

### NORTH CAROLINA REAL ESTATE COMMISSION

# Real Estate Bulletin

Volume 26 Winter 1996 Number 4

# Real Estate Commission welcomes new members to its staff

Two new employees have been hired to fill positions in the Commission's Audits & Investigations and Legal Divisions.

The Real Estate Commission announces the addition of a new member to its Audits & Investigations Division.



Michael B. Gray has been employed as one of the Division's eight Auditor/Investigators. He will audit real estate trust accounts and investigate complaints against licensees on a statewide basis.

A native of Winston-Salem, Mike has a BA degree from UNC-Wilmington, with a double major in criminal justice and environmental studies.

A licensed real estate salesman and a Graduate of the REALTORS® Institute, he was previously employed as a real estate salesman in Winston-Salem. Mike is also a state licensed residential real estate appraiser. The Commission also announces an addition to its Legal Division, filling a position which has previously been vacant.



Rebecca A. Sabel has been employed as the Commission's Information Officer. She is a graduate of UNC-Greensboro with a degree in Political Science.

Rebecca has been a licensed real estate salesman in both North Carolina and Texas. Prior to her employment with the Commission, she was associated with real estate firms in Wilmington and Durham.

A native of Wilmington, Rebecca now resides in Raleigh. As Information Officer, Rebecca will answer inquiries from real estate licensees and consumers.

# Commission proposes to adopt and amend rules

The Real Estate Commission, pursuant to authority vested in it by N.C. General Statutes, proposes to adopt and amend certain rules contained in Title 21, Chapter 58 of the N.C. Administrative Code, by substituting the word "firm" for the word "corporation," in reference to the license requirement for business entities (other than sole proprietorships) which will become effective January 1, 1997; by amending two rules which list forms currently used by the Commission; and by amending one rule to eliminate, under certain conditions, the requirement that a broker practicing alone must file a broker-in-charge declaration.

Anyone interested in the Commission's proposals may present comments at a public rulemaking hearing to be held at 2:00 p.m. on March 6, 1996, at the Commission's Raleigh office at 1313 Navaho Drive. Written comments not presented at the hearing should be delivered by the hearing date to the N.C. Real Estate Commission, P.O. Box 17100, Raleigh, NC 27619-7100.

Property Manager and Owners' Association Manager Mailing List appears on pages 5 and 6 of this Bulletin.

### REAL ESTATE BULLETIN

Published quarterly as a service to real estate licensees to promote a better understanding of the Real Estate License Law and Commission Rules, and proficiency in real estate practice. The articles published herein shall not be reprinted or reproduced in any other publication without specific reference being made to their original publication in the North Carolina Real Estate Commission Real Estate Bulletin.

#### NORTH CAROLINA REAL ESTATE COMMISSION

1313 Navaho Drive P.O. Box 17100 Raleigh, North Carolina 27619 - 7100 Phone 919/733-9580 James B. Hunt, Jr., Governor

#### COMMISSION MEMBERS

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Anita R. Burt	٠.		٠	Ed./Exam. Officer

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Rebecca A. Sabel Information Officer

Editor - In - Chief Phillip T. Fisher Editor

Carrie D. Worthington

	Passed	Failed
September 19	95	3.
Brokers	76	63
Salesmen	311	236
October 1995		
Brokers	66	41
Salesmen	274	217
November 199	95	
Brokers	63	44
Salesmen	372	221

### Commission Staff Update

Continuing Education Officer Anita R. Burt has been promoted to the position of Education and Examination Officer, filling a vacancy created when A. Melton Black, Jr., was appointed by the North Carolina Appraisal Board as its Executive Director. Anita holds a Bachelors degree from Meredith College, a Masters degree from Ohio State University and a Doctorate from the University of Illinois. She is a licensed real estate broker and a Graduate of the REALTORS® Institute. In her new position, Anita will be responsible for coordinating the Commission's

prelicensing real estate education and examination program...Licensing Officer Evelyn G. Johnston has assumed the duties as the new Continuing Education Officer. Evelyn has a B.A. degree in English from Sam Houston University. She is a former high school English teacher and a licensed real estate broker. As Continuing Education Officer, Evelyn will coordinate the Commission's CE Program.

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(continued on page 3)

(State)

Mail to: NC REAL ESTATE COMMISSION

Enclose \$35 tuition fee

P. O. Box 17100 Raleigh, NC 27619-7100

Attention: License Specialist

(Zip)

#### REGISTRATION FORM

### BASIC TRUST ACCOUNT PROCEDURES COURSE and

TRUST ACCOUNT PROCEDURES FOR RESORT PROPERTY MANAGERS COURSE

Courses will comply with Commission Rule Section 58 A.1705 Attendance and Participation Requirements for Continuing Education. Four (4) hours continuing education elective credit will be awarded for completion of each course. Courses are intended for brokers and trust account bookkeepers. Salesmen will be admitted on a space available basis.

BASIC TRUST ACCOUNT P	ROCEDURES COURSE - Raleigh -	1:00 P. M. to 5:00 P. M.
☐ March 12 ☐ April 8		☐ May 14 ☐ June 4
BASIC TRUST ACCOUNT P	ROCEDURES COURSE - Caravan	- 9:00 A. M. to 1:00 P. M.
☐ Kill Devil Hills (April 23) ☐ Greenville (April 24) ☐ Fayetteville (April 25)	☐ Wilmington (May 1) ☐ Greensboro (May 2) ☐ Winston-Salem (May 3)	☐ Asheville (May 8) ☐ Charlotte (May 9) ☐ Charlotte (May 10)
TRUST ACCOUNT PROCED FOR RESORT PROPERTY M	URES MANAGERS COURSE - Caravan - 9	9:00 A. M. to 1:30 P. M.
☐ Wilmington (April 26)	☐ Kill Devil Hills (April 30)	☐ Asheville (May 7)
course which you would like to be received in the Commis	pies for additional persons). Indicat to attend. Mall registration form with asion Office no later than 10 days p participants. Walk-Ina will be acce	a check for \$35 tuition fee rior to date of course. Each
Name		Phone
Address		(Daytime)

(City)

(Street, P.O.Box, etc.)

□ Broker (License No.

□ Bookkeeper

☐ Salesman (License No.)

# Commission reaches reciprocal arrangement with Mississippi

New arrangement applies only to brokers.

Under a new reciprocal arrangement between the North Carolina and Mississippi Real Estate Commissions, a qualified resident North Carolina real estate broker



may obtain a nonresident broker license in Mississippi without satisfying any additional education requirements or passing a license examination. However, there is a requirement for one year's experience as a licensed real estate broker or salesman.

The arrangement permits the transfer of the nonresident license to "resident status" if the reciprocal licensee files the proper application and fees upon relocating to Mississippi.

The arrangement does not provide for reciprocity for salesmen.

### For your information...

Although you may have been notified by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) about the implementation of its newly adopted "Form NPCA-1," the form is not to be used in North Carolina because our state has its own mandated wood infestation form ("Form WDIR-100"). For clarification or further information, contact Carl E. Falco, Assistant Director of the Structural Pest Control Division of the N.C. Department of Agriculture, 2 West Edenton Street, Raleigh, N.C. 27601-1094; (919) 733-6100.

### Commission Staff Update

(continued from page 2)

The following Commission staff members have made appearances before various real estate industry and related groups since the last issue of the Bulletin...Special Deputy Attorney General Thomas R. Miller spoke on "The Good, the Bad, and the Negligent: Risk Management in the '90s," at the N.C. Association of REALTORS® Annual Convention-where Deputy Legal Counsel Miriam J. Baer delivered speeches entitled, "Hot Topics in Agency" and "How to Answer a Complaint Filed with the N.C. Real Estate

Commission." Miriam also spoke to the Durham Association of REAL-TORS® about real estate agency and related issues...Chief Deputy Legal Counsel Blackwell M. Brogden, Jr., talked about issues related to real estate agency, at a meeting of the Western Piedmont Association of REALTORS®.

(Individuals and groups requesting a speaker from the Real Estate Commission are reminded that a "Speaker Request Form" is available from the Commission Office.)

ALAD E	STATE COMM ORDE	R FORM		
Publication	Send 1 Free Copy ₩	No. Copies Requested	Price Per Copy	Subtotal
Res. Property Disclosur Statement and Guide				
Questions and Answers Tenant Security Depo			x \$.25 =	-
Questions and Answers Fair Housing	on:		x \$.25 =	
Questions and Answers Condos and Townho			x \$.25 =	
Questions and Answers Who Agents Represen	0.000		x \$.25 =	
	Total (Includes	(	)	C-1-)
Name Street Address (NOT P.O.	BOX) (	( Phone	) Number (Includii State	e Zip
Name Street Address (NOT P.O.)  1. You may request a Form or calling the commission Disclosure Statemes copies are needed.  3. To order multiple Order Form with Commission. (Pled. Send to N.C Rea 27619-7100. Atter	BOX)  Instract free copy of each commission will furnish on ent and Guideling.  copies of the ayour check nease do not send Estate Comm	Phone City uctions ach publication office (919) 73 aly one copy of ues. It may be ese publication nade payable to d cash.) ussion, P.O. B	State by returning 33-9580, ext.3. If the Residential duplicated if s, return the to the N.C. R	this Order al Property additional completed enl Estate

# From the desk of the Director of Audits and Investigations

Christopher B. Smith, CFE, CREI

### Commission compiles list of property and homeowner association managers

The Commission wishes to thank the property managers and homeowner association managers who responded to its request and completed the forms provided in recent issues of the *Bulletin*. From these forms, the Commission has compiled the "Property Manager and Owners' Association Manager Mailing List."

If you are a property/homeowner association manager and your name does not appear on the list which starts on page 5, please complete the form at the bottom of page 6 and return it to the Commission office.

### Commission evaluates software

Over the past several months, the Commission's Audits and Investigations staff has been evaluating real estate trust accounting software packages. Software vendors who were interested in participating in the Commission's study submitted sample packages for review.

Staff analyzed the samples for compliance with the License Law and Commission rules, including whether all bank deposits were identifiable by date, payor, and purpose of deposit; and whether all disbursements were identifiable by check number, date, payee and purpose.

Following is a list of those real estate software accounting packages that were found to meet the minimum License Law and rule requirements. (Please understand, however, that inclusion in the list does not ensure that the software package will meet your specific needs.)

If the software you are using does not appear in the list, you may wish to contact your software vendor to determine whether it participated in the Commission's evaluation program. If the vendor did not participate and now wishes to do so, request the vendor to contact the Commission's Audits and Investigations Division at P.O. Box 17100, Raleigh, N.C. 27619-7100; (919) 733-9580 ext. 6.

# Accounting Software Packages Which Satisfy the Requirements of The License Law and Commission Rules

VENDOR	SOFTWARE	TYPE
SMITH CHARTER ASSOCIATES YARDI SYSTEMS 904 BROAD STREET DURHAM, NC 27705 (919)286-1790	PREMIER PROPERTY MANAGEMENT	RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
ENTECH DATA SYSTEMS, INC. P.O. BOX 175 GULF BREEZE, FL 32562 (904)934-1225	ENTECH RENTAL MANAGEMENT	RESORT PROPERTY MANAGEMENT ONLY
REALTY SOFTWARE P.O. BOX 4285 PARK CITY, UTAH 84060 (801)649-8149	PROPERTY MANAGEMENT PLUS	RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL PROPERTY MANAGEMENT AND OWNER ASSOCIATION MANAGEMENT
SPECTRUM SOFTWARE COMPANY 2117 FOOTHILL BLVD., STE 138 LA VERNE, CA 91750 1-800-368-9840	TRUSTBOSS	SALES
SOFTWARE DYNAMICS, INC. 4018 OLEANDER DRIVE WILMINGTON, NC 28403 (910)799-4805	RESORT MANAGER	RESORT PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

### PROPERTY MANAGER AND OWNERS' ASSOCIATION MANAGER MAILING LIST

Please note: If you perform any property management or owners' association services either as your primary real estate activity or in conjunction with your sales or other real estate operations (or you know someone who does) and your name does not appear on the following list, please complete the form that you will find at the end of the list. Return the form to the N.C. Real Estate Commission, P.O. Box 17100, Raleigh, North Carolina 27619-7100

A+ REAL ESTATE MANAGEMENT GROUP ABODE REALTY INC ACCENT HOMES AND RENTALS ACTION REALTY AL MAC REALTY ALAN HOLDEN REALTY ALEXANDER/DAVIS PROPERTIES INC ALICE J BAYER REAL ESTATE SALES ALL SOUTH MGMT CO ALLIED COMMERCIAL REALTY AMMONS PITTMAN PROP MGR APPLE REALTY ARBOR REALTY ART SKIPPER REALTY INC ASHEVILLE REALTY-BETTER HOMES & GARDENS ASTA COOPER REAL ESTATE BAR ON THE BEACH BARBARA MIDGETTE BROKER BARKER REALTY INC BARNETTE & COATES INC BEACON MANAGEMENT CORP BEECH MOUNTAIN CHALET RENTALS BERRYHILL REALTY CO BEST REALTY AND INSURANCE CO BEVERLY-HANKS & ASSOCIATES BORDEN REAL ESTATE BOYD AGENCY INC BRANTLEY PROPERTIES INC BRITISH WOODS OWNERS ASSOCIATION BRITT REAL ESTATE BRITT REAL ESTATE BROOKWOOD CORPORATION BROWN & KENNEDY CONSTR BROWN INVESTMENT PROP INC BROWN INVESTMENT PROPERTIES INC BROWN REALTY CO BRUNSWICKLAND REALTY BRYSON & ASSOCIATES INC BURKE ROBERTSON & ASSOC INC BUTLER & FAIRCLOTH INC C D WATSON ENTERPRISES INC CAPE FEAR MANAGEMENT CAROLINA BEACH REALTY CAROLINA COAST PROPERTIES CAROLINA PROPERTIES CAROLINA PROPERTIES OF EASTERN NC INC CARTERBURY WOODS APTS CATHY MEDLIN REAL ESTATE **CENTURY 21 AUSTIN** C 21 BARNETTE & COATES CENTURY 21 HOME REALTY CENTURY 21 HUDSPETH PROPERTIES CENTURY 21 INTEGRITY GROUP CENTURY 21 TOWN & COUNTRY REAL ESTATE CENTURY 21 CENTURY REALTY INC CHALK & GIBBS INC CHAMBERS-PRICE & BRITT PROPERTY MGMT CHANNEL WALK/SHORELINE RENTALS & SALES CHARLOTTE RENTAL CO INC CHARLOTTE WOODS APTS CHARTER PROPERTIES INC CHOICE JACKSONVILLE REALTY CHOICE SEACOAST PROPERTIES INC CHURCH REAL ESTATE CITY OF GREENSBORO CLEGHORN GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB CLINE & CO COCHE' MANAGEMENT COLDWELL BANKER COASTLINE REALTY COLDWELL BANKER SOUTHPORT/OAK ISLD RLTY COLDWELL BANKER SPECTRUM PROPERTIES COMMMON GROUND REALTY COMMUNITY MGMT CORP CONDOMINIUM ASSOC SERVICES

FAYETTEVILLE **FAYETTEVILLE** HENDERSONVILLE BEECH MTN SALISBURY HOLDEN BEACH NASHVILLE HAVELOCK WINSTON-SALEM MOORESVILLE RALEIGH DURHAM CHAPEL HILL YAUPON BEACH ASHEVILLE CHAPEL HILL COROLLA BUXTON RALEIGH HENDERSONVILLE GREENSBORO BEECH MIN CHARLOTTE LEXINGTON ASHEVILLE DURHAM WILLIAMSTON GREENSBORO WINSTON-SALPM DUCK KITTY HAWK BYNUM BEULAVILLE GREENSBORO GREENSBORO RALEIGH HOLDEN BEACH SURF CITY MT AIRY CLINTON **BLACK MTN** WILMINGTON CAROLINA BEACH HAMPSTEAD CHERRYVILLE SWANSBORO WILMINGTON SURF CITY MONROE HNDERSONVILE HAVELOCK ASHEBORO JACKSONVILLE CHESAPEAKE MOREH'D CITY HIGH POINT WRTSV'LE BCH CHARLOTTE CHARLOTTE CHARLOTTE JACKSONVILLE MOREH'D CITY NEW BERN GREENSBORO R'FORDTON CHARLOTTE PAIRVIEW SNEADS FERRY YAUPON BEACH ATLANTIC BCH BURNSVILLE WINSTON-SALEM PINEHURST

CONNESTEE FALLS REALTY CONTINENTAL MOTEL COOPER RENTALS CRESCENT RESOURCES INC D G NICHOLS AGENCY INC DANIELS REAL ESTATE DEAN CARPENTER REAL ESTATE INC DEAN RUSSELL REALTORS INC D/B/A GINNY DEES & TYNDALL RENTAL AGENCY INC DG ENTERPRISES LTD DG REAL ESTATE INC DICKSON PROPERTIES INC DILLARD REAL ESTATE DOGWOOD REALTY DOLPHIN REALTY DOLPHIN REALTY INC DRUCKER & FAULK EMERALD ISLE REALTY EMERALD ISLE REALTY INC ERA BEST BUY REALTY ERA CARTERET PROPERTIES ERA MARKET HOUSE REALTORS ERA RESORT REAL ESTATE AND RENTALS ERWIN CAPITAL INC EVANS REAL ESTATE & INVESTMENT PROP INC. EVANS REALTY FARRIOR RENTALS FEDERAL POINT REAL ESTATE FLOYD MANAGEMENT & REALTY INC FOXFIRE AREA REALTY FRANCIS C PROCTOR JR GARDEN VIEW REALTY GARDNER REALTY & MGMT GARRISON REALTY GEOFF SMITH REALTOR **CEORGE HALL PROPERTIES** GEORGE HARRISS ENTERPRISES INC GOUGER O'NEAL & SAUNDERS **GRAHAM ASSOCIATES LTD** GRAHAM ASSOCIATES LTD GREATER CHARLOTTE REALTY HALLMARK REALTY ASSOC HAMPTON DEVELOPMENT HAVEN REALTY HERITAGE MANAGEMENT HILL REALTY HOBGOOD JONES AND ASSOCIATES HOLBROOK REALTY HOME FINDER REAL ESTATE INC HOME REAL ESTATE COMPANY HOMEOWNERS LTD HRW REALTY CORP HUBBARD REALTY IDEAL REAL ESTATE & CONST CO INCOME PROPERTIES OF RALEIGH INC INTRACOASTAL REALTY CORP INTRACOASTAL REALTY CORPORATION IPM CORP OF BREVARD INC J M KANE & CO J W BULLIN CO REALTY JACK ANDERSON ENTERPRISES INC JACK DAVIS REAL ESTATE JACKIE L MILLING D/B/A CASWELL DUNES JDS ENTERPRISES JOE ANN DON AGENCY JOHN C PEGG BEALTOR **IOHN I. CANADY REALTORS** JORDAN PROPERTIES JPS INTERNATIONAL INC KITTY DUNES REALTY LANDMARK REAL ESTATE LAT PURSER & ASSOCIATES

BREVARD STHERN PINES RALEIGH CHARLOTTE GREENVILLE **FAYETTEVILLE** DALLAS **FAYETTEVILLE** GOLDSBORO HIGH POINT HIGH POINT RALEIGH WILSON JEFFERSON AVON HATTERAS BALEIGH EMERALD ISLE EMERALD ISLE BUTNER EMERALD ISLE PAYETTEVILLE BANNER ELK CHARLOTTE LEXINGTON PAVETTEVILLE FAYETTEVILLE CAROLINA REACH OXFORD JACKSON SPRINGS CHARLOTTE DURHAM CAROLINA BEACH YADKINVILLE **FAYETTEVILLE** FAYETTEVILLE WILMINGTON SOUTHERN PINES RALEIGH CHAPEL HILL CHARLOTTE BLOWING ROCK KING CHARLOTTE CHAPEL HILL PINEHURST FAYETTEVILLE ALBEMARLE FAYETTEVILLE WINSTON-SALEM FAYETTEVILLE RALEIGH WINSTON-SALEM WINSTON-SALEM RALEICH WRIGHTSVILLE BEACH WRIGHTSVILLE BEACH HENDERSONVILLE RALEIGH DENVER BANNER ELK CAROLINA BCH YAUPON BCH SHELBY KINGS MTN KERNERSVILLE PAYETTEVILLE SAXAPAHAW CARY KITTY HAWK **FAYETTEVILLE** CHARLOTTE CHARLOTTE

LAUREL WALK APARTMENTS

LEE WERNER LUMBERTON ROBERT H COLLEY INC WINSTON-SALEM LEISURE COAST REALTY NEW BERN ROBERTSON REALTY NASHVILLE LEMUEL J GARDNER HUNTERSVILLE ROBINSON O EVERETT D/B/A HH & POPLAR APTS DURHAM LONG & FOSTER REAL ESTATE VIRGINIA BCH ROBUCK HOMES INC RALEIGH LUDWIG REALTY WILMINGTON RODGER W DURHAM LS GREENSBORO LYDIA FREEMAN PROPERTIES CHAPEL HILL ROOTH & ASSOCIATES INC CASHIERS M DURWOOD STEPHENSON & ASSOC INC SMITHFIELD S T GOODMAN PROPERTIES DUNN MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATES CARY SAUNDERS REAL ESTATE CO MOREH'D CITY MANAGEMENT SERVICES OF BLUE RIDGE INC BEECH MTN SCOTT REALTY COMPANY INC GREENSBORO MANOR HOUSE APARTMENTS CHARLOTTE SCRUGGS AND MORRISON REALTY INC LONG BEACH MAREE BUILDERS GREENSBORO SEA OATS REALTY K D HILLS MARGARET RUDD & ASSOCIATES INC YAUPON BEACH SEA PATH REALTY TOPSAIL BCH MARGIE HORRELL REALTY JACKSONVILLE SEASIDE REALTY, INC KITTY HAWK MARJORIE WIGGINS WILKESBORO SEGREST INTERNATIONAL CHARLOTTE MARMAROSE MANAGEMENT NEW BERN SELECT HOMES WAYNESVILLE FAYETTEVILLE MARY ANN JENSEN REAL ESTATE SIMMONS AND HARRIS INC **ROCKY MOUNT** MARY B FLOCK REAL ESTATE BELMONT SLOANE REALTY CO OCEAN ISLE WILMINGTON MBI PROPERTIES INC SORRELLS & ASSOCIATES ASHEVILLE MCLAURIN PROPERTIES RALEIGH SOUTHERN COMMERCIAL MOREH'D CITY MCMAHAN-CARVER PROPERTIES STANDARD INSURANCE & REALTY CORP CHARLOTTE **ROCKY MOUNT** MCMILLAN REAL ESTATE OCEAN ISLE STATE STREET PROPERTIES INC/WESTWINDS GREENSBORO MECA PROPERTIES INC CHARLOTTE STERLING REALTY SERVICES INC RALEIGH MENDIAN REALTY SERVICES WINSTON-SALEM STEVEN D BELL & CO GREENSBORO MERCER REALTY JACKSONVILLE K D HILLS SUE BAKER BROKER MESSICK PROPERTIES GROUP WINSTON-SALEM SUGAR MTN SKI & COUNTRY CLUB HOA INC BANNER ELK METRIC PROPERTY MANAGEMENT SUGAR TOP RESORT CONDO ASSOC INC BANNER ELK AUSTIN, TX MIDATLANTIC REAL ESTATE CORP DURHAM SUMMIT ASSOCIATES LTD CORNELIUS MIDGETT REALTY HATTERAS SUN REALTY K D HILLS MILL RIDGE PROPERTY OWNERS ASSN INC BANNER ELK SUN-SURF REALTY EMERALD ISLE MURPHY MOUNTAIN LAND CO MURPHY SUNBURST REALTY WAYNESVILLE NANCY CHERRY REALTY WILMINGTON SUNNY SHORES P KNOLL SHRE LEXINGTON T R LAWING REALTY INC NATIONAL REALTY INC CHARLOTTE TALIS MANAGEMENT GROUP NAUTICAL EAST SALTER PATH RALEIGH NETWORK REAL ESTATE TAYLOR MUELLER REALTY ELIZBTH CTY WILMINGTON NEUSE REALTY INC NEW BERN TERRY SPELL REALTY FAYETTEVILLE NEW BERN REAL ESTATE NEW BERN THE BISSELL COMPANIES INC CHARLOTTE NEW EAST MANAGEMENT & REALTY THE BROOKSTONE COMPANIES **GREENVILLE** SAPPHIRE NEW SOUTH REALTY BRIDGETON THE BUYER'S AGENT MOUNTAIN PROP INC HIGHLANDS NORTH SHORE PROPERTIES HAYESVILLE THE COLONY APARTMENTS BURLINGTON OUTER BANKS LTD NAGS HEAD THE KEITH CORP ROCHE BIOMEDICAL DURHAM SNEADS FERRY **OUTER BEACHES REALTY INC** AVON THE KENNEDY CO JACKSONVILLE THE PRUDENTIAL ASHEVILLE-FAIRVIEW REALTY PAIGE REALTY ASHEVILLE PARAGON GROUP PROPERTY SERVICES THE PRUDENTIAL JOHN KOENIG REALTORS FAYETTEVILLE CHARLOTTE PARHAM & CO **ROCKY MOUNT** THE REAL ESTATE CENTER PINEVILLE PINDELL-WILSON PROPERTY MANAGEMENT CO RALEIGH THELMA LLOYD REALTY GREENSBORO PLAZA ASSOCIATES INC RALEIGH THETFORD PROPERTY MGMT INC RALEIGH POLLOCK INC HIGH POINT THOS F KERR & CO CHARLOTTE POWERS PROPERTY MGMT HENDERSONVILLE TOPSAIL REALTY INC TOPSAIL BCH RALEIGH TREASURE REALTY SNEADS FERRY PPM INC SALISBURY TRI-COUNTY PROPERTIES, INC OAK RIDGE PRIORITY I PROP MGMT CO CAROLINA BEACH PROF PROP MGMT OF RALEIGH INC RALEIGH TUCKER BROS REALTY CO PAYETTEVILLE DUCK TWIDDY & CO PROFESSIONAL REAL ESTATE V C SMITH REAL ESTATE INC CASHIERS PROPERTY CONSULTANTS RALEIGH PRUDENTIAL ASHEVILLE FAIRVIEW REALTY NAGS HEAD FAIRVIEW VILLAGE REALTY & MANAGEMENT SERVICES PRUDENTIAL JOHN KOENIG REALTY FAYETTEVILLE VINEYARD GARDENS APTS WINSTON-SALEM MOREHEAD CITY VINSON COLLIERS INT CHARLOTTE PUTNAM REAL ESTATE CO VIP MANAGE INC ROCKY MOUNT QUADRANT, INC N MYRTLE BEACH, SC BEECH MTN QUAIL PROPERTIES INC VIRGINIA CAROLINA INNS INC RALEIGH W F BALDWIN & SON INC W. COLTON CARAWAN R&R RESORT RENTAL PROPERTIES INC WINSTON-SALEM DUCK ATLANTIC BEACH WASHINGTON RAWLS & ASSOCIATES SALISBURY WAGGONER REALTY CO RCA REALTY CO INC WALLACE GREENVILLE RDS MANAGEMENT WILMINGTON WAINRIGHT PROPERTY MGMT KILL DEVIL HILLS CAROLINA BEACH RE/MAX OCEAN REALTY WALKER REALTY WAW PROPERTY MANAGEMENT RALEICH REAL ESTATE PLUS INC NEW BERN GOLDSBORO APEX WAYNE REALTY & INS CO REAL VENTURES INC REALTY EXECUTIVES PINEHURST PINEHURST WAYNE T YOUNTS REALTY & CONST INC FAYETTEVILLE GREENSBORO REALTY ONE RALEIGH WEAVER MANAGEMENT REALTY WORLD-HERITAGE REALTY WHIT MORGAN ENTERPRISES INC NEW BERN MAGGIE VALLEY REALTY WORLD-JOHNSON REALTY CHARLOTTE ATLANTIC BEACH WILLIAM TROTTER COMPANY REMAX REALTY 100 MGMT DIV WRIGHTSVILLE BEACH WILLIAMS RENTALS FAYETTEVILLE RENTAL RESOURCES. INC RALEIGH WRIGHT-PAIR REAL ESTATE CO GASTONIA GREENVILLE RESORT REALTY KITTY HAWK YOUNG MANAGEMENT INC RHODES PROPERTIES CASTLE HAYNE Property Management 
Short-Term Rentals Long-Term Rentals

# Continuing Education Corner

### CE rule changes affect nonresidents

Satisfying North Carolina's continuing education requirement just got a lot easier and less expensive for most nonresident licensees.

The Real Estate Commission recently adopted rule changes that will simplify the way nonresidents may meet the continuing education requirement for renewing their licenses on active status. The amended rules will allow a nonresident licensee with an active license in another state to simply certify active license status in the other state when renewing his or her North Carolina license - even if the other state's continuing education requirement is different from North Carolina's requirement.

Also, there will no longer be the additional \$20 continuing education processing fee for a nonresident licensee who has an active real estate license in another state. The rule changes will become effective March 1, 1996 (subject to approval by the Rules Review Commission).

The Real Estate Commission adopted the changes because 47 other states (including all of North Carolina's neighboring states) have continuing education requirements, and also because a licensee's state of residence is the primary location of brokerage activity for most licensees.

### **Procedure**

Nonresidents using the new procedure to renew a license should not submit any continuing education course completion certificates nor make any special request for continuing education credit.

The changes will allow a nonresident licensee to renew on active status by paying the renewal fee and certifying active license status in another state at the time of renewal. For example, if a South Carolina resident's broker license is on active status in that state when he files for renewal of his North Carolina broker license in June, the broker may renew on active status simply by certifying his South Carolina active license status on the renewal form and paying his \$30 renewal fee.

The Commission subsequently will contact licensing agencies in other states to make random "spot-checks" of licensees' certifications. If it finds that a nonresident has falsely certified active status in another state, the Commission will immediately place the nonresident's North Carolina license on inactive status. And the licensee will also be subject to disciplinary action by the Commission.

The changes will allow a nonresident licensee to renew on active status by paying the renewal fee and certifying active license status in another state at the time of renewal.

The rule changes will also simplify the license activation process for a nonresident who holds an active license in another state: To activate an inactive North Carolina license, a nonresident may simply certify his or her out-of-state active status on a "request for license activation" form. Please remember, however, that in addition to the CE requirement, the Commission requires every licensed salesman to have a designated broker-in-charge in order for the salesman to be eligible for active status.

In mid-May, along with their renewal applications, nonresidents will be sent instructions for renewing under the amended rules. A nonresident who does not qualify under the new rules (i.e., does not hold an active license in another state) may satisfy North Carolina's continuing education requirement by complying with one of the other options available under the Commission's rules, or may renew on inactive status. (Contact the Commission's Continuing Education Section for details.)

The Commission trusts that its new, simplified procedure for recognizing continuing education earned in other states will prove beneficial to nonresident licensees.



### Reconciling your records

By: Emmet R. Wood, Auditor/Investigator

ailure to prepare monthly reconciliations! That's one of the most common problems found by Real Estate Commission auditors when they examine trust accounts, especially in rental management transactions. Therefore, if your company is audited by the Commission, your monthly reconciliations will probably be the first documents the auditor will ask to examine.

### Recordkeeping by Computer

Computer technology has simplified recordkeeping in many offices. However, brokers who use computers to maintain their trust account records must be sure that their recordkeeping practices are in compliance with the Commission's rules and Trust Account Guidelines. For example, many "computerized" brokers mistakenly think that reconciling their month-end bank statement balance to their handwritten journal of funds on deposit is enough to satisfy the Commission requirements. But to be in compliance, brokers must reconcile the bank statement(s) with all records maintained on their computer, including transaction ledgers that comply with Commission rules.

Your computer program probably has a bank reconciliation feature (either with the basic software package or as a program upgrade), and it should maintain a running balance of funds on deposit. But many brokers either are not aware of or don't use these features.

### Simplifying the Reconciliation Process

The monthly reconciliation process would be simple if brokers balanced their computer input daily. For example, after a broker deposits trust monies (earnest money deposits, rents, etc.) into the trust account and enters the information into the computer, the resulting computer printout should agree with the deposit slip. That printout may be referred to as a "Cash Receipts Report" or perhaps a "Daily Deposit Whatever it is called, it should be considered an integral part of the trust account records, and should be maintained by the broker as verification that the computer entry is correct. By repeating this procedure each day, the broker should have no problem in reconciling deposits shown on computer to the deposits listed on the bank statement at the end of the month.

The same daily procedure should be followed for disbursements. Brokers should print out a computer report each time funds are disbursed from the trust account. The broker should examine the printout to make sure that for each disbursement that appears on the report, there is, in fact, a corresponding check or other disbursement from the account. If the printout shows funds that have not actually been taken out of the trust account, the computer running balance will not agree with the bank's records resulting in an overage in the trust account.

### Understanding your Computer Entries

When you enter information into the computer, you should make sure that your entry does not inadvertently affect another entry. For example, after entering a check which has been returned unpaid by the bank due to insufficient funds, a broker may decide to void the computer entry of the original transaction where the check was recorded. However, the computer cash re-

ceipts report on the date when the check was recorded would then be affected, causing disagreement between that report and the day's deposit slip.

### Printing Out Trial Balances

Another feature of a good rental management computer program is the capability of maintaining and printing out trial balances of trust monies (rents, security deposits, advance reservation deposits, etc.) at almost any time. The trial balance should list each property owner and the amount of funds he has on deposit in the rental trust account, as well as a list of tenants, their addresses and the amount of their security deposits in the trust account.

Because brokers are required by Commission rule to maintain trial balances on a monthly basis, you should run a printout each month and keep it as a part of your rental trust account records. In addition, you should examine the list of deposits and compare it to the lease agreements to ensure the accuracy of the computer balances.

### **Closing Note**



If you are the broker-in-charge of a real estate office, you are responsible for the proper handling of all

trust monies, including the monthly reconciliation of accounts. If you utilize a computer to account for these monies and you do not understand the procedures discussed above, you should seek professional help to assure your compliance with the Commission's rules and Trust Account Guidelines.

# Settling homeowners' association account at closing

### By: Marilyn E. Tomei, Assistant Legal Counsel

Residents of condominium/townhouse communities and some subdivisions often must join the community's homeowners' association and pay association dues and assessments. Because these funds are used for critical services which benefit all owners, (garbage collection, maintenance of common areas, and water and other utilities), the association must ensure that the dues and assessments are paid by its Usually, unpaid fees members. become a lien on the resident's property. Such a lien can attach to and be enforceable against the property before it appears on the public record, and it may not be detected in the standard title search.

In the standard form offer to purchase and contract, the seller warrants that the property is free and clear of all liens except those specifically noted in the contract. This warranty would include a lien for unpaid homeowner dues or assessments.

If unpaid dues and assessments are not discovered before the property is sold, the new owner may be left to collect from a seller who has moved to another city or state. Therefore, real estate agents in the transaction should inquire into and report on the status of dues and assessments before closing.

If you are the listing agent, question the seller about whether asso-

ciation fees are charged, and if so, about the seller's payment history. Determine who manages the association and collects dues and assessments, and then contact this manager to confirm the status of the seller's account. If you are the selling agent, question the listing agent on these points. If his answers are not satisfactory, conduct your own investigation of the status of the seller's payment by contacting the association manager.

If you, as an agent, determine that the seller's association dues/assessments are not current, immediately alert the parties, the closing attorney and the buyer's lender. Encourage the parties to resolve the issue of payment before or at closing. If the outstanding fees will not be paid by closing, the parties must execute a written amendment to the contract providing that the outstanding charges and lien will be assumed by the buyer, or otherwise providing for their payment. The closing attorney should draft this document and have the parties sign it at or before closing.

### Caveat

The listing agent should always inquire into and report on the status of homeowner dues and assessments on property to be sold. If there are unpaid amounts, the agent must determine before closing how or whether the liens will be paid.

# Synthetic stucco alert

By: Dave Kirkman Assistant Attorney General

Real estate agents should be aware of a problem in certain areas of the state involving moisture damage to the wall cavities of some newly constructed homes. These wood-framed homes have been sided with a product known as "exterior insulating and finishing system" (EIFS), which is often referred to as "synthetic stucco."

Typically, "synthetic stucco" is applied to foam panels which have been affixed to the sheathing on the outer walls of the homes. The application process is less expensive than applying conventional stucco to masonry or wire mesh subsurfaces. The result is an attractive exterior finish which has become popular with designers as well as home buyers.

Recently, however, building inspectors in Wilmington and elsewhere have detected high moisture levels in wood components of the wall cavities of many of the homes they tested. Architects in the Wilmington area have found similar readings.

High moisture levels often lead to damage of structural features inside the walls, causing wood to rot and plywood or other sheathing to delaminate and deteriorate. Also, in some instances, excess moisture may contribute to termite infestation.

Damage occurs behind the synthetic stucco and therefore is difficult to detect. Often, termites are the first visible clue. But by then, problems may be substantial and expensive to correct. Careful, competent testing with a moisture testing device is the best way to detect

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### Synthetic Stucco

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the problem in its early stages.

In attempting to identify the cause of the problem, some builders and inspection officials contend that water entering the wall cavities cannot easily escape to the outside of a home which has been sided with EIFS. Instead, the moisture is held inside the wall cavities, where it eventually causes damage. These builders and inspectors further contend that other finishing systems, such as brick veneer and wooden siding, allow moisture to escape.

On the other hand, EIFS manufacturers defend their product. They blame shoddy workmanship and poorly constructed windows, in conjunction with the high moisture levels in Wilmington and other coastal areas where the problem has been most prevalent.

In the Wilmington area, numerous civil suits have been filed as a result of the controversy. And in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of North Carolina, a class action lawsuit recently was filed against several EIFS manufacturers.

While these issues are being studied and litigated, real estate agents should refrain from representing the siding on such homes simply as "stucco." Rather, agents should distinguish between synthetic stucco and the more traditional forms.

### Commission Caveat

In light of this new information, it is the position of the Commission's legal staff that the presence of synthetic stucco on a property is a material fact and therefore should be disclosed to prospective purchasers. Furthermore, agents should disclose available information about synthetic stucco to consumers and refer them to building inspection offices, manufacturers, and other experts for further information.

In addition, agents may wish to refer prospective purchasers to professional inspectors for a thorough examination of the property.



### Clarification

Robert M. Sprouse of Pickett/Sprouse Commercial Realtors® in Durham was not the Robert Sprouse recently disciplined by the Commission.

### **Disciplinary Action**

Penalties for violations of the Real Estate License Law and Commission Rules vary depending upon the particular facts and circumstances present in each case. Due to space limitations in the Bulletin, a complete description of such facts cannot be reported in the following Disciplinary Action summaries.

ROBERT B. ABERNATHY (Morganton) - By Consent, the Commission suspended Mr. Abernathy's broker license for sixty days effective December 1, 1995. The Commission then stayed the suspension. The Commission found that Mr. Abernathy, as broker-in-charge of his brokerage business, had failed to maintain continuous running trust account balances or to reconcile his trust account records with the bank's records.

CLYDE K. ATKINS, JR. (Sanford)

- The Commission accepted the
permanent voluntary surrender of
Mr. Atkins' salesman license effective September 7, 1995. The Commission dismissed without prejudice
charges that Mr. Atkins had entered
into a contract with buyers to sell
them a lot in an unimproved subdivision in violation of local ordinance
and then had failed to meet the
terms of the sales contract. Mr.
Atkins neither admitted nor denied
any misconduct.

DOUGLAS S. BAKER (Raleigh) - By Consent, the Commission suspended Mr. Baker's broker license for one year effective October 4, 1995. The Commission then stayed the suspension for a probationary term of one year. The Commission found that Mr. Baker had engaged in the practice of real estate brokerage without the proper real estate license and that he had not fully disclosed his license status to his employer.

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## Disciplinary action

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ROY F. BUTLER (Durham) - By Consent, the Commission reprimanded Mr. Butler effective November 1, 1995. The Commission found that Mr. Butler had failed to enter a listing into the local Multiple Listing Service (MLS), in violation of the terms of the listing agreement.

JOELLE W. EDWARDS (Garner)-By Consent, the Commission reprimanded Ms. Edwards effective October 15, 1995. The Commission found that Ms. Edwards had failed to completely and accurately measure the square footage of a 780 square foot property which she had listed for sale, had incorrectly assumed that a certain unheated, unfinished area of the property was heated and finished, and had advertised the property as 960 heated square feet.

ALWOOD B. ERVIN, JR. (Richlands) - By Consent, the Commission reprimanded Mr. Ervin effective June 15, 1995. The Commission found that Mr. Ervin, acting as the closing agent for the buyers and sellers of a property, had failed to follow the lender's closing instructions to assure that assumption language was included in the deed.

SARA A. FOX - (Davidson) By Consent, the Commission suspended Ms. Fox's salesman license for two years effective December 1, 1995. Three months of the suspension are to be active and the remaining period stayed for a probationary term of 21 months. Commission found that Ms. Fox had been indicted for the federal offenses of conspiracy to launder money derived from the sale of cocaine and marijuana, then pled guilty to one count of the federal offenses of failing to make a return and supply information to the IRS and of aiding and abetting.

HAROLD G. FURR (Locust) - The Commission accepted the voluntary surrender of Mr. Furr's broker license for four years effective July 1, 1995. The Commission dismissed without prejudice charges that Mr. Furr had violated provisions of the License Law as a result of having been convicted of a criminal offense. Mr. Furr neither admitted nor denied any misconduct.

J. EDWARD HUNTER (Statesville) - By Consent, the Commission reprimanded Mr. Hunter effective September 15, 1995. Commission found that in 1986, Mr. Hunter had formed a corporation through which to conduct his real estate brokerage business, but that he had failed to apply for a corporate broker license until June of 1995. The Commission noted that at all times since forming his corporation, Mr. Hunter had maintained an active, current individual broker license.

DONALD W. LANIER (Asheboro)
- The Commission accepted the voluntary surrender of Mr. Lanier's broker license for 4½ years effective November 7, 1995. The Commission dismissed without prejudice charges that Mr. Lanier had violated provisions of the Real Estate License Law. Mr. Lanier neither admitted nor denied any misconduct.

HUGH D. LITTLE (Cary) - By Consent, the Commission suspended Mr. Little's broker license for one year effective November 1, 1995. The Commission then stayed the suspension for a probationary term of one year. The Commission found that Mr. Little, as broker-incharge of a real estate office, had supervised an employee in the performance of real estate activities which required a North Carolina real estate license, but that at the

time, the employee was not licensed to engage in real estate brokerage in North Carolina.

ROMULUS H. LLEWELLYN, JR. (Atlantic Beach) - By Consent, the Commission revoked Mr. Llewellyn's broker license effective December 1, 1995. On January 30, 1996, Mr. Llewellyn's salesman license was reinstated upon certain conditions. The Commission found that while Mr. Llewellyn was designated as broker-in-charge of a corporate real estate broker, he had failed to conduct the examination of trust account records required by Commission rules and therefore had failed to discover that corporation and its owner had converted trust monies to their own benefit. The Commission noted that there was no evidence that Mr. Llewellyn had converted any of the funds himself. Mr. Llewellyn neither admitted nor denied any misconduct.

VIRGINIA H. PETERS (Raleigh) -By Consent, the Commission reprimanded Ms. Peters effective October 6, 1995. The Commission found that Ms. Peters had failed to give parties in a real estate transaction adequate notice of the relationship between the property involved in the transaction and the approach/takeoff pattern of aircraft at an airport that was near the pro-Ms. Peters denied any perty. violation of the Real Estate License Law but did not contest the Commission's action.

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### Disciplinary action

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RICHLANDS INSURANCE & REALTY, INC. (Richlands) - By Consent, the Commission reprimanded Richlands Insurance & Realty, Inc. effective June 15, 1995. The Commission found that a real estate broker, acting on behalf of Richlands Insurance & Realty, Inc. as the closing agent for the buyers and sellers of a property listed by the corporation, had failed to follow the lender's closing instructions to assure that assumption language was included in the deed.

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WAYNE J. TIMBERLAKE (Zebulon) - By Consent, the Commission suspended Mr. Timberlake's broker license for six months effective September 1, 1995. The Commission found that Mr. Timberlake had notarized signatures on a deed by certifying that the signatories had personally appeared before him when, in fact, they had not signed the deed in his presence. Mr. Timberlake denied that his actions constituted criminal misconduct or moral turpitude.

VERNON J. VERNON (Raleigh) -By Consent, the Commission suspended Mr. Vernon's broker license for 30 months effective November 15, 1995. Six months of the suspension are to be active and the remaining period stayed for a probationary term of 24 months. The Commission found that Mr. Vernon in 1986 had pled guilty to simple assault, a misdemeanor, and in 1988, had pled guilty to "Conspiracy to Burn a Building Under Construction," a felony.

JAMIE D. YARBER (Charlotte) - The Commission revoked Ms. Yarber's salesman license effective September 5, 1995. The Commission found that Ms. Yarber had failed to disclose to her tenants that foreclosure proceedings against the property they had leased were imminent due to Ms. Yarber's failure to make loan payments, and had failed to account to the tenants for rents and deposit monies after the tenants were forced to move when the property was sold at a foreclosure sale.

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