Provisions
- > Dual Contracts
- **≻**Real Estate Closing Agents
- >SID, Smoke Detectors, Sale of Trailers, Homesteads

- > Recognition of Acknowledgements
- >State of Frauds Provisions
- > Dual Contracts
- **≻**Real Estate Closing Agents
- >SID, Smoke Detectors, Sale of Trailers, Homesteads
- > Appealing Commission Decisions

- > Recognition of Acknowledgements
- >State of Frauds Provisions
- > Dual Contracts
- > Real Estate Closing Agents
- >SID, Smoke Detectors, Sale of Trailers, Homesteads
- > Appealing Commission Decisions
- >1980 Time Share Act

# The "NEBRASKA Candidate Handbook!"



# "Scheduling an Examination Appointment."

- Go to <u>www.goAMP.com</u> to schedule an Exam.
- Or call AMP (Applied Measurement Professionals, Inc.) at 800-345-6559, from 7:00 am to 9:00 pm (Central Time) Monday through Thursday, 7:00 am to 7:00 pm on Friday and 8:30 am to 5:00 pm on Saturday.
- This information is found on page 2 of the Nebraska Candidate Handbook.

## Where do I find testing information?

### **National Salesperson Portion**

### **Topic**

Number of Questions

1.	Agency Relationships and Contracts	28
2.	Real Property Ownership	14
3.	Finance	15
4.	Real Property	14
5.	Marketing Regulations	8
6.	Property Management	8
7.	Real Estate Calculations	13

### **State Sales Person Portion**

"The Nebraska Real Estate Salesperson examination deals with topics relating particularly to Nebraska real estate license law. There are 50 multiple-choice questions on the salesperson's exam."

• This information is found on page 5 of your handbook....(and is subject to change.)

### What's on the test?

