

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

REAL ESTATE LAWS AND REGULATIONS CONCERNING THE CONDUCT OF APPRAISERS, BROKERS AND SALESPERSONS

Prepared for the Department of Consumer Protection and the Connecticut Real Estate Commission



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This compilation of real estate laws and regulations relating to the licensure and conduct of brokers and salespersons is to be used as a handy reference source. It is not a substitute for the official Connecticut General Statutes and Regulations.

Real Estate Laws and Regulations Concerning the Conduct of Real Estate Brokers and Salespersons

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REAL ESTATE LICENSING LAW

Sec. 20-311. Definitions. As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires:

- (1) "Real estate broker" or "broker" means (A) any person, partnership, association, limited liability company or corporation which acts for another person or entity and for a fee, commission or other valuable consideration, lists for sale, sells, exchanges, buys or rents, or offers or attempts to negotiate a sale, exchange, purchase or rental of, an estate or interest in real estate, or a resale of a mobile manufactured home, as defined in subdivision (1) of section 21-64, or collects or offers or attempts to collect rent for the use of real estate, and (B) any person, partnership, association, limited liability company or corporation employed by or on behalf of the owner or owners of lots or other parcels of real estate, at a stated salary, upon commission, upon a salary and commission basis or otherwise to sell such real estate, or any parts thereof, in lots or other parcels, and who sells or exchanges, or offers, attempts or agrees to negotiate the sale or exchange of, any such lot or parcel of real estate;
- (2) "Real estate salesperson" or "salesperson" means a person affiliated with any real estate broker as an independent contractor or employed by a real estate broker to list for sale, sell or offer for sale, to buy or offer to buy or to negotiate the purchase or sale or exchange of real estate, or to offer for resale, a mobile manufactured home, as defined in subdivision (1) of section 21-64, or to lease or rent or offer to lease, rent or place for rent any real estate, or to collect or offer or attempt to collect rent for the use of real estate for or on behalf of such real estate broker, or who offers, sells or attempts to sell the real estate or mobile manufactured homes of a licensed broker, or acting for another as a designated seller agent or designated buyer agent, lists for sale, sells, exchanges, buys or rents, or offers or attempts to negotiate a sale, exchange, purchase or rental of, an estate or interest in real estate, or a resale of a mobile manufactured home, as defined in subsection (a) of section 21-64, or collects or offers or attempts to collect rent for the use of real estate, but does not include employees of any real estate broker whose principal occupation is clerical work in an office, or janitors or custodians engaged principally in that occupation;
- (3) "Engaging in the real estate business" means acting for another and for a fee, commission or other valuable consideration in the listing for sale, selling, exchanging, buying or renting, or offering or attempting to negotiate a sale, exchange, purchase or rental of, an estate or interest in real estate or a resale of a mobile manufactured home, as defined in subdivision (1) of section 21-64, or collecting upon a loan secured or to be secured by a mortgage or other encumbrance upon or transfer of real estate;
- (4) "Person" means any individual, partnership, association, limited liability company or corporation;
- (5) "Commission" means the Connecticut Real Estate Commission appointed under the provisions of section 20-311a;
- (6) "Designated agency" means the appointment by a real estate broker of one or more brokers or salespersons affiliated with or employed by the real estate broker to solely represent a buyer or tenant as a designated buyer's agent and appoint another to represent a seller or landlord as a designated seller's agent in a transaction;
- (7) "Designated buyer agent" means a broker or salesperson designated by the real estate broker with whom the broker or salesperson is affiliated or employed to solely represent a named buyer or tenant client of the real estate broker during the term of a buyer representation agreement or authorization;
- (8) "Designated seller agent" means a broker or salesperson designated by the real estate broker with whom the broker or salesperson is affiliated or employed to solely represent a named seller or landlord client of the real estate broker during the term of a listing agreement or authorization; and
- (9) "Commercial real estate transaction" means any transaction involving the sale, exchange, lease or sublease of real property other than real property containing any building or structure occupied or intended to be occupied by no more than four families or a single building lot to be used for family or household purposes.

<u>Sec. 20-311a. Real Estate Commission</u>. (a) There is created in the Department of Consumer Protection the Connecticut Real Estate Commission.

- (b) The commission shall consist of eight persons, electors of the state, appointed by the Governor. Three of the members shall be at the time of appointment licensed real estate brokers, two of the members shall be at the time of appointment licensed real estate salespersons and three of the members shall be public members. Not more than a bare majority of the commission shall be members of the same political party and there shall be at least one member from each congressional district.
- (c) The members of the commission shall serve until the expiration of the term for which they were appointed and until their successors have qualified. Members shall not be compensated for their services but shall be reimbursed for necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties. The Governor may remove any member for cause upon notice and an opportunity to be heard. Upon the death, resignation or removal of a member, the Governor shall appoint a successor to serve for the unexpired portion of the vacated term and until such member's successor is appointed and qualifies. Each

member shall, before entering upon his duties, take and file with the commission an oath to faithfully perform the duties of his office.

- <u>Sec. 20-311b.</u> Duties of commission. (a) Within thirty days after the appointment of the members of the commission, the commission shall meet in the city of Hartford for the purpose of organizing by selecting such officers other than a chairperson as the commission may deem necessary and appropriate. A majority of the members of the commission shall constitute a quorum for the exercise of the powers or authority conferred upon it.
- (b) (1) The commission shall authorize the Department of Consumer Protection to issue licenses to real estate brokers and real estate salespersons. (2) The commission shall administer the provisions of this chapter as to licensure and issuance, renewal, suspension or revocation of licenses concerning the real estate business.
- (c) The commission shall be provided with the necessary office space in Hartford by the Commissioner of Administrative Services. The place of business of the commission and all files, records and property of the commission shall at all times be and remain at such office, except that inactive files shall be stored at a location designated by the commission.
- (d) The commission shall hold meetings and hearings in Hartford, in space provided by the Commissioner of Administrative Services, or at such places outside of Hartford as shall be determined by the chairman of the commission. The commission shall meet at least once in each three-month period and may meet more often at the call of its chairman. The chairman of the commission shall call a meeting of the commission whenever requested to do so by a majority of the members of the commission.
- (e) The commission shall vote on all matters requiring a decision and votes shall be recorded in the commission's minutes.
- <u>Sec. 20-311d.</u> Bond for chairperson. The chairperson of the commission shall be bonded under the provisions of section 4-20, in such sum as the State Insurance and Risk Management Board may prescribe, with the condition that the chairperson faithfully perform the duties of the office and account for all funds received pursuant to the office.
- <u>Sec. 20-311e.</u> Deposit of fees. The commission shall deposit all moneys received by it from fees in accordance with the provisions of this chapter with the State Treasurer, and they shall, except as to that portion thereof required to be paid over to The University of Connecticut under the provisions of section 10a-125, or that portion required to be paid to the Real Estate Guaranty Fund pursuant to this chapter, become part of the General Fund.
- <u>Sec. 20-311f.</u> Arbitration of disputes between brokers or salespersons. The commission shall have the power to act as a board of arbitration to consider and decide any dispute over commissions arising between brokers or salespersons that is voluntarily submitted to the commission by the parties to such dispute.
- <u>Sec. 20-312. License required.</u> <u>Imposition of fine.</u> (a) No person shall act as a real estate broker or real estate salesperson without a license issued by the commission, or the Commissioner of Consumer Protection, unless exempt under this chapter. The Commissioner of Consumer Protection may enter into any contract for the purpose of administratively processing the renewal of licenses on behalf of the commission.
- (b) The practice of or the offer to practice real estate brokerage business in this state by individual licensed real estate brokers or real estate salespersons as a corporation, limited liability company, partnership or limited liability partnership, a material part of the business of which includes real estate brokerage, is permitted, provided (1) the personnel of such corporation, limited liability company, partnership or limited liability partnership who engage in the real estate brokerage business as real estate brokers or real estate salespersons, and the real estate brokers whose ownership, control, membership or partnership interest is credited toward the requirements of subdivision (3) of this subsection, are licensed or exempt from licensure under this chapter, (2) the corporation, limited liability company, partnership or limited liability partnership has been issued a real estate broker license by the commission as provided in this section and has paid the license or renewal fee required for a real estate broker's license as set forth in section 20-314, and (3) except for a publicly traded corporation (A) with respect to a corporation other than a nonstock corporation, one or more real estate brokers own or control fifty-one per cent or more of the total issued shares of the corporation, (B) with respect to a nonstock corporation, one or more real estate brokers constitute at least fifty-one per cent of the members of the nonstock corporation, (C) with respect to a limited liability company, one or more real estate brokers own or control at least fifty-one per cent of the interest in the limited liability company, as defined in section 34-243a, or (D) with respect to a partnership or limited liability partnership, one or more real estate brokers' partnership interest, as defined in section 34-301, constitutes at least fifty-one per cent of the total partnership interest. No such corporation, limited liability company, partnership or limited liability partnership shall be relieved of responsibility for the conduct or acts of its agents, employees or officers by reason of its compliance with this section, nor shall any individual practicing real estate brokerage be relieved of responsibility for real estate services performed by reason of the individual's employment or relationship with such corporation, limited liability company, partnership or limited liability partnership. The Real Estate Commission may refuse to authorize the issuance or renewal of a license if any facts exist that would entitle the commission to suspend or revoke an existing license.

- (c) A corporation, limited liability company, partnership or limited liability partnership desiring a real estate broker license shall file with the commission an application on such forms and in such manner as prescribed by the Department of Consumer Protection. Each such corporation, limited liability company, partnership or limited liability partnership shall file with the commission a designation of at least one individual licensed as a real estate broker in this state who shall be in charge of the real estate brokerage business of such corporation, limited liability company, partnership or limited liability partnership in this state. Such corporation, limited liability company, partnership or limited liability partnership shall notify the commission of any change in such designation not later than thirty days after such change becomes effective.
- (d) The Real Estate Commission may impose a fine of not more than one thousand dollars on any corporation, limited liability company, partnership or limited liability partnership that engages in real estate business without a license required by this section. Any such imposition of a fine by the commission shall be a proposed final decision and submitted to the commissioner in accordance with the provisions of subsection (b) of section 21a-7.
- <u>Sec. 20-312a. Liability of brokers for salespersons affiliated as independent contractors</u>. In any action brought by a third party against a real estate salesperson affiliated with a real estate broker as an independent contractor, such broker shall be liable to the same extent as if such affiliate had been employed as a real estate salesperson by such broker.
- Sec. 20-312b. Licensed real estate broker or real estate salesperson not deemed "employee" under Section 31-275. A licensed real estate broker or real estate salesperson shall not be considered an employee under the provisions of section 31-275 if substantially all of the remuneration for the services performed by such broker or salesperson, whether paid in cash or otherwise, is directly related to sales or other output rather than to the number of hours worked, and such services are performed by the broker or salesperson pursuant to a written contract that contains the following provisions:
- (1) The broker or salesperson, for purposes of workers' compensation, is engaged as an independent contractor associated with the person for whom services are performed;
- (2) The broker or salesperson shall be paid a commission based on his gross sales, if any, without deduction for taxes, which commission shall be directly related to sales or other output;
- (3) The broker or salesperson shall not receive any remuneration related to the number of hours worked and shall not be treated as an employee with respect to such services for purposes of workers' compensation;
- (4) The broker or salesperson shall be permitted to work any hours he chooses;
- (5) The broker or salesperson shall be permitted to work out of his own home or the office of the person for whom services are performed;
- (6) The broker or salesperson shall be free to engage in outside employment;
- (7) The person for whom the services are performed may provide office facilities and supplies for the use of the broker or salesperson, but the broker or salesperson shall otherwise pay his own expenses, including, but not limited to, automobile, travel and entertainment expenses; and
- (8) The contract may be terminated by either party at any time upon notice given to the other.
- <u>Sec. 20-313.</u> Application for license. Any person possessing the qualifications prescribed in this chapter, and in any regulations adopted under this chapter, who desires to engage in the real estate business shall apply, in writing, as provided in this chapter, to the commission or the Commissioner of Consumer Protection for the specific license desired.
- <u>Sec. 20-314.</u> License qualifications. Examinations. Renewals. Fees. Reinstatement. Hearings. (a) Licenses shall be granted under this chapter only to persons who bear a good reputation for honesty, truthfulness and fair dealing and who are competent to transact the business of a real estate broker or real estate salesperson in such manner as to safeguard the interests of the public.
- (b) Each application for a license or for a renewal thereof shall be made in writing, on such forms and in such manner as is prescribed by the Department of Consumer Protection and accompanied by such evidence in support of such application as is prescribed by the commission. The commission may require such information with regard to an applicant as the commission deems desirable, with due regard to the paramount interests of the public, as to the honesty, truthfulness, integrity and competency of the applicant and, where the applicant is a corporation, association or partnership, as to the honesty, truthfulness, integrity and competency of the officers of such corporation or the members of such association or partnership.
- (c) In order to determine the competency of any applicant for a real estate broker's license or a real estate salesperson's license the commission or Commissioner of Consumer Protection shall, on payment to the commission of an application fee of one hundred twenty dollars by an applicant for a real estate broker's license or on payment to the commission of an application fee of eighty dollars by an applicant for a real estate salesperson's license, subject such applicant to personal written examination as to the applicant's competency to act as a real estate broker or real estate salesperson, as the case may be. Such examination shall be prepared by the Department of Consumer Protection or by a national testing service designated by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection and shall be administered to applicants by the Department of Consumer Protection or by such testing service at such times and places as the commissioner may deem necessary. The

commission or Commissioner of Consumer Protection may waive the uniform portion of the written examination requirement in the case of an applicant who has taken the national testing service examination in another state within two years from the date of application and has received a score deemed satisfactory by the commission. The Commissioner of Consumer Protection shall adopt regulations, in accordance with chapter 54, establishing passing scores for examinations. In addition to such application fee, applicants taking the examination administered by a national testing service shall be required to pay directly to such testing service an examination fee covering the cost of such examination. Each payment of such application fee shall entitle the applicant to take such examination within the one-year period from the date of payment.

- (d) (1) Each applicant applying for a real estate broker's license on or after July 1, 2016, shall, before being admitted to such examination, prove to the satisfaction of the commission or the Commissioner of Consumer Protection that the applicant: (A) (i) has been actively engaged for at least two years as a licensed real estate salesperson under the supervision of a licensed real estate broker in this state, (ii) has successfully completed a course approved by the commission or commissioner in real estate principles and practices of at least sixty classroom hours of study, (iii) has successfully completed a course approved by the commission or commissioner in real estate legal compliance consisting of at least fifteen classroom hours of study, (iv) has successfully completed a course approved by the commissioner in real estate brokerage principles and practices consisting of at least fifteen classroom hours, and (v) has successfully completed two elective courses, each consisting of fifteen classroom hours of study, as prescribed by the commission or commissioner, or (B) has equivalent experience or education as determined by the commission or commissioner.
- (2) The commission or the Commissioner of Consumer Protection shall waive the elective courses under subparagraph (A)(v) of subdivision (1) of this subsection if the applicant has successfully completed at least twenty real estate transactions within five years immediately preceding the date of application. As used in this subdivision, "real estate transaction" means any transaction in which real property is legally transferred to another party or in which a lease agreement is executed between a landlord and a tenant.
- (3) Each applicant for a real estate salesperson's license shall, before being admitted to such examination, prove to the satisfaction of the commission or the Commissioner of Consumer Protection that the applicant (A) has successfully completed a course approved by the commission in real estate principles and practices consisting of at least sixty classroom hours of study, or (B) that the applicant has equivalent experience or education as determined by the commission or commissioner.
- (e) The provisions of subsections (c) and (d) of this section shall not apply to any renewal of a real estate broker's license, or a real estate salesperson's license issued prior to October 1, 1973.
- (f) All licenses issued under the provisions of this chapter shall expire annually. At the time of application for a real estate broker's license, there shall be paid to the commission, for each individual applicant and for each proposed active member or officer of a firm, partnership, association or corporation, the sum of five hundred sixty-five dollars, and for the annual renewal thereof, the sum of three hundred seventy-five dollars and for a real estate salesperson's license two hundred eightyfive dollars and for the annual renewal thereof the sum of two hundred eighty-five dollars. Three dollars of each such annual renewal fee shall be payable to the Real Estate Guaranty Fund established pursuant to section 20-324a. If a license is not issued, the fee shall be returned. A real estate broker's license issued to any partnership, association or corporation shall entitle the individual designated in the application, as provided in section 20-312, upon compliance with the terms of this chapter, but without the payment of any further fee, to perform all of the acts of a real estate broker under this chapter on behalf of such partnership, association or corporation. Any license which expires and is not renewed pursuant to this subsection may be reinstated by the commission, if, not later than two years after the date of expiration, the former licensee pays to the commission for each real estate broker's license the sum of three hundred seventy-five dollars and for each real estate salesperson's license the sum of two hundred eighty-five dollars for each year or fraction thereof from the date of expiration of the previous license to the date of payment for reinstatement, except that any licensee whose license expired after such licensee entered military service shall be reinstated without payment of any fee if an application for reinstatement is filed with the commission within two years after the date of expiration. Any such reinstated license shall expire on the next succeeding March thirty-first for real estate brokers or the next succeeding May thirty-first for real estate salespersons.
- (g) Any person whose application has been filed as provided in this section and who is refused a license shall be given notice and afforded an opportunity for hearing as provided in the regulations adopted by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection.

Sec. 20-314a. Regulations concerning approval of schools, courses, programs and advertising. Exemption from experience requirement for certain applicants. (a) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection, with the advice and assistance of the commission, may adopt regulations, in accordance with chapter 54, relating to the approval of schools offering courses in real estate principles and practice and related subjects, or real estate student intern programs, the content of such courses or programs and the advertising to the public of the services of such schools. Such regulations shall not require (1) approval of instructors at such schools, or (2) a course to be conducted in a classroom location approved for such use by a local fire marshal provided the course is conducted in a hotel, restaurant or other public building or a place of public assembly, as defined in section 19-13-B105 of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies.

(b) The commission may exempt any applicant for a real estate broker's license from the requirements concerning experience under the provisions of subsection (d) of section 20-314, if the commission determines that such applicant is

unable to meet such requirements solely because such applicant has been subjected to discrimination based on race, creed or color, which discrimination interfered with such applicant's ability to meet such requirements.

<u>Sec. 20-314b. Validity of license</u>. Any person licensed under this chapter shall be permitted to perform the work covered by such license in any municipality of this state without further examination or licensing by such municipality.

- <u>Sec. 20-316. Grounds for refusal of license.</u> (a) The commission or Commissioner of Consumer Protection shall not deny a license under this chapter to any applicant who has been convicted of forgery, embezzlement, obtaining money under false pretenses, extortion, criminal conspiracy to defraud or other like offense or offenses, or to any association or partnership of which such person is a member, or to any corporation of which such person is an officer or in which as a stockholder such person has or exercises a controlling interest either directly or indirectly, except in accordance with the provisions of section 46a-80.
- (b) No license under this chapter shall be issued by the Department of Consumer Protection to any applicant (1) whose application for a license as a real estate broker or real estate salesperson has, within one year prior to the date of his application under this chapter, been rejected in this state, in any other state or in the District of Columbia or (2) whose license as a real estate broker or real estate salesperson has, within one year prior to the date of his application under this chapter, been revoked in this state, in any other state or in the District of Columbia.
- (c) No license as a real estate broker or real estate salesperson shall be issued under this chapter to any person who has not attained the age of eighteen years.
- (d) The provisions of this section shall apply to any applicant for a license under this chapter, whether or not such applicant was engaged in the real estate business in this state on July 1, 1953, and whenever the applicant's application is filed.
- Sec. 20-317. Persons licensed in another state as a real estate broker or salesperson. Requirements for Connecticut license. Consent to suits and actions. (a) A person licensed in another state as a real estate broker or salesperson may become a real estate broker or real estate salesperson in this state by conforming to all of the provisions of this chapter. The commission or Commissioner of Consumer Protection shall recognize a current, valid license issued to a currently practicing, competent real estate broker or real estate salesperson by another state as satisfactorily qualifying the broker or salesperson for a license as a real estate broker or real estate salesperson under this chapter, provided (1) the laws of the state in which the broker or salesperson is licensed require that applicants for licenses as real estate brokers and real estate salespersons establish their competency by written examinations and allow licenses to be issued to residents of the state of Connecticut, licensed under this chapter, without examination, (2) the licensure requirements of such state are substantially similar to or higher than those of this state, and (3) the broker or salesperson has no disciplinary proceeding or unresolved complaint pending against the broker or salesperson. If the applicant is licensed in a state that does not have such requirements, such applicant shall be required to pass the Connecticut portion of the real estate examination.
- (b) Every applicant licensed in another state shall file an irrevocable consent that suits and actions may be commenced against such applicant in the proper court in any judicial district of the state in which a cause of action may arise or in which the plaintiff may reside, by the service of any process or pleading, authorized by the laws of this state, on the chairperson of the commission, such consent stipulating and agreeing that such service of such process or pleading shall be taken and held in all courts to be as valid and binding as if service had been made upon such applicant in the state of Connecticut. If any process or pleadings under this chapter are served upon the chairperson, it shall be by duplicate copies, one of which shall be filed in the office of the commission, and the other immediately forwarded by registered or certified mail, to the applicant against whom such process or pleadings are directed, at the last-known address of such applicant as shown by the records of the commission. No default in any such proceedings or action shall be taken unless it appears by affidavit of the chairperson of the commission that a copy of the process or pleading was mailed to the defendant as required by this subsection, and no judgment by default shall be taken in any such action or proceeding within twenty days after the date of mailing of such process or pleading to the out-of-state defendant.
- <u>Sec. 20-318. Certificate</u>. The Department of Consumer Protection shall issue to each licensee under this chapter a license certificate in such size and form as the department determines.
- Sec. 20-319. Renewal. Continuing education requirements. Regulations. (a) The commission shall authorize the Department of Consumer Protection to issue an annual renewal license to any applicant who possesses the qualifications specified in and otherwise has complied with the provisions of this chapter and any regulation adopted under this chapter. The commission shall authorize said department to issue an annual renewal of a real estate broker's license to any entity licensed pursuant to subsection (b) of section 20-312, provided such entity: (1) Was so licensed as of September 30, 2005, notwithstanding the fact such entity does not meet the requirements for publicly traded corporations required by subdivision (3) of subsection (b) of section 20-312, or (2) changes its designated real estate broker pursuant to subsection (c) of section 20-312.

- (b) There is hereby established an annual renewal license to be issued by the Department of Consumer Protection. Persons licensed in accordance with the provisions of this chapter shall fulfill a continuing education requirement. Applicants for an annual renewal license for real estate brokers or real estate salespersons shall, in addition to the other requirements imposed by the provisions of this chapter, in any even-numbered year, submit proof of compliance with the continuing education requirements of this subsection to the commission, accompanied by an eight-dollar processing fee. The continuing education requirement may be satisfied by successful completion of any of the following during the two-year period preceding such renewal: (1) A course or courses, approved by the commission, of continuing education in current real estate practices and licensing laws, including, but not limited to, practices and laws concerning common interest communities, consisting of not less than twelve hours of classroom study; or (2) a written examination prepared and administered by either the Department of Consumer Protection, or by a national testing service approved by the department, which demonstrates a knowledge of current real estate practices and licensing laws; or (3) equivalent continuing educational experience or study as determined by regulations adopted pursuant to subsection (d) of this section. An applicant for examination under subdivision (2) of this subsection shall pay the required examination fee to the national testing service, if administered by such testing service, or to the Department of Consumer Protection, if administered by the department.
- (c) If the commission refuses to grant an annual renewal license, the licensee or applicant, upon written notice received as provided for in this chapter, may have recourse to any of the remedies provided by sections 20-314 and 20-322.
- (d) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection, in consultation with the commission, shall adopt regulations, in accordance with chapter 54, concerning the approval of schools, institutions or organizations offering courses in current real estate practices and licensing laws, including, but not limited to, practices and laws concerning common interest communities, and the content of such courses. Such regulations shall include, but not be limited to: (1) Specifications for meeting equivalent continuing educational experience or study; (2) exceptions from continuous education requirements for reasons of health or instances of individual hardship. No school, institution or organization that offers a course in current real estate practices and licensing laws may be disapproved solely because its courses are offered or taught by electronic means, and no course may be disapproved solely because it is offered or taught by electronic means.

<u>Sec. 20-319a.</u> Change of salesperson's employment or affiliation. Fees. (a) Any licensed real estate salesperson who transfers his employment from one broker to another or his affiliation with a broker as an independent contractor shall register such transfer with, and pay a registration fee of twenty-five dollars to, the commission.

(b) A fee of twenty-five dollars shall be paid to the commission for the issuance of a license certification.

Sec. 20-320. Suspension or revocation of licenses. Fines. The Department of Consumer Protection may, upon the request of the commission or upon the verified complaint in writing of any person, if such complaint, or such complaint together with evidence, documentary or otherwise, presented in connection with such complaint, shall make out a prima facie case, investigate the actions of any real estate broker or real estate salesperson or any person who assumes to act in any of such capacities within this state. The commission may temporarily suspend or permanently revoke any license issued under the provisions of this chapter and, in addition to or in lieu of such suspension or revocation, may, in its discretion, impose a fine of not more than two thousand dollars at any time when, after proceedings as provided in section 20-321, the commission finds that the licensee has by false or fraudulent misrepresentation obtained a license or that the licensee is guilty of any of the following:

- (1) Making any material misrepresentation;
- (2) making any false promise of a character likely to influence, persuade or induce;
- (3) acting as an agent for more than one party in a transaction without the knowledge of all parties for whom the licensee acts;
- (4) representing or attempting to represent a real estate broker other than the licensee's employer or the broker with whom the licensee is affiliated, without the express knowledge and consent of the licensee's employer or affiliated broker;
- (5) failing, within a reasonable time, to account for or remit any moneys coming into the licensee's possession which belong to others:
- (6) entering into an exclusive listing contract or buyer agency contract which contains a fixed termination date if such contract also provides for an automatic continuation of the period of such contract beyond such date;
- (7) failing to deliver immediately a copy of any instrument to any party or parties executing the instrument, where such instrument has been prepared by the licensee or under the licensee's supervision and where such instrument relates to the employment of the licensee or to any matters pertaining to the consummation of a lease, or the purchase, sale or exchange of real property or any other type of real estate transaction in which the licensee may participate as a broker or a salesperson;
- (8) conviction in a court of competent jurisdiction of forgery, embezzlement, obtaining money under false pretenses, larceny, extortion, conspiracy to defraud, or other like offense or offenses, provided suspension or revocation under this subdivision shall be subject to the provisions of section 46a-80;
- (9) collecting compensation in advance of services to be performed and failing, upon demand of the person paying the compensation or the commission, to render an accounting of the use of such money;

- (10) commingling funds of others with the licensee's own, or failing to keep funds of others in an escrow or trustee account;
- (11) any act or conduct which constitutes dishonest, fraudulent or improper dealings;
- (12) failing to provide the disclosures required by section 20-325c;
- (13) a violation of any provision of this chapter or any regulation adopted under this chapter. Any such suspension or revocation of a license or imposition of a fine by the commission shall be a proposed final decision and submitted to the commissioner in accordance with the provisions of subsection (b) of section 21a-7. Any fine collected pursuant to this section shall be deposited in the Real Estate Guaranty Fund established pursuant to section 20-324a.
- Sec. 20-320a. Paid referral of any buyer of real property to an attorney or mortgage broker prohibited, when. Suspension or revocation of licenses. Fines. (a) No real estate broker or real estate salesperson, no person affiliated with such broker or salesperson, and no person engaging in the real estate business may receive a fee, commission or other form of referral fee for the referral of any buyer of real property to (1) an attorney-at-law admitted to practice in this state or any person affiliated with such attorney or (2) any mortgage broker, any lender, as defined in subdivision (5) of section 49-31d, or any person affiliated with such mortgage broker or lender.
- (b) The Department of Consumer Protection may, upon the request of the commission or upon the verified complaint in writing of any person, if such complaint, or such complaint together with evidence, documentary or otherwise, presented in connection with such complaint, shall make out a prima facie case, investigate the actions of any real estate broker or real estate salesperson or any person who assumes to act in any of such capacities within this state. The commission may temporarily suspend or permanently revoke any license issued under the provisions of this chapter, and, in addition to or in lieu of such suspension or revocation, may, in its discretion, impose a fine of not more than one thousand dollars for the first offense at any time when, after proceedings as provided in section 20-321, the commission finds that the licensee is guilty of violating any of the provisions of subsection (a) of this section. Any such suspension or revocation of a license or imposition of a fine by the commission shall be a proposed final decision and submitted to the commissioner in accordance with the provisions of subsection (b) of section 21a-7.
- Sec. 20-320b. Prohibition against influencing real estate appraisals. Violation, penalty. (a) A real estate broker or real estate salesperson licensed under this chapter shall not influence residential real estate appraisals. For the purposes of this section, "influence residential real estate appraisals" includes, but is not limited to, refusal or intentional failure to refer a homebuyer, or encouraging other real estate brokers or real estate salespersons not to refer a homebuyer, to a mortgage broker, as defined in section 36a-760, or a lender, as defined in section 36a-760, based solely on the fact that the mortgage broker or lender uses an appraiser who has provided an appraisal reflecting a fair market value estimate that was less than the sale contract price.
- (b) Violations of subsection (a) of this section shall be subject to the actions and penalties set forth in section 20-320.
- <u>Sec. 20-321. Notice and hearing.</u> Before refusing, suspending or revoking any license or imposing any fine under this chapter, the commission shall give notice and afford an opportunity for hearing as provided in the regulations adopted by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection.
- <u>Sec. 20-322. Appeal</u>. Any person aggrieved by any decision or order of the commission may appeal in accordance with the provisions of section 4-183.
- <u>Sec. 20-323.</u> Revocation of license upon conviction of crime. Any licensee under this chapter who is convicted of a violation of any of the offenses enumerated in subdivision (8) of section 20-320 may incur a forfeiture of his or her license and all moneys that may have been paid for such license. The clerk of any court in which such conviction has been rendered shall forward to the commission without charge a certified copy of such conviction. The commissioner may revoke such licensee's license after proceedings as provided in section 20-321. Such notice shall be conclusive of the revocation of such license. Application for reinstatement of such license shall be subject to the provisions of section 46a-80.
- <u>Sec. 20-324.</u> Misrepresentation; penalty. Any person willfully misrepresenting any fact required to be disclosed in any application or in any other form, paper or document required to be filed with the commission in connection with an application for a license under this chapter shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars or imprisoned not more than six months or both.
- <u>Sec. 20-324a.</u> Real Estate Guaranty Fund. The commission shall establish and maintain a Real Estate Guaranty Fund from which, subject to the provisions of sections 20-324a to 20-324j, inclusive, any person aggrieved by any action of a real estate broker or real estate salesperson, duly licensed in this state under section 20-312, by reason of the embezzlement of money or property, or money or property unlawfully obtained from any person by false pretenses, artifice, forgery or by reason of any fraud, misrepresentation or deceit by or on the part of any such real estate broker or real estate salesperson or the

unlicensed employee of any such real estate broker, may recover, upon approval by the commission of an application brought pursuant to the provisions of section 20-324e, compensation in an amount not exceeding in the aggregate the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars in connection with any one real estate transaction or claim, regardless of the number of persons aggrieved or parcels of real estate involved in such real estate transaction or claim.

<u>Sec. 20-324b. Fee payable to fund.</u> Any person who receives a real estate broker's or real estate salesperson's license under this chapter for the first time shall pay an additional one-time fee of twenty dollars in addition to all other fees payable, which additional fee shall be credited to the Real Estate Guaranty Fund. The Real Estate Guaranty Fund shall also be credited as provided in Sections 20-314 and 20-320.

Sec. 20-324c. Level of guaranty fund. Credits to guaranty fund and General Fund. The commission shall maintain the Real Estate Guaranty Fund at a level not to exceed five hundred thousand dollars and to this intent moneys received under section 20-324b shall be credited to said fund whenever the fund balance is below five hundred thousand dollars. Any such moneys may be invested or reinvested in the same manner as funds of the state employees retirement system. The interest arising from such investments shall be credited to the Real Estate Guaranty Fund whenever the fund balance is below five hundred thousand dollars, and to the General Fund whenever the fund balance is equal to or greater than five hundred thousand dollars. Any moneys received under section 20-324b not required to maintain the Real Estate Guaranty Fund balance shall be deposited to the General Fund. All moneys in the Real Estate Guaranty Fund in excess of five hundred thousand dollars, shall be transferred by the State Treasurer to the General Fund.

<u>Sec. 20-324d. Limitation of actions.</u> No application to recover compensation under sections 20-324a to 20-324j, inclusive, which might subsequently result in an order for collection from the Real Estate Guaranty Fund shall be brought later than two years from the final determination of, or expiration of time for appeal in connection with, any judgment.

<u>Sec. 20-324e. Procedure.</u> (a) When any aggrieved person commences any action for a judgment which may result in collection from the Real Estate Guaranty Fund, the aggrieved person shall notify the commission in writing to this effect at the time of the commencement of such action. Such written notice shall toll the time for making application to the commission pursuant to section 20-324d. The commission shall have the right to enter an appearance, intervene in or defend any such action and may waive the required written notice for good cause shown.

- (b) When any aggrieved person recovers a valid judgment in the Superior Court against any real estate broker or real estate salesperson or the unlicensed employee of any such real estate broker for loss or damages sustained by reason of the embezzlement of money or property, or money or property unlawfully obtained from any person by false pretenses, artifice, forgery or by reason of any fraud, misrepresentation or deceit by or on the part of such real estate broker or salesperson or the unlicensed employee of any such real estate broker, such aggrieved person may upon the final determination of, or expiration of time for appeal in connection with, any judgment, apply to the commission for an order directing payment out of the Real Estate Guaranty Fund of the amount unpaid upon the judgment, subject to the limitations stated in section 20-324a and the limitations specified in this section. The license of any such broker or salesperson shall be automatically revoked upon the entry of such judgment.
- (c) The commission shall proceed upon such application in a summary manner, and, upon the hearing thereof, the aggrieved person shall be required to show: (1) He is not a spouse of the debtor or the personal representative of such spouse; (2) he has complied with all the requirements of this section; (3) he has obtained a judgment as provided in subsection (b) of this section, stating the amount thereof and the amount owing thereon at the date of the application; (4) he has caused to be issued a writ of execution upon the judgment and the officer executing the same has made a return showing that no personal or real property of the judgment debtor liable to be levied upon in satisfaction of the judgment could be found, or that the amount realized on the sale of them or of such of them as were found, under the execution, was insufficient to satisfy the judgment, stating the amount so realized and the balance remaining due on the judgment after application thereon of the amount realized; (5) he has made all reasonable searches and inquiries to ascertain whether the judgment debtor possesses real or personal property or other assets, liable to be sold or applied in satisfaction of the judgment; (6) that by such search he has discovered no personal or real property or other assets liable to be sold or applied, or that he has discovered certain of them, describing them, owned by the judgment debtor and liable to be so applied, and that he has taken all necessary action and proceedings for the realization thereof, and that the amount thereby realized was insufficient to satisfy the judgment, stating the amount so realized and the balance remaining due on the judgment after application of the amount realized.
- (d) Whenever the aggrieved person satisfies the commission that it is not practicable to comply with one or more of the requirements enumerated in subdivisions (4), (5) and (6) of subsection (c) of this section and that the aggrieved person has taken all reasonable steps to collect the amount of the judgment or the unsatisfied part thereof and has been unable to collect the same, the commission may in its discretion waive such requirements.

- (e) The commission shall order payment from the Real Estate Guaranty Fund of any sum it shall find to be payable upon the claim, pursuant to the provisions of and in accordance with the limitations contained in this section and section 20-324a, if the commission is satisfied, upon the hearing, of the truth of all matters required to be shown by the aggrieved person by subsection (c) of this section and that the aggrieved person has fully pursued and exhausted all remedies available to him for recovering the amount awarded by the judgment of the court.
- (f) If the commission pays from the Real Estate Guaranty Fund any amount in settlement of a claim or toward satisfaction of a judgment against a licensed real estate broker or real estate salesperson pursuant to an order under subsection (e) of this section, such broker or salesperson shall not be eligible to receive a new license until he has repaid in full, plus interest at a rate to be determined by the commission and which shall reflect current market rates, the amount paid from the fund on his account. A discharge in bankruptcy shall not relieve a person from the penalties and disabilities provided in this subsection.
- (g) If, at any time, the money deposited in the Real Estate Guaranty Fund is insufficient to satisfy any duly authorized claim or portion thereof, the commission shall, when sufficient money has been deposited in the fund, satisfy such unpaid claims or portions thereof, in the order that such claims or portions thereof were originally filed, plus accumulated interest at the rate of four per cent a year.
- <u>Sec. 20-324f. Penalty for false or untrue claim.</u> Any person filing with the commission any notice, statement or other document required under the provisions of section 20-324e which is false or untrue or contains any material misstatement of fact shall be fined not less than two hundred dollars.
- <u>Sec. 20-324g. Procedure for commission</u>. When the commission receives notice, as provided in section 20-324e, it may enter an appearance, file an answer, appear at the court hearing, defend the action or take whatever other action the commission may deem appropriate on the behalf and in the name of the defendant and take recourse through any appropriate method of review or appeal on behalf and in the name of the defendant.
- <u>Sec. 20-324h. Payment from guaranty fund</u>. When the commission has caused to be paid from the Real Estate Guaranty Fund any sum to the judgment creditor, the commission shall be subrogated to all of the rights of the judgment creditor up to the amount paid, and the judgment creditor shall assign all of his right, title and interest in the judgment up to such amount paid to the commission, and any amount and interest recovered by the commission on the judgment shall be deposited to the fund.
- <u>Sec. 20-324i.</u> Regulations. The Commissioner of Consumer Protection, with the advice and assistance of the commission, may adopt regulations, in accordance with chapter 54, to carry out the provisions of sections 20-324a to 20-324j, inclusive.
- <u>Sec. 20-324j. Appeal of commission decision, order or regulation</u>. Any person aggrieved by any decision, order or regulation of the commission under sections 20-324a to 20-324i, inclusive, may appeal in accordance with the provisions of section 20-322.
- Sec. 20-324k. Brokers to maintain escrow or trust account for certain moneys held. Disputed deposits. (a) Each broker licensed under the provisions of this chapter, who in the course of his real estate business receives, accepts and holds any moneys on behalf of any principal, client or other person shall at all times maintain a separate escrow or trust account, distinct from his own account, in a bank of his choice doing business in this state, for the deposit of all such moneys so received by him.
- (b) The commission may examine and audit any escrow or trust account maintained by any broker in accordance with the provisions of subsection (a) of this section whenever the commission shall deem such examination and audit necessary.
- (c) Any broker who, in the course of his real estate business and in connection with any transaction, accepts from any principal, client or other person any moneys to which he is not personally and legally entitled, including, but not limited to, any down payment, earnest money, deposit, rental money, rental security deposit or other money to be held by him in trust, shall deposit such moneys in his escrow or trust account within three banking days of the date the agreement evidencing such transaction is signed by all necessary parties to such transaction, pending final legal disposition of such moneys in accordance with the instructions of the person legally entitled to such moneys.
- (d) Upon motion, the court may order a party to an action who is a broker holding funds in trust in connection with a real estate transaction to deposit with the court certified funds in an amount not to exceed the funds held in trust. Conditioned upon the receipt of such certified funds, the court shall also order the dismissal of any claim against the broker which claim is based solely on the broker's role as stakeholder of such funds.
- (e) Any broker who willfully violates any provision of this section shall be fined not more than one thousand dollars or imprisoned not more than six months or both.

<u>Sec. 20-325.</u> Engaging in business without license. Any person who engages in the business of a real estate broker or real estate salesperson without obtaining a license as provided in this chapter shall be fined not more than one thousand dollars or imprisoned not more than six months or both, and shall be ineligible to obtain a license for one year from the date of conviction of such offense, except that the commission or Commissioner of Consumer Protection may grant a license to such person within such one-year period upon application and after a hearing on such application.

Sec. 20-325a. Actions to recover commissions arising out of real estate transactions. Real estate broker's lien for real property. Claim for lien. Provisions re commercial real estate transactions. (a) No person who is not licensed under the provisions of this chapter, and who was not so licensed at the time the person performed the acts or rendered the services for which recovery is sought, shall commence or bring any action in any court of this state, after October 1, 1971, to recover any commission, compensation or other payment with respect to any act done or service rendered by the person, the doing or rendering of which is prohibited under the provisions of this chapter except by persons duly licensed under this chapter.

- (b) No person, licensed under the provisions of this chapter, shall commence or bring any action with respect to any acts done or services rendered after October 1, 1995, as set forth in subsection (a), unless the acts or services were rendered pursuant to a contract or authorization from the person for whom the acts were done or services rendered. To satisfy the requirements of this subsection any contract or authorization shall: (1) Be in writing, (2) contain the names and addresses of the real estate broker performing the services and the name of the person or persons for whom the acts were done or services rendered, (3) show the date on which such contract was entered into or such authorization given, (4) contain the conditions of such contract or authorization, (5) be signed by the real estate broker or the real estate broker's authorized agent, (6) if such contract or authorization pertains to any real property, include the following statement: "THE REAL ESTATE BROKER MAY BE ENTITLED TO CERTAIN LIEN RIGHTS PURSUANT TO SECTION 20-325a OF THE CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATUTES", and (7) be signed by the person or persons for whom the acts were done or services rendered or by an agent authorized to act on behalf of such person or persons, pursuant to a written document executed in the manner provided for conveyances in section 47-5, except, if the acts to be done or services rendered involve a listing contract for the sale of land containing any building or structure occupied or intended to be occupied by no more than four families, the listing contract shall be signed by the owner of the real estate or by an agent authorized to act on behalf of such owner pursuant to a written document executed in the manner provided for conveyances in section 47-5.
- (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (b) of this section, no person licensed under the provisions of this chapter shall commence or bring any action with respect to any acts done or services rendered after October 1, 2000, in a commercial real estate transaction, unless the acts or services were rendered pursuant to (1) a contract or authorization meeting the requirements of subsection (b) of this section, or (2) a memorandum, letter or other writing stating for whom the licensee will act or has acted, signed by the party for whom the licensee will act or has acted in the commercial real estate transaction, the duration of the authorization and the amount of any compensation payable to the licensee, provided (A) the licensee provides written notice to the party, substantially similar to the following: "THE REAL ESTATE BROKER MAY BE ENTITLED TO CERTAIN LIEN RIGHTS PURSUANT TO SECTION 20-325a OF THE CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATUTES", and (B) the notice is provided at or before the execution of the contract, authorization, memorandum, letter or other writing, and may be made part of the contract, authorization, memorandum, letter or other writing.
- (d) Nothing in subsection (a) of this section, subdivisions (2) to (7), inclusive, of subsection (b) of this section or subsection (c) of this section shall prevent any licensee from recovering any commission, compensation or other payment with respect to any acts done or services rendered, if it would be inequitable to deny such recovery and the licensee (1) has substantially complied with subdivisions (2) to (7), inclusive, of subsection (b) of this section or (2) with respect to a commercial real estate transaction, has substantially complied with subdivisions (2) to (6), inclusive, of subsection (b) of this section or subdivision (2) of subsection (c) of this section.
- (e) A licensed real estate broker who has performed acts or rendered services relating to real property upon terms provided for in a written contract or agreement between the broker and the owner or buyer for whom such acts were done or services rendered shall have a lien upon such real property. The lien shall be in the amount of the compensation agreed upon by the broker and the owner or buyer for whom such acts were performed or services rendered.
- (f) Except as provided in subsections (g), (h) and (i) of this section, the lien provided for in this section shall not attach until the broker is entitled to compensation, without any contingencies, other than closing or transfer of title, under the terms set forth in the written listing or buyer representation contract and the broker has recorded the claim for lien prior to the actual conveyance or lease of such real property with the town clerk of the town where such property is located.
- (g) Except as provided in subsection (h) of this section, when a broker is entitled to compensation in installments, a portion of which is due only after the conveyance or lease of the real property, any claim for lien for those payments due after the conveyance or lease may be recorded at any time subsequent to the conveyance or lease of the real property and prior to the date on which the payment is due but shall only be effective as a claim for lien against the real property to the extent moneys are still owed to the transferor or lessor by the transferee or lessee. A single claim for lien recorded prior to conveyance or lease of the real property claiming all moneys due under an installment payment agreement shall not be valid

or enforceable as it pertains to payments due after the conveyance or lease. The lien shall attach as of the recording of the claim for lien.

- (h) In the case of a lease for real property where the broker's compensation will not be paid in installments, the claim for lien must be recorded no later than thirty days after the tenant takes possession of the leased premises unless written notice of the intended signing of the lease is delivered to the broker entitled to claim a lien by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, or by personal service, at least ten days prior to the date of the intended signing of the lease for the real property in which case the claim for lien must be recorded before the date indicated for the signing of the lease in the notice delivered to the broker. The lien shall attach as of the recording of the claim for lien.
- (i) If a broker's written contract for payment is with a prospective buyer, then the lien shall attach only after the prospective buyer accepts the conveyance or lease of the real property and the claim for lien is recorded by the broker with the town clerk of the town in which the property is located. Any claim for lien shall be filed by the broker no later than thirty days after the conveyance or the tenant takes possession of the real property.
- (j) The broker shall serve a copy of the claim for lien on the owner of the real property. Service shall be made by mailing a copy of the claim for lien by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, or by personal service upon the owner by any indifferent person, state marshal or other proper officer, by leaving with such owner or at the owner's usual place of abode a true and attested copy thereof. A copy of the claim for lien may be served at the same time as the notice required by subsection (r) of this section. The broker's lien shall be void and unenforceable if recording does not occur within the time period and in the manner required by this section.
- (k) (1) A broker may bring suit to enforce a claim for lien in the superior court in the judicial district where the real property is located by filing a complaint and sworn affidavit that the claim for lien has been recorded in accordance with this section.
- (2) A person claiming a lien shall, unless the claim is based upon an option to purchase the real property, within one year after recording the claim for lien, commence foreclosure by filing a complaint. Failure to commence foreclosure within one year after recording the lien shall extinguish the lien. No subsequent claim for lien may be given for the same claim nor may that claim be asserted in any proceedings under this section.
- (3) A person claiming a lien based upon an option to purchase real property shall, within six months after the conveyance or lease of the real property under the exercise of the option to purchase, commence foreclosure by filing a complaint and a sworn affidavit that the claim for lien has been recorded in accordance with this section. Failure to commence foreclosure within six months after the conveyance or lease shall extinguish the claim for lien. No subsequent claim for lien may be given for the same claim nor may that claim be asserted in any proceedings under this section.
- (4) The plaintiff shall issue summons and provide service as in actions to foreclose a mortgage. When any defendant resides out of the state or is temporarily located out of the state, or on inquiry cannot be found, or is concealed within this state so that process cannot be served on that defendant, the plaintiff shall cause a notice to be given to that defendant, or cause a copy of the complaint to be served upon that defendant, in the manner and upon the same conditions as in actions to foreclose a mortgage. Except as otherwise provided in this section, all liens claimed under this section shall be foreclosed in the manner in which mortgage foreclosures are conducted.
- (I) The claim for lien shall state the name of the claimant, the name of the owner, a description of the real property upon which the lien is being claimed, the amount for which the lien is claimed, and the real estate license number of the broker. The claim for lien shall contain a sworn statement by the signatory that the information contained in the notice is true and accurate to the knowledge of the signatory. The claim for lien shall be signed by the broker or the real estate broker's authorized agent.
- (m) Whenever a claim for lien has been recorded with the town clerk and a condition occurs that would preclude the broker from receiving compensation under the terms of the broker's written contract or agreement, the broker shall provide within thirty days of demand to the owner of record a written release or satisfaction of the lien.
- (n) Upon written demand of the owner or the owner's authorized agent, served on the broker claiming the lien requiring suit to be commenced to enforce the lien, a suit shall be commenced within forty-five days thereafter or the claim for lien shall be extinguished. Service of any such written demand shall be by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, or by personal service upon the broker by any indifferent person, state marshal or other proper officer, by leaving with such broker or at the broker's usual place of abode a true and attested copy thereof.
- (o) Whenever a claim for lien has been recorded with the town clerk and is paid, or where there is failure to foreclose to enforce the lien within the time provided by this section, the broker shall acknowledge satisfaction or release the claim for lien, in writing, on written demand of the owner within thirty days after payment or expiration of the time in which to commence foreclosure on the lien.
- (p) Except as otherwise provided in this section, whenever a claim for lien has been recorded with the town clerk that would prevent the closing of a conveyance or lease, an escrow account shall be established from the proceeds of the conveyance or lease in the amount of the compensation agreed upon by the parties. Upon the establishment of the escrow account the broker shall immediately release the claim for lien. The establishment of an escrow account, as provided for in this section, shall not be the sole cause for the owner to refuse to complete the conveyance or lease. The moneys shall be held in escrow by the attorney for the lessor in the case of a lease for real property, and by the attorney for the owner in the case of the

actual conveyance or lease of such real property, until the parties' rights to the escrowed moneys have been determined by the written contract or agreement of the parties, a determination by the Superior Court, or some other process which may be agreed to by the parties. When there are sufficient funds in the amount of the claimed lien, there shall be a release of the claim for lien which would allow completion of the conveyance or lease on such terms as are acceptable to the parties involved in the conveyance or lease. If the proceeds from the conveyance or lease are insufficient to release all liens claimed against the real property, including the broker's claim for lien, then the parties are not required to establish the escrow account under this section.

- (q) The provisions of subsections (a) and (b) of this section shall not apply to any (1) person excepted from the provisions of this chapter by section 20-329 with respect to any acts performed by the person which are included in such exception; or (2) real estate broker or real estate salesperson who has provided services to the federal government, any political subdivision thereof, or any corporation, institution or quasi-governmental agency chartered by the federal government.
- (r) No broker is entitled to claim any lien under this section unless (1) after the broker is entitled to compensation, without contingencies other than closing or transfer of title, under the terms set forth in the written contract and not later than three days prior to the later of the date of the conveyance or lease as set forth in the real estate sales contract or lease or the actual date of the conveyance or the date when the tenant takes possession, the broker gives written notice of the claim for lien to the owner of the real property and to the prospective buyer or tenant that the broker is entitled to compensation under the terms set forth in the written contract and intends to claim a lien on the real property, or (2) the broker is unable to give written notice pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection because the identity of the prospective buyer or tenant cannot be ascertained by the broker after due diligence and reasonable effort. The notice shall be served upon the owner and upon the prospective buyer or tenant by any indifferent person, state marshal or other proper officer, by leaving with such owner and prospective buyer or at their usual places of abode a true and attested copy thereof. When there are two or more owners, or two or more prospective buyers, the notice shall be served on each owner and on each prospective buyer unless the identity of the prospective buyer cannot be ascertained by the broker after due diligence and reasonable effort.

Sec. 20-325b. Certain real estate agreements to contain notice regarding commissions. Requirements. Each written agreement which fixes the compensation to be paid to a real estate broker for the sale, lease or purchase of real property shall contain the following statement in not less than ten point boldface type or in a manner which otherwise stands out significantly from the text immediately preceding any provision of such agreement relating to compensation of the broker: "NOTICE: THE AMOUNT OR RATE OF REAL ESTATE BROKER COMPENSATION IS NOT FIXED BY LAW. IT IS SET BY EACH BROKER INDIVIDUALLY AND MAY BE NEGOTIABLE BETWEEN YOU AND THE BROKER."

<u>Sec. 20-325c. Real estate broker or salesperson acting as mortgage broker.</u> (a) As used in this section "residential real property" means one to four-family residential real estate located in this state.

- (b) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes to the contrary, no real estate broker or real estate salesperson, and no person affiliated with such broker or salesperson, who receives a fee, commission or other valuable consideration for the sale of residential real property, may receive a fee, commission or other valuable consideration for negotiating, soliciting, arranging, placing or finding a first mortgage loan for the buyer in connection with the same sale unless disclosure is made in accordance with the provisions of subsection (c) of this section. Any fee, commission or other valuable consideration received by such broker or salesperson for negotiating, soliciting, arranging, placing or finding a first mortgage loan shall (1) be related to the services actually performed, as determined by the Banking Commissioner by regulations adopted pursuant to chapter 54, (2) not be imposed for the referral of the buyer to the mortgage lender by such broker or salesperson, and (3) be paid directly to the broker or salesperson by the buyer rather than from the mortgage loan proceeds at the time of closing.
- (c) Any disclosure made pursuant to subsection (b) of this section shall be made to and acknowledged by the buyer prior to the time the buyer signs a contract with the real estate broker or salesperson for mortgage brokering services. Such disclosure shall include the following notice printed in at least ten-point boldface capital letters:
- I UNDERSTAND THAT THE REAL ESTATE BROKER OR SALESPERSON IN THIS TRANSACTION HAS OFFERED TO ASSIST ME IN FINDING A MORTGAGE LOAN. ADDITIONALLY, I UNDERSTAND THAT THIS REAL ESTATE BROKER OR SALESPERSON DOES NOT REPRESENT ANY PARTICULAR MORTGAGE LENDER AND WILL ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN THE BEST TERMS AVAILABLE WITHIN THE MORTGAGE LOAN MARKET FOR MY SPECIFIC HOME FINANCING NEEDS. IF THE REAL ESTATE BROKER OR SALESPERSON DOES NOT FULFILL HIS FIDUCIARY OBLIGATION I MAY FILE A COMPLAINT WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF BANKING. I ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT I MAY ATTEMPT TO FIND A MORTGAGE LOAN TO FINANCE THE PURCHASE OF MY HOME WITHOUT THE ASSISTANCE OF THE REAL ESTATE BROKER OR SALESPERSON IN WHICH CASE I WILL NOT BE OBLIGATED TO PAY A FEE TO THE REAL ESTATE BROKER OR SALESPERSON.
- (d) No mortgage lender may refuse to close a mortgage loan secured by residential real property because the buyer has not paid a fee, commission or other valuable consideration to a real estate broker or salesperson for negotiating, soliciting, arranging, placing or finding the first mortgage loan.

Sec. 20-325d. Disclosure of representation. Regulations. On and after January 1, 2018, a real estate broker or real estate salesperson licensed under this chapter who represents a seller, lessor, prospective purchaser or lessee in a real estate transaction shall disclose, in writing, the identity of his or her client to any party to the transaction who is not represented by another real estate broker or real estate salesperson licensed under this chapter. The real estate broker or real estate salesperson shall make the disclosure required under this section: (1) If the transaction concerns residential real property, as defined in section 20-325c, (A) at the beginning of the first personal meeting concerning the prospective purchaser's or lessee's specific needs in the transaction, or (B) at the beginning of the first personal meeting with the seller or lessor concerning the seller's or lessor's real property; or (2) if the transaction is a commercial real estate transaction, as defined in section 20-311, before the prospective purchaser or lessee signs the purchase contract or lease. Such disclosure shall be signed by a prospective purchaser or lessee and attached to any offer or agreement to purchase or lease signed by a prospective purchaser or lessee. The Commissioner of Consumer Protection shall adopt such regulations, in accordance with chapter 54, as the commissioner deems necessary to carry out the provisions of this section.

Sec. 20-325e. Hearings re real property claims for liens. Foreclosures. Judicial intervention. (a) Whenever one or more real property claims for liens are placed upon any real estate pursuant to section 20-325a, the owner of the real estate, if no action to foreclose the claim is then pending before any court, may make application, together with a proposed order and summons, to the superior court for the judicial district in which the lien may be foreclosed under the provisions of section 20-325a or to any judge thereof, that a hearing or hearings be held to determine whether the claim for lien or liens should be discharged or reduced. The court or judge shall thereupon order reasonable notice of the application to be given to the lienor or lienors named therein and, if the application is not made by all owners of the real estate as may appear of record, shall order reasonable notice of the application to be given to all other such owners, and shall set a date or dates for the hearing or hearings to be held thereon. If the lienor or lienors or any owner entitled to notice is not a resident of this state, the notice shall be given by personal service, registered or certified mail, publication or such other method as the court or judge shall direct. At least four days' notice shall be given to the lienor, lienors or owners entitled to notice prior to the date of the hearing.

(b) The application, order and summons shall be substantially in the following form:

APPLICATION FOR DISCHARGE OR REDUCTION OF REAL PROPERTY CLAIM FOR LIEN

To the Court of

The undersigned represents:

- 1. That is the owner of the real estate described in Schedule A attached hereto.
- 2. That the names and addresses of all other owners of record of such real estate are as follows:
- 3. That on or about, (date), (name of lienor) of (address of lienor) placed a real property claim for lien on such real estate and gave notice thereof.
- 4. That there is not probable cause to sustain the validity of such claim for lien (or: That such claim for lien is excessive).
- 5. That the applicant seeks an order for discharge (or reduction) of such claim for lien.

Name of Applicant By Attorney

ORDER

The above application having been presented to the court, it is hereby ordered, that a hearing be held thereon at a.m. and that the applicant give notice to the following persons: (Names and addresses of persons entitled to notice) of the pendency of said application and of the time when it will be heard by causing a true and attested copy of the application, and of this order to be served upon such persons by some proper officer or indifferent person on or before and that due return of such notice be made to this court.

Dated at this day of 20...

SUMMONS

To the state marshal of the county of or either constable of the town of, in said county, **Greeting:**

By authority of the state of Connecticut, you are hereby commanded to serve a true and attested copy of the above application and order upon, of by leaving the same in such person's hands or at such person's usual place of abode (or such other notice as ordered by the court) on or before

Hereof fail not but due service and return make.

Dated at this day of 20...

Commissioner of the Superior Court

- (1) The clerk upon receipt of all the documents in duplicate, if the clerk finds them to be in proper form, shall fix a date for a hearing on the application and sign the order of hearing and notice. An entry fee of twenty dollars shall then be collected and a copy of the original document shall be placed in the court file.
- (2) The clerk shall deliver to the applicant's attorney the original of the documents for service. Service having been made, the original documents shall be returned to the court with the endorsement by the officer of such officer's actions.
- (c) If an action for foreclosure of the claim for lien is pending before any court, any party to that action may at any time prior to trial, unless an application under subsection (a) of this section has previously been ruled upon, move that the claim for lien be discharged or reduced.
- (d) No more than one application under subsection (a) of this section or motion under subsection (c) of this section shall be ruled upon with respect to any single real property claim for lien, except that this subsection shall not preclude an application or motion by a person not given notice of the prior application or not a party to the action at the time the prior motion was ruled upon.

Sec. 20-325f. Broker subagency. Written consent of client required. Vicarious liability of principal. No real estate broker shall make any unilateral offer of subagency or agree to compensate, appoint, employ, cooperate with or otherwise affiliate with a subagent for the sale or purchase of real property without the informed written consent of the person whom the real estate broker represents. Such written consent shall contain the name and real estate license number of the real estate broker to be appointed as the subagent and shall contain a statement notifying the person whom the real estate broker represents that the law imposes vicarious liability on the principal for the acts of the subagent.

Sec. 20-325g. Dual agency consent agreements. Conclusive presumption of informed consent. There shall be a conclusive presumption that a person has given informed consent to a dual agency relationship with a real estate broker if that person executes a written consent in the following form prior to executing any contract or agreement for the purchase, sale or lease of real estate:

DUAL AGENCY CONSENT AGREEMENT

Property Address:
Seller(s) or Landlord(s):
Buyer(s) or Tenant(s):

- (1) This Dual Agency Consent Agreement is an addendum to and make part of (check all that apply):
- () Listing Agreement dated between brokerage firm and seller or landlord.
- () Buyer or tenant agency agreement dated between brokerage firm and buyer or tenant.
- (2) Seller and buyer (or landlord and tenant, as the case may be) hereby acknowledge and agree that (name of brokerage firm) is representing both buyer and seller (or landlord and tenant, as the case may be) in the purchase and sale (or lease) of the above referenced property and that brokerage firm has been and is now the agent of both seller and buyer (or landlord and tenant, as the case may be). Seller and buyer (or landlord and tenant, as the case may be) have both consented to and hereby confirm their consent to this dual representation.
- (3) Seller and buyer (or landlord and tenant, as the case may be) agree: (A) The brokerage firm shall not be required to and shall not disclose to either buyer or seller (or landlord or tenant, as the case may be) any personal, financial or other confidential information to such other party without the express written consent of the party whose information is disclosed, other than information related to material property defects which are known to the brokerage firm and other information the brokerage firm is required to disclose by law. (B) The brokerage firm may not disclose: (i) To the buyer that the seller (landlord) will accept less than the asking or listed price, unless otherwise instructed to do so in writing by the seller (landlord); (ii) to the seller (landlord) that the buyer (tenant) can or will pay a price greater than the price submitted in a written offer to the seller (landlord), unless otherwise instructed to do so in writing by the buyer (tenant); (iii) the motivation of the seller or buyer (or landlord or tenant, as the case may be) for selling, buying or leasing property, unless otherwise instructed in writing by the respective party; or (iv) that a seller or buyer will agree to financing terms other than those offered, unless instructed in writing by the respective party.

- (4) Property information available through the multiple listing service or otherwise, including listed and sold properties, which has been requested by either the seller or the buyer (or landlord or tenant, as the case may be) shall be disclosed to both seller and buyer (or landlord and tenant, as the case may be).
- (5) Both parties are advised to seek competent legal and tax advice with regard to this transaction, and with regard to all documents executed in connection with this transaction, including this Dual Agency Consent Agreement.

I have read and understand the above agreement.

Buyer	Seller	Brokerage Firm
(Landlord)	(Tenant)	
		••••
		(Authorized Representative)
••••	••••	••••
		(Company Name)
		••••
Date	Date	Date

<u>Sec. 20-325h. Prohibitions on use or disclosure of confidential information.</u> (a) No real estate licensee shall: (1) Reveal confidential information concerning a person whom the real estate licensee represented either as an agent, designated buyer agent or a designated seller agent; (2) use confidential information concerning that person to the person's disadvantage; or (3) use confidential information concerning that person for the real estate broker's or real estate salesperson's advantage or the advantage of a third party, except as required by legal process, as necessary to defend the real estate broker or real estate salesperson from allegations of wrongful or negligent conduct, or as necessary to prevent the commission of a crime.

(b) As used in this section, "confidential information" means facts concerning a person's assets, liabilities, income, expenses, motivations to purchase, rent or sell real property and previous offers received or made to purchase or lease real property which are not authorized by the client, a matter of general knowledge, part of a public record or file to which access is authorized pursuant to section 1-210 or otherwise subject to disclosure under any other provision of the general statutes or any regulation of Connecticut state agencies.

Sec. 20-325i. Designated buyer agents and seller agents. Any real estate broker, or a person licensed under this chapter authorized by such broker, may appoint, at the option of such broker or authorized person, one or more designated seller agents as additional agents for a seller or landlord or a designated buyer agent as an additional agent for a buyer or tenant. Such designation may be made with regard to a particular transaction only. Upon such designation, the responsibility to satisfy the respective duties as a seller's or landlord's agent or as a buyer's or tenant's agent shall be the primary responsibility of the individual so designated, who shall not be deemed a dual agent, except in the case of an individual designated to represent both a seller and buyer in the same transaction. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit other forms of agency relationships allowed by law.

<u>Sec.</u> 20-325j. Regulations re appointment of designated buyer or seller agent. On or before October 1, 1999, the Commissioner of Consumer Protection shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to prescribe (1) a form of written notice to be issued to the consumer upon the appointment of a designated seller agent or designated buyer agent, and (2) a form of written consent to be signed by all parties.

Sec. 20-325k. Commercial real estate transactions. Notice of commission rights. (a) If a landlord or tenant in a commercial real estate transaction enters into an agreement pursuant to subsection (b) or (c) of section 20-325a for the payment of compensation, or the promise of payment, to a real estate broker in consideration for brokerage services rendered in connection with the consummation of a written lease, then notwithstanding any provision of law under which such compensation may otherwise be considered the personal obligation of the original landlord or tenant specifically named in the written lease, the agreement shall constitute a binding contractual obligation of such landlord or tenant, as the case may be, and the landlord's or tenant's grantees, successors and assigns. Upon any sale, transfer, assignment or other disposition, including, but not limited to, any such disposition by reason of the enforcement of a mortgage, lien, deed to secure debt or other security instrument of a landlord's interest in real property or upon any sale, assignment, transfer or other disposition of a tenant's leasehold interest, the succeeding party shall be bound for all obligations under such agreement accruing after the sale, transfer, assignment or other disposition with the same effect as if such succeeding party had expressly assumed the landlord's or tenant's obligations relating to the written agreement if: (1) The real estate broker has complied with the

provisions of subsections (b) to (d), inclusive, of this section; (2) the succeeding party assumes the benefits of the tenancy; and (3) the agreement has not been waived in writing by the real estate broker.

(b) A real estate broker shall be entitled to the protections afforded by this section only upon the broker's recording a notice of commission rights in the land records in the office of the town clerk in the town in which the real property or leasehold interest is located not later than sixty days after the execution of the lease, the tenant's occupancy of the leased premises, or the rent commencement date specified in the lease, whichever is later. The notice of commission rights shall (1) be filed before conveyance of the real property, (2) be signed by the real estate broker or by a person expressly authorized to sign on behalf of the broker, and (3) be in substantially the following form:

NOTICE OF COMMISSION RIGHTS

The undersigned licensed Connecticut real estate broker does hereby publish this NOTICE OF COMMISSION RIGHTS to establish that the lease referenced below was procured by a real estate broker pursuant to a written brokerage commission agreement providing for the payment or promise of payment of compensation for brokerage services.

Owner:
Landlord:
Tenant:
Lease date:
Lease term:
Project or building name (if any):

Real estate broker name
Address
Telephone number
Real estate license number....

- (c) Not later than thirty days after the real estate broker receives final payment of commissions due under the written brokerage commission agreement, the real estate broker shall provide the owner, tenant or mortgagee a statement, in a form suitable for recording on the land records, that indicates that the broker's commission rights are terminated.
- (d) Notwithstanding any provision of this section, nothing in this section shall be construed to create a lien on the real property that is the subject of the lease.

Sec. 20-325l. Cooperation with out-of-state brokers and salespersons regarding commercial real estate transactions in this state. (a) As used in this section: (1) "Licensed broker" means a person licensed under this chapter as a real estate broker, (2) "licensed salesperson" means a person licensed under this chapter as a real estate salesperson, (3) "out-of-state broker" means a person licensed in another state as a real estate broker who is not licensed as a real estate broker under this chapter, (4) "out-of-state salesperson" means a person licensed in another state as a real estate salesperson who is not licensed as a real estate salesperson under this chapter, (5) "person" means a person, as defined in section 20-311, and (6) "advertising" means advertising, as defined in section 20-329a.

- (b) An out-of-state broker may perform acts with respect to a commercial real estate transaction that require a license under this chapter, provided the out-of-state broker complies with the laws of this state with respect to the transaction and:
- (1) Works in cooperation with a licensed broker, whether in a co-brokerage, referral or other cooperative agreement or arrangement;
- (2) Enters into a written agreement with a licensed broker that includes the terms of cooperation and any compensation to be paid by the licensed broker and a statement that the out-of-state broker and the out-of-state broker's agents will comply with the laws of this state;
- (3) Provides the licensed broker a copy of the out-of-state broker's license or other proof of licensure from the jurisdictions where the out-of-state broker maintains a license as a real estate broker; and
- (4) Deposits all escrow funds, security deposits, and other money received pursuant to the commercial real estate transaction to be held as provided in section 20-324k unless the agreement required in subdivision (2) of this subsection specifies otherwise.
- (c) An out-of-state salesperson may perform acts with respect to a commercial real estate transaction that require a license as a real estate salesperson under this chapter, provided the out-of-state salesperson complies with the laws of this state with respect to the transaction and:
- (1) Works under the direct supervision of an out-of-state broker who meets the requirements set forth in subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of this section; and
- (2) Provides the licensed broker who is working in cooperation with the out-of-state broker a copy of the out-of-state salesperson's license or other proof of licensure from the jurisdictions where the out-of-state salesperson maintains a license as a real estate salesperson.

- (d) Any out-of-state broker or out-of-state salesperson licensed in a state that has no distinction between a real estate broker license and a real estate salesperson license shall be subject to the requirements of subsection (b) of this section with regard to any commercial real estate transaction in this state.
- (e) Each out-of-state broker or out-of-state salesperson that advertises for sale commercial real estate pursuant to this section shall include in any advertising material the name of the licensed broker with whom the out-of-state broker has a written agreement pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of this section. Nothing in this section shall permit an out-of-state broker or out-of-state salesperson to accompany a prospective buyer at the site of commercial real estate pursuant to a real estate transaction in this state.

Sec. 20-325m. Real estate brokers to retain certain real estate transaction records. Any real estate broker licensed under the provisions of this chapter who engages in the real estate business, as defined in section 20-311, shall retain the following records for a period of not less than seven years after any real estate transaction closes, all funds held in escrow for such transaction are disbursed or the listing agreement or buyer or tenant representation agreement expires, whichever occurs later: (1) All purchase contracts, leases, options, written offers or counteroffers drafted by such broker or on behalf of such broker; (2) the listing agreement or buyer or tenant representation agreement, any extensions of or amendments to such agreements and any disclosures or agreements required pursuant to sections 20-325a to 20-325l, inclusive; and (3) all canceled checks, unused checks, checkbooks and bank statements for any escrow or trust account maintained pursuant to section 20-324k. Such records may be retained in any format, electronic or otherwise, capable of producing an accurate copy in paper format of the original document.

Sec. 20-326. Report to Governor. The commission shall submit to the Governor, as provided in section 4-60, a report of its official acts under this chapter. The commission shall keep a record of proceedings and orders pertaining to the matters under its jurisdiction and of licenses granted, refused, suspended or revoked by the commission and of all reports sent to its office. The commission shall furnish without charge, for official use only, certified copies of licenses and documents relating to such licenses, to officials of the state or any municipality in this state, to officials of any other state and to any court in this state. Any certified copy of any document or record of the commission, attested as a true copy by the chairman of the commission, shall be competent evidence in any court of this state of the facts contained in such copy.

Sec. 20-327a. Periodic publication of information and material. The Department of Consumer Protection, at the request of the commission, may periodically compile and publish a bulletin containing information and material relating to the commission, its functions and licenses and other information and material relating to the real estate industry that may be of help and interest to licensees in their service of the public. The commission may also request the department to publish such information and material in any established periodical published in the state if, in the opinion of the commission, such form of publication would ensure the widest dissemination of such information and material to licensees and the public.

Sec. 20-327b. Residential condition report. Exemption. Template. (a) Except as otherwise provided in this section, each person who offers residential property in the state for sale, exchange or for lease with option to buy, shall provide a written residential condition report or reports to the prospective purchaser at any time prior to the prospective purchaser's execution of any binder, contract to purchase, option or lease containing a purchase option. A photocopy, duplicate original, facsimile transmission or other exact reproduction or duplicate of the written residential condition report or reports containing the prospective purchaser's written receipt shall be attached to any written offer, binder or contract to purchase. A photocopy, duplicate original, facsimile transmission or other exact reproduction or duplicate of the written residential condition report or reports containing the signatures of both seller and purchaser shall be attached to any agreement to purchase the property.

- (b) The following shall be exempt from the provisions of this section: (1) Any transfer from one or more co-owners solely to one or more of the co-owners; (2) transfers made to the spouse, mother, father, brother, sister, child, grandparent or grandchild of the transferor where no consideration is paid; (3) transfers of newly-constructed residential real property for which an implied warranty is provided under chapter 827; (4) transfers made by executors, administrators, trustees or conservators; (5) transfers by the federal government, any political subdivision thereof or any corporation, institution or quasi-governmental agency chartered by the federal government; (6) transfers by this state; (7) except as provided in subsections (g) and (h) of this section, transfers by any political subdivision of this state; (8) transfers of property which was the subject of a contract or option entered into prior to January 1, 1996; and (9) except as provided in subsections (g) and (h) of this section, any transfer of property acquired by a judgment of strict foreclosure or by foreclosure by sale or by a deed in lieu of foreclosure.
- (c) The provisions of this section shall apply only to transfers by sale, exchange or lease with option to buy, of residential real property consisting of not less than one nor more than four dwelling units which shall include cooperatives and condominiums, and shall apply to all transfers, with or without the assistance of a licensed real estate broker or salesperson, as defined in section 20-311.

- (d) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection shall, within available appropriations, prescribe the written residential condition reports required by this section and sections 20-327c to 20-327e, inclusive, as amended by this act. The written residential condition reports shall be based upon templates that the Commissioner shall prescribe. Such templates shall: Fit on pages being not more than eight and one-half inches in height and eleven inches in width, with type size no smaller than nine-point type, other than checkboxes or section headers, which may be in a smaller size; include the address of the subject property on each page; include page numbers on each page; include section headings in bold type and include space for the buyer and the seller's initials on each page, except the signature page. Each written residential condition report, other than the written residential condition report required pursuant to subsections (g) and (h) of this section, shall contain the following, in the order indicated:
 - (1) A section entitled "Instructions to Sellers"

You MUST answer ALL questions to the best of your knowledge.

Identify/Disclose any problems regarding the subject property.

YOUR REAL ESTATE LICENSEE CANNOT COMPLETE THIS FORM ON YOUR BEHALF.

UNK means Unknown, N/A means Not Applicable.

If you need additional space to complete any answer or explanation, attach additional page(s) to this form. Include subject property address, seller's name and the date.

- (2) Pursuant to the Uniform Property Condition Disclosure Act, the seller is obligated to answer the following questions and to disclose herein any knowledge of any problem regarding the following:
- (A) A subsection entitled "Subject Property"
- (i) Name of seller(s)
- (ii) Street address, municipality, zip code
- (B) A subsection entitled "General Information"
- (i) Indicate the YEAR the structure was built:
- (ii) Indicate HOW LONG you have occupied the property: If not applicable, indicate with N/A.
- (iii) Does anyone else claim to own any part of your property, including, but not limited to, any encroachment(s)? If YES, explain:
- (iv) Does anyone other than you have or claim to have any right to use any part of your property, including, but not limited to, any easement or right-of-way? If YES, explain:
- (v) Is the property in a flood hazard area or an inland wetlands area? If YES, explain:
- (vi) Do you have any reason to believe that the municipality in which the subject property is located may impose any assessment for purposes such as sewer installation, sewer improvements, water main installation, water main improvements, sidewalks or other improvements? If YES, explain:
- (vii) Is the property located in a municipally designated village district, municipally designated historic district or listed on the National Register of Historic Places? If YES, explain:
- (viii) Special Statement: Information concerning village districts and historic districts may be obtained from the municipality's village or historic district commission, if applicable.
- (ix) Is the property located in a special tax district? If YES, please explain:
- (x) Is the property subject to any type of land use restrictions, other than those contained within the property's chain of title or that are necessary to comply with state laws or municipal zoning? If YES, explain:
- (xi) Is the property located in a common interest community? If YES, is it subject to any community or association dues or fees? Please explain:
- (xii) Do you have any knowledge of prior or pending litigation, government agency or administrative actions, orders or liens on the property related to the release of any hazardous substance? If YES, please explain:
- (C) A subsection entitled "Leased Equipment"

Does the property include any Leased or Rented Equipment that would necessitate or obligate either of the following: The assignment or transfer of the lease or rental agreement(s) to the buyer or the replacement or substitution of the equipment by the buyer? If YES, indicate by checking ALL items that apply: PROPANE FUEL TANK; WATER HEATER; SECURITY ALARM SYSTEM; FIRE ALARM SYSTEM; SATELLITE DISH ANTENNA; WATER TREATMENT SYSTEM; SOLAR DEVICES; MAJOR APPLIANCES; OTHER

- (D) A subsection entitled "Mechanical/Utility Systems"
- (i) Heating system problems? If YES, explain. List Fuel Types.

- (ii) Hot water heater Type: Age: Hot water problems? If YES, explain:
- (iii) Is there an underground storage tank? If YES, give AGE of tank and LOCATION.
- (iv) Are you aware of any problems with the underground storage tank? If YES, explain:
- (v) During the time you have owned the property, has there ever been an underground storage tank located on the property? If YES, has it been removed? If YES, what was the date of removal and what was the name and address of the person or business who removed such underground storage tank? Provide any and all written documentation of such removal within your control or possession by attaching a copy of such documentation to this form.
- (vi) Air conditioning problems? If YES, explain: Air conditioning Type: Central; Window; Other
- (vii) Plumbing system problems? If YES, explain:
- (viii) Electrical System problems? If YES, explain:
- (ix) Electronic security system problems? If YES, explain:
- (x) Are there carbon monoxide or smoke detectors located in a dwelling on the property? If YES, state the NUMBER of such detectors and whether there have been problems with such detectors;
- (xi) Fire sprinkler system problems? If YES, explain:
- (E) A subsection entitled "Water System"
- (i) Domestic Water System Type: Public; Private Well; Other
- (ii) If Public Water:
- (I) Is there a separate expense/fee for water usage? If YES, is the expense/fee for water usage flat or metered? Give the AMOUNT and explain:
- (II) Are there any UNPAID water charges? If YES, state the amount unpaid:
- (iii) If Private Well: Has the well water been tested for contaminants/volatile organic compounds? If YES, attach a copy of the report.
- (iv) If Public Water or Private Well: Are you aware of any problems with the well, or with the water quality, quantity, recovery, or pressure? If YES, explain:
- (F) A subsection entitled "Sewage Disposal System"
- (i) Sewage Disposal System Type: Public; Septic; Cesspool; Other
- (ii) If Public Sewer:
- (I) Is there a separate charge made for sewer use? If YES, is it Flat or Metered?
- (II) If it is a Flat amount, state amount and due dates:
- (III) Are there any UNPAID sewer charges? If any unpaid sewer charges, state the amount:
- (iii) If Private:
- (I) Name of service company
- (II) Date last pumped: AND frequency:
- (III) For any sewage system, are there problems? If YES, explain:
- (G) A subsection entitled "Asbestos/Lead"
- (i) Are asbestos containing insulation or building materials present? If YES, location:
- (ii) Is lead paint present? If YES, location:
- (iii) Is lead plumbing present? If YES, location:
- (H) A subsection entitled "Building/Structure/Improvements"
- (i) Is the foundation made of concrete? If NO, explain:
- (ii) Foundation/Slab problems or settling? If YES, explain:
- (iii) Basement Water Seepage/Dampness? If YES, explain Amount, Frequency and Location:
- (iv) Sump pump problems? If YES, explain:
- (v) Do you have any knowledge of any testing or inspection done by a licensed professional related to a foundation on the property? If YES, disclose the testing or inspection method, the areas or locations that were tested or inspected, the results of such testing or inspection and attach a copy of the report concerning such testing or inspection.
- (vi) Do you have any knowledge of any repairs related to a foundation on the property? If YES, describe such repairs, disclose the areas repaired and attach a copy of the report concerning such repairs.
- (vii) Do you have any knowledge related to the presence of pyrrhotite in a foundation on the property? If YES, explain:
- (viii) Roof type; Age?
- (ix) Roof leaks? If YES, explain:
- (x) Exterior siding problems? If YES, explain:

- (xi) Chimney, Fireplace, Wood or Coal Stove problems? If YES, explain:
- (xii) Patio/deck problems? If YES, explain:
- (xiii) If constructed of Wood, is the Wood Treated or Untreated?
- (xiv) Driveway problems? If YES, explain:
- (xv) Water drainage problems? If YES, explain:
- (xvi) Interior Floor, Wall and/or Ceiling problems? If YES, explain:
- (xvii) Fire and/or Smoke damage? If YES, explain:
- (xviii) Termite, Insect, Rodent or Pest Infestation problems? If YES, explain:
- (xix) Rot or Water damage problems? If YES, explain:
- (xx) Is house insulated? If YES, Type: Location:
- (xxi) Has a test for Radon been performed? If YES, attach a copy of the report.
- (xxii) Is there a Radon Control System in place? If YES, explain:
- (xxiii) Has a Radon control system been in place in the previous 12 months? If YES, explain:
- (I) The Seller should attach additional pages to further explain any item(s) above. Indicate here the number of additional pages attached:
- (J) Questions contained in subparagraphs (A) to (I), inclusive, of this subdivision shall contain checkboxes indicating "yes", "no", "not applicable" or "unknown".
- (3) The written residential condition report shall contain the following immediately below the questions contained in subparagraphs (A) to (I), inclusive, of subdivision (2) of this subsection:

A certification by the seller in the following form:

SELLER'S CERTIFICATION

"To the extent of the seller's knowledge as a property owner, the seller acknowledges that the information contained above is true and accurate for those areas of the property listed. In the event a real estate broker or salesperson is utilized, the seller authorizes the brokers or salespersons to provide the above information to prospective buyers, selling agents or buyers' agents.

.... (Date) (Seller) (Seller)"

(4) The written residential disclosure report shall contain the following in a separate section immediately below the seller's certification:

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

(A) RESPONSIBILITIES OF REAL ESTATE BROKERS

This report in no way relieves a real estate broker of the broker's obligation under the provisions of section 20-328-5a of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies to disclose any material facts. Failure to do so could result in punitive action taken against the broker, such as fines, suspension or revocation of license.

(B) STATEMENTS NOT TO CONSTITUTE A WARRANTY

Any representations made by the seller on the written residential condition report shall not constitute a warranty to the buyer.

(C) NATURE OF REPORT

This Residential Property Condition Report is not a substitute for inspections, tests and other methods of determining the physical condition of property.

(D) INFORMATION ON THE RESIDENCE OF CONVICTED FELONS

Information concerning the residence address of a person convicted of a crime may be available from law enforcement agencies or the Department of Public Safety.

(E) BUILDING PERMITS AND CERTIFICATES OF OCCUPANCY

Prospective buyers should consult with the municipal building official in the municipality in which the property is located to confirm that building permits and certificates of occupancy have been issued for work on the property.

(F) HOME INSPECTION

Buyers should have the property inspected by a licensed home inspector.

(G) CONCRETE FOUNDATION

Prospective buyers may have a concrete foundation inspected by a licensed professional engineer who is a structural engineer for deterioration of the foundation due to the presence of pyrrhotite.

(5) The written residential condition report shall contain the following immediately below the statements contained in subparagraphs (A) to (G), inclusive, of subdivision (4) of this subsection:

A certification by the buyer in the following form:

BUYER'S CERTIFICATION

"The buyer is urged to carefully inspect the property and, if desired, to have the property inspected by an expert. The buyer understands that there are areas of the property for which the seller has no knowledge and that this report does not encompass those areas. The buyer also acknowledges that the buyer has read and received a signed copy of this report from the seller or seller's agent.

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.... (Date) .... (Seller) .... (Date) .... (Seller)"
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- (e) On or after January 1, 1996, the Commissioner of Consumer Protection shall make available the written residential condition reports prescribed in accordance with the provisions of this section and sections 20-327c to 20-327e, inclusive, as amended by this act, to the Division of Real Estate, all municipal town clerks, the Connecticut Association of Realtors, Inc., and any other person or institution that the commissioner believes would aid in the dissemination and distribution of such forms. The commissioner shall also cause information concerning such forms and the completion of such forms to be disseminated in a manner best calculated, in the commissioner's judgment, to reach members of the public, attorneys and real estate licensees.
- (f) Any written residential condition report prescribed in accordance with the provisions of this section and sections 20-327c to 20-327e, inclusive, as amended by this act, shall take effect for new listings thirty days following posting of the notice regarding such report on the Department of Consumer Protection's Internet web site.
- (g) In any transfer of residential real property that is located in a municipality that the Capitol Region Council of Governments determines is affected, or potentially affected, by crumbling foundations and was acquired by a political subdivision of this state or was acquired by a judgment of strict foreclosure or by foreclosure by sale or by a deed in lieu of foreclosure, the owner or political subdivision shall, through a written residential condition report described in subsection (h) of this section, disclose to the prospective purchaser of such real property, at any time prior to the prospective purchaser's execution of any binder, contract to purchase, option or lease containing a purchase option, any facts that are within such owner's or political subdivision's actual knowledge concerning:
- (1) The presence of pyrrhotite in any concrete foundation on such property;
- (2) Any damage or deterioration in any concrete foundation on such property, including, but not limited to, any damage or deterioration caused by the presence of pyrrhotite in any foundation on such property; and
- (3) Any repairs or remediation to any concrete foundation on such property.
- (h) In any transfer of residential real property that is located in a municipality that the Capitol Region Council of Governments determines is affected, or potentially affected, by crumbling foundations and was acquired by a political subdivision of this state or was acquired by a judgment of strict

foreclosure or by foreclosure by sale or by a deed in lieu of foreclosure, the owner or political subdivision shall satisfy the provisions of subsection (g) of this section through a written residential condition report prescribed by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection pursuant to subsection (d) of this section, which report shall be entitled "Residential Foundation Condition Report" and exclusively contain the following in the following order:

(1) A section entitled "Instructions to Sellers"

You MUST answer ALL questions based on your knowledge. You are not required to undertake investigations or inspections of the foundation to verify your answers.

YOUR REAL ESTATE LICENSEE CANNOT COMPLETE THIS FORM ON YOUR BEHALF. UNK means Unknown, N/A means Not Applicable.

If you need additional space to complete any answer or explanation, attach additional page(s) to this form. Include subject property address, seller's name and the date.

- (2) Pursuant to the Uniform Property Condition Disclosure Act, the seller is obligated to answer the following questions and to disclose herein any knowledge of any problem regarding the following:
- (A) A subsection entitled "Subject Property"
- (i) Name of seller(s)
- (ii) Street address, municipality, zip code
- (B) A subsection entitled "Information About the Foundation"
- (i) Do you have any knowledge related to the presence of pyrrhotite in any concrete foundation on the subject property? If YES, explain:
- (ii) Are you aware of any damage or deterioration in any concrete foundation on the subject property, including, but not limited to, any damage or deterioration caused by the presence of pyrrhotite in any concrete foundation on the property? If YES, explain:
- (iii) Are you aware of any repairs or remediation to any concrete foundation on the subject property? If YES, explain:
- (3) In a separate section immediately below the questions contained in subdivision (2) of this subsection, the following information in the following form:

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

(A) RESPONSIBILITIES OF REAL ESTATE BROKERS

This report in no way relieves a real estate broker of the broker's obligation under the provisions of section 20-328-5a of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies to disclose any material facts. Failure to do so could result in punitive action taken against the broker, such as fines, suspension or revocation of license.

(B) STATEMENTS NOT TO CONSTITUTE A WARRANTY

Any representations made by the seller in this residential foundation condition report shall not constitute a warranty to the buyer.

(C) NATURE OF REPORT

This report is not a substitute for inspections, tests and other methods of determining the physical condition of the foundation. Prospective buyers may have a concrete foundation inspected by a licensed professional engineer who is a structural engineer for deterioration of the foundation due to the presence of pyrrhotite.

(4) Immediately following the information contained in subdivision (3) of this subsection, a certification by the buyer in the following form:

BUYER'S CERTIFICATION

"The buyer is urged to carefully inspect the foundation and, if desired, to have the foundation inspected by an expert. The buyer understands that there are parts of the property, including the foundation, for which the seller has no knowledge and that this report does not encompass those parts. The buyer also acknowledges that the buyer has read and reviewed a signed copy of this report from the seller or the seller's agent.

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.... (Date) .... (Buyer) .... (Date) .... (Buyer)"
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(5) Immediately below the buyer's certification, a certification by the seller in the following form:

SELLER'S CERTIFICATION

"To the extent of the seller's knowledge as an owner of a property acquired through foreclosure or deed in lieu of foreclosure, the seller acknowledges that the information contained above is true and accurate. In the event a real estate broker or salesperson is utilized, the seller authorizes the broker or salesperson to provide the above information to prospective buyers, selling agents or buyers' agents.

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.... (Date) .... (Seller) .... (Date) .... (Seller)"
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- <u>Sec. 20-327c. Credit due purchaser at closing if report not furnished</u>. (a) On or after January 1, 1996, every agreement to purchase residential real estate, for which a written residential condition report is, or written residential condition reports are, required pursuant to section 20-327b, as amended by this act, shall include a requirement that the seller credit the purchaser with the sum of five hundred dollars at closing should the seller fail to furnish the written residential condition report or reports as required by sections 20-327b to 20-327e, inclusive, as amended by this act.
- (b) (1) No seller who credits a purchaser pursuant to subsection (a) of this section shall, by reason of such credit, be excused from disclosing to the purchaser any defect in the residential real estate if such defect:
- (A) Is subject to disclosure pursuant to section 20-327b, as amended by this act;
- (B) Is within the seller's actual knowledge of such residential real estate; and
- (C) Significantly impairs (i) the value of such residential real estate, (ii) the health or safety of future occupants of such residential real estate, or (iii) the useful life of such residential real estate.
- (2) A purchaser may, without limiting any other remedies available to the purchaser, bring a civil action in the judicial district in which the residential real estate is located to recover actual damages from a seller who fails to disclose any defect described in subdivision (1) of this subsection to such purchaser.
- Sec. 20-327d. No new implied or express warranties created. Seller not required to secure inspections, tests or other methods of determining condition of property. No provision of section 20-327b or 20-327c: (1) Shall be construed to create any new implied or express warranties on behalf of the seller of the property; or (2) shall be construed to require the seller of the property to secure inspections, tests or other methods of determining the physical conditions of the property.
- <u>Sec. 20-327e. Seller's representations construed to extend to his actual knowledge only</u>. The representations made by the seller pursuant to section 20-327b or 20-327c shall be construed only to extend to the seller's actual knowledge of the property and no constructive knowledge shall be imputed to the seller.
- Sec. 20-327f. Notice re existence of hazardous waste facilities. Liability not imposed by section. Seller and licensee not required to participate in compiling list of facilities. (a) With respect to a contract for the sale of a one-to-four family residential real property, if the seller provides written notice to the purchaser, prior to, or upon, entering into the contract, of the availability of the lists of hazardous waste facilities pursuant to section 22a-134f, the seller and any real estate licensee shall be deemed to have fully satisfied any duty to disclose the presence of all hazardous waste facilities, as defined in section 22a-134f even if: (1) The list required to be submitted pursuant to section 22a-134f has not been submitted, (2) the list has not been received or made available as required in section 22a-134f, or (3) there is an error, omission or inaccuracy in the list.
- (b) With respect to a contract for the sale of a one-to-four family residential real property, if the seller provides written notice to the purchaser, prior to, or upon, entering into the contract, of the availability of information concerning

environmental matters from the federal Environmental Protection Agency, the National Response Center, the Department of Defense and third-party providers, the seller and any real estate licensee shall be deemed to have fully satisfied any duty to disclose environmental matters concerning properties other than the property that is the subject of the contract.

- (c) Nothing in this section shall be construed to impose liability on a seller or real estate licensee for failing to disclose the existence of hazardous waste facilities, as defined in section 22a-134f or information concerning environmental matters as specified in subsection (b) of this section.
- (d) No seller or real estate licensee shall be required to compile, or contribute to the compilation of, in whole or in part, the list required pursuant to section 22a-134f.

Sec. 20-327g. Notice of list of properties upon which hunting or shooting sports regularly take place. Liability not imposed by section. (a) With respect to a contract for the sale of a one-to-four family residential real property, if the seller provides written notice to the purchaser, prior to, or upon, entering into the contract, that a list of local properties upon which hunting or shooting sports regularly take place may be available at the office of the town clerk, the seller and any real estate licensee shall be deemed to have fully satisfied any duty to disclose the presence of local properties upon which hunting or shooting sports regularly take place, even if (1) the list is not available at the office of the town clerk, or (2) there is an error, omission or inaccuracy in the list.

- (b) Nothing in this section shall be construed to impose liability on a seller or real estate licensee for failing to disclose the existence of properties upon which hunting or shooting sports regularly take place.
- (c) No seller or real estate licensee shall be required to compile, or contribute to the compilation of, in whole or in part, the list of properties upon which hunting or shooting sports regularly take place.

<u>Sec. 20-327h. Notice re housing discrimination and fair housing laws.</u> (a) On or before July 1, 2016, the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities shall create a one-page disclosure form, written in plain language and in an easily readable and understandable format, containing information on housing discrimination and federal and state fair housing laws, and make such disclosure form available to the public on the Internet web site for the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities. Said commission shall review and update this disclosure form as necessary.

- (b) Commencing sixty days after the date on which the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities makes a disclosure form available pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, each person who offers a residential property containing two or more units in the state for sale, exchange or for lease with option to buy shall attach a photocopy, duplicate original, facsimile transmission or other exact reproduction or duplicate of such disclosure form, signed by the prospective purchaser, to any purchase agreement, option or lease containing a purchase option, at the time of closing.
- (c) Failure on the part of the person who offers the property for sale, exchange or lease with option to buy to attach the disclosure form required by subsection (b) of this section shall not void an otherwise valid purchase agreement, option or lease containing a purchase option.

<u>Sec. 20-328. Regulations</u>. The Commissioner of Consumer Protection, with advice and assistance from the commission, may adopt regulations, in accordance with chapter 54, relating to the form and manner of filing applications for licenses under this chapter and the manner in which licensed real estate brokers and licensed real estate salespersons shall conduct the real estate business.

<u>Sec. 20-329. Exceptions concerning the licensure of brokers and salespersons</u>. The provisions of this chapter concerning the licensure of real estate brokers and real estate salespersons shall not apply to:

- (1) Any person who as owner or lessor performs any of the acts enumerated in section 20-311, with reference to property owned, leased or sought to be acquired or leased by the person, or to the person's regular employees who are employed as on-site residential superintendents or custodians, with respect to the property so owned or leased or sought to be acquired or leased when such acts are performed in the regular course of, or incident to, the management of such property and the investment therein;
- (2) any person acting as attorney-in-fact under a duly executed power of attorney from the owner authorizing the final consummation by performance of any contract for the sale, leasing or exchange of real estate, or to service rendered by any attorney-at-law in the performance of the attorney-at-law's duties as such attorney-at-law;
- (3) a receiver, trustee in bankruptcy, administrator, executor or other fiduciary, while acting as such, or any person selling real estate under order of any court, or to a trustee acting under a trust agreement, deed of trust or will, or the regular salaried employees thereof;
- (4) witnesses in court as to the values of real estate;
- (5) persons in the employ of the federal or state government or any political subdivision thereof while acting in the course of such employment;
- (6) any employee of any nonprofit housing corporation that (A) has been certified as a tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding internal revenue code of the United

States, as from time to time amended, and manages a housing project, or (B) manages a housing project assisted in whole or in part by the federal government pursuant to Section 8 of The United States Housing Act of 1937, as amended from time to time, while such employee is performing duties in the regular course of, or incidental to, the management of such housing project;

- (7) any person licensed to maintain or operate a mobile manufactured home park under chapter 412 who performs any of the acts enumerated in section 20-311, with reference to lots or mobile manufactured homes within the park or to the person's employees with respect to lots or mobile manufactured homes within such park when such acts are performed in the regular course of, or incidental to, the management of such property and the investment therein;
- (8) persons licensed as sellers of mobile manufactured homes under section 21-67; or
- (9) any person or such person's regular employee who, as owner, lessor, licensor, manager, representative or agent manages, leases, or licenses space on or in a tower, building or other structure for (A) "personal wireless services facilities" or facilities for "private mobile service" as those terms are defined in 47 USC 332, which facilities shall be unattended, and the installation and maintenance of related devices authorized by the Federal Communications Commission, and ancillary equipment used to operate such devices and equipment shelters therefor, in an area not to exceed three hundred sixty square feet for any one service established by the Federal Communications Commission in 47 CFR, as amended from time to time, by a provider of any such service, and (B) any right appropriate to access such facilities and connect or use utilities in connection with such facilities.



INTERSTATE LAND SALES

Sec. 20-329a. Advertising and sale in this state of property in another state: Definitions. As used in sections 20-329a to 20-329n, inclusive:

- (1) "Disposition" or "dispose of" means any sale, exchange, lease, assignment, award by lottery or other transaction designed to convey an interest in a subdivision or parcel, lot, or unit in a subdivision when undertaken for gain or profit;
- (2) "Offer" means every inducement, solicitation or attempt to bring about a disposition;
- (3) "Person" means an individual, firm, company, association, corporation, limited liability company, government or governmental subdivision or agency, business trust, estate, trust, partnership, unincorporated association or organization, two or more of any of the foregoing having a joint or common interest, or any other legal or commercial entity;
- (4) "Broker" means a resident real estate broker duly licensed under this chapter;
- (5) "Salesperson" means any person duly licensed as a real estate salesperson under this chapter;
- (6) "Purchaser" means a person who acquires an interest in any lot, parcel or unit in a subdivision;
- (7) "Subdivision" means any improved or unimproved land or tract of land located outside this state which is divided or proposed to be divided into five or more lots, parcels, units, or interests for the purpose of disposition, at any time as part of a common promotional plan. Any land which is under common ownership or which is controlled by a single developer or a group of developers acting in concert, is contiguous in area, and is designated or advertised as a common unit or known by a common name, shall be presumed, without regard to the number of lots, parcels, units or interests covered by each individual offering, to be part of a common promotional plan; and
- (8) "Advertising" means publishing or causing to be published: (A) By means of any newspaper or periodical; (B) by means of any radio or television broadcast; (C) by means of any written or printed or photographic matter produced by any duplicating process producing ten copies or more, any information offering for sale or for the purpose of causing or inducing any other person to purchase or to acquire an interest in the title to subdivided lands, including the land sales contract to be used and any photographs or drawings or artist's representations of physical conditions or facilities on the property existing or to exist; or (D) by means of any material used in connection with the disposition or offer of subdivided lands by radio, television, telephone or any other electronic means. "Advertising" does not include: Stockholder communications such as annual reports and interim financial reports, proxy materials, registration statements, securities prospectuses, applications for listing securities on stock exchanges, and the like; prospectuses, property reports, offering statements or other documents required to be delivered to prospective purchasers by an agency of any other state or the federal government; all communications addressed to and relating to the account of any persons who have previously executed a contract for the purchase of the subdivider's lands except where directed to the sale of additional lands; or press releases or other communications delivered to newspapers or other periodicals for general information or public relations purposes, provided no charge is made by such newspapers or other periodicals for the publication or use of any part of such communications.

Sec. 20-329b. Excepted activities. Filing fees. (a) Unless the method of disposition is adopted for the purpose of the evasion of the provisions of sections 20-329a to 20-329m, inclusive, or the provisions of the federal Interstate Land Sales Full Disclosure Act, said sections shall not apply to: (1) The making of any offer or disposition of any subdivision or lot, parcel, unit

or interest in any subdivision (A) by a purchaser of any subdivision lot, parcel or unit for the purchaser's own account in a single or isolated transaction, (B) to any person who is engaged in the business of the construction of residential, commercial or industrial buildings, other than any lot, parcel, unit or interest in any subdivision, for disposition, (C) pursuant to the order of any court in this state, or (D) by any government or government agency; (2) any offer or disposition of any evidence of indebtedness secured by way of any mortgage or deed of trust of real estate; (3) securities or units of interest issued by an investment trust regulated under the laws of this state; (4) cemetery lots; or (5) the leasing of apartments, offices or stores, or the leasing of similar space within any apartment building, commercial building or industrial building.

- (b) The Department of Consumer Protection may from time to time, pursuant to regulations adopted by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection pursuant to chapter 54, with the advice and assistance of the commission, exempt any subdivision from any of the provisions of sections 20-329a to 20-329m, inclusive, if the department finds that the enforcement of said sections, with respect to such subdivision or lots, parcels, units or interests in such subdivision, is not necessary in the public interest and for the protection of purchasers by reason of the small amount involved or the limited character of the offering, or because such property has been registered and approved pursuant to the laws of any other state.
- (c) Any subdivision which has been registered under the federal Interstate Land Sales Full Disclosure Act shall be exempt from the provisions of section 20-329d, except for the narrative description of the promotional plan for the disposition of the subdivided lands and copies of all advertising material which has been prepared for public distribution by any means of communications, required under subdivision (2) of said section, upon the filing with the department of a copy of an effective statement of record filed with the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development or any successor agency, together with a filing fee of three hundred dollars for each subdivision covered by such effective statement of record. The fee for filing a consolidation or an additional number of lots not included in the initial filing shall be three hundred dollars.

Sec. 20-329c. Secretary as agent for service of process; bond; license required. Except as provided in section 20-329b, no subdivision or lot, parcel, unit or interest in any subdivision shall in any way be offered or disposed of in this state by any person or broker until: (1) Such person or broker has appointed in writing the Secretary of the State and his or her successors in office to be such person's or broker's attorney, upon whom all process, in any action or proceeding against such person or broker, may be served. Such person or broker shall agree in such written appointment that any process against such person or broker which is served on the Secretary of the State shall be of the same legal force and validity as if served on such person or broker and that such appointment shall continue in force as long as any liability remains outstanding against such person or broker in this state. Such written appointment shall be acknowledged before an officer authorized to take acknowledgments of deeds and shall be filed in the office of the Secretary of the State, and copies certified by the Secretary of the State shall be sufficient evidence of such appointment and agreement; (2) such person or broker has posted with the Department of Consumer Protection such bond, in favor of the state, as the department may require with surety in such amount as the department may in its discretion determine. No bond which may be required under sections 20-329a to 20-329m, inclusive, shall be accepted for filing unless it is with a surety company authorized to do business in this state. Any person aggrieved by an act of the principal named in such bond in violation of the provisions of this chapter may proceed on such bond against the principal or surety therein, or both, to recover damages; and (3) such person or broker has received a license under section 20-329f. Any person or broker violating the provisions of this section shall be fined not less than one thousand dollars and not more than five thousand dollars for each offense.

Sec. 20-329d. Submission of documents, promotional plan and advertising materials to department. Filing fees. Any person or broker proposing to offer or dispose of any subdivision or lot, parcel, unit or interest therein in this state shall first submit to the department (1) such particulars and details of the subdivision or lots, parcels, units or other interest in any subdivision to be offered or to be disposed of as the department may by regulation require, including but not limited to a prospectus, property report or offering statement embodying all the terms relative to the offering and disposition, (2) a narrative description of the promotional plan for the disposition of the subdivided lands together with copies of all advertising material which has been prepared for public distribution by any means of communications, (3) a completed license application in such form as the department may require, and (4) a filing fee of three hundred dollars for each subdivision to be offered or disposed of. The fee for filing a consolidation or an additional number of lots not included in the initial filing shall be three hundred dollars.

Sec. 20-329e. Investigation by department. Before the Department of Consumer Protection issues any license under section 20-329f to any person or broker, the department shall fully investigate all information placed before the department as may be required pursuant to sections 20-329a to 20-329m, inclusive, and may carry out a physical examination, investigation or inspection of any subdivision which is the subject of the application. All reasonable expenses incurred in carrying out such examination, investigation or inspection shall be paid by the applicant and no such license shall be issued until such expenses have been fully paid.

Sec. 20-329f. Issuance of license. Fees. (a) The Department of Consumer Protection shall, upon completion of the investigation and inspection as provided in section 20-329e, but, in the absence of any agreement to the contrary between the applicant and the department, not later than three months from the receipt of the completed license application, or receipt of an effective statement of record filed with the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development or successor agency and filed with the department pursuant to subsection (c) of section 20-329b, (1) approve or disapprove the prospectus, property report or offering statement submitted under subsection (c) of section 20-329b or section 20-329d, as the case may be, and (2) if satisfied, issue to the applicant, upon payment to the department of a fee computed as provided in subsection (b) of this section, a license to offer and dispose of in this state the subdivision or parcels, units or other interests in any subdivision that is the subject of the application or such effective statement of record. Such license shall be valid for one year and may be renewed annually upon payment to the department of a fee, computed as provided in subsection (b) of this section, unless there is a material change affecting such subdivision or lot, parcels, units or other interest in any subdivision or the offer or disposition thereof, in which case all new facts shall be reported to the department immediately. Upon receipt of such report or in the event that any such material change is discovered by or comes to the attention of the department through other sources, the department may, after a hearing pursuant to section 20-321, take such action as the department considers necessary, including the suspension or revocation of such license if justified.

(b) The amount any person shall pay for an initial license fee or a renewal license fee for each subdivision covered by the license shall be computed on the basis of the rates set forth in the following schedule.

Number of Lots or Units	Initial Fee	Annual Renewal Fee
1- 50	\$ 315	\$ 200
51-100	345	250
101-150	375	190
151-200	410	220
201-250	440	250
251-300	470	285
301-350	500	315
351-400	535	345
401-450	565	375
451-500	595	410
501 and above	625	440

<u>Sec. 20-329g.</u> Reference to commission or department prohibited. No person or broker shall in any manner refer to the commission or department or to any member or employee thereof in offering or disposing of in this state any subdivision lot, parcel or unit in a subdivision nor make any representation whatsoever that such property has been inspected or approved or otherwise passed upon by the commission or department or any official, department or employee of this state. Any person violating the provisions of this section shall be fined not less than one thousand dollars nor more than five thousand dollars.

<u>Sec. 20-329h. Rights of purchasers</u>. (a) No subdivision or lot, parcel, unit or interest in any subdivision shall be disposed of except through a broker, provided nothing in this subsection shall be deemed to prohibit any such broker from employing any salesperson, for the specific purpose of offering or disposing of, on behalf of such broker and under contract to such broker, any lot, parcel, unit or interest in any subdivision. Prior to any offering or disposition, pursuant to any license granted under sections 20-329a to 20-329m, inclusive, the name of such broker shall be placed on file with the Department of Consumer Protection.

- (b) A clearly identified copy of the prospectus, property report or offering statement shall be given to each purchaser by the broker or salesperson prior to the execution of any contract for the disposition of any such property. The broker or salesperson shall obtain from the purchaser a signed receipt for a copy of such prospectus, property report or offering statement and, if a contract for disposition shall be entered into, the receipt shall be kept in the broker's files for a period of seven years and shall be subject to inspection by the department. Upon termination of such broker or salesperson's employment with the developer, all such records shall be turned over to the developer within thirty days and shall be retained by such developer for the duration of the seven-year period.
- (c) Any contract or agreement for the disposition of any subdivision or any lot, parcel, unit or interest in any subdivision, not exempted under the provisions of section 20-329b, where the prospectus, property report or offering statement has not been given to the purchaser more than seventy-two hours in advance of his signing such contract or agreement, may be revoked by the purchaser within seventy-two hours after the purchaser signed the contract or agreement or after receipt by

the purchaser of such prospectus, property report or offering statement, whichever is the later, and the contract or agreement shall so provide, except that the contract or agreement may stipulate that such revocation authority shall not apply in the case of a purchaser who (1) has received the prospectus, property report or offering statement and inspected the subdivision in advance of signing the contract or agreement, and (2) acknowledges by his signature that the purchaser has made such inspection and has read and understood the prospectus, property report or offering statement. Any such revocation shall be in writing in a form prescribed by the department and shall be communicated to the broker within the time period specified in this subsection. All moneys paid by the purchaser under such revoked contract or agreement shall be returned immediately to the purchaser by the broker without any deductions.

<u>Sec. 20-329i. Penalty</u>. Any broker or salesperson who violates any provision of section 20-329a to 20-329m, inclusive, shall, in addition to any other penalty imposed by said sections, and subject to the provisions of section 20-321, have his real estate broker's or real estate salesperson's license suspended or revoked by the department for such time as in the circumstances the department considers justified.

<u>Sec. 20-329j. Commission members may not participate</u>. No member of the commission or any association, firm or corporation with which a member is associated shall act as a broker of a subdivision or a lot, parcel, unit or interest in a subdivision or offer or dispose of a subdivision or a lot, parcel, unit or interest in a subdivision that is required to be approved pursuant to section 20-329d.

Sec. 20-329k. Non-liability of advertising media. The owner, publisher, licensee or operator of any newspaper, magazine, visual or sound radio broadcasting station or network of stations or the agents or employees of any such owner, publisher, licensee or operator of such a newspaper, magazine, station or network of stations shall not be liable under sections 20-329a to 20-329m, inclusive, for any advertising of any subdivision, lot, parcel or unit in any subdivision carried in any such newspaper or magazine or by any such visual or sound radio broadcasting station or network of stations nor shall any of them be liable under said sections for the contents of any such advertisement.

<u>Sec. 20-329l. Appeal</u>. Any person aggrieved by any action or decision, order or regulation of the commission may appeal in the manner prescribed by section 20-322.

<u>Sec. 20-329m. Regulations</u>. The Commissioner of Consumer Protection, with the advice and assistance of the commission, may from time to time adopt such regulations, in accordance with chapter 54, as the commissioner deems necessary to carry out and enforce the provisions of sections 20-329a to 20-329n, inclusive, in the interests of the public.

Sec. 20-329n. Deposits of purchasers and lessees to be held in escrow. All moneys paid or advanced by a purchaser or lessee or prospective purchaser or prospective lessee for any lot, parcel, unit or interest in any subdivision, the disposition of which is controlled by sections 20-329a, 20-329b, 20-329d, 20-329e, 20-329f, 20-329h and 20-329i, or such portion of such moneys as the commission may determine is sufficient for the protection of the interests of such purchaser or lessee shall be deposited by the seller or lessor in an escrow account, approved by the commission, in a bank doing business in this state. Such money shall remain in such escrow account until (1) a proper and valid release is obtained for such money, (2) the owner or subdivider or the purchaser or lessee has defaulted under their contract for sale or lease and the commission or a court has made a determination as to the disposition of such money, or (3) the owner or subdivider or the seller or lessor orders the return of such money to such purchaser or lessee.

<u>Sec. 20-329o. Real property securities dealers. Definitions. Certain sales not deemed a sale to the public.</u> (a) As used in sections 20-329b to 20-329bb, inclusive:

- (1) "Real property securities dealer" means any person, acting as principal or agent, who engages in the business of (A) selling real property securities to the public, or (B) offering to accept or accepting funds for continual reinvestment in real property securities, or for placement in an account, plan or program whereby the dealer implies that a return will be derived from a specific real property sales contract or promissory note secured directly or collaterally by a lien on real property which is not specifically stated to be based upon the contractual payments thereon.
- (2) "Real property security" means (A) an investment contract made in connection with the sale of a single promissory note secured directly or collaterally by a lien on real property or a single real property sales contract wherein the real property securities dealer or his principal agrees to do or implies that such dealer or principal will do any of the following: (i) Guarantee the note or contract against loss at any time, (ii) guarantee that payments of principal or interest will be paid in conformity with the terms of the note or contract, (iii) assume any payments necessary to protect the security of the note or contract, (iv) accept, from time to time, partial payments toward the purchase of the note or contract, (v) guarantee a specific yield or return on the note or contract, (vi) pay with his own funds any interest or premium for a period prior to actual purchase and delivery of the note or contract, (vii) pay with his own funds any money after the note or contract falls into arrears, or (viii)

repurchase the note or contract; (B) one of a series of promotional notes secured by liens on separate parcels of real property in one subdivision or in contiguous subdivisions; or (C) one of a series of real property sales contracts pertaining to separate parcels of real property in one subdivision or in contiguous subdivisions, all of which are executed by one person or persons associated together as owners. As used in this subdivision, "real property sales contract" does not include a contract executed more than three years prior to being offered for sale. Performance of services in connection with loans or promissory notes secured directly or collaterally by a lien on real property or a real property sales contract, as agent for and at the direction of the lender, borrower, or purchaser, including, but not limited to, the payment of taxes, insurance premiums or costs of foreclosure, if all such costs, excluding routine office expenses, of such services are paid by or payable by borrower, lender or purchaser shall not be construed to be an investment contract under subparagraph (A) of this subdivision. As used in this subdivision, "promotional note" means a promissory note secured by a trust deed executed on unimproved real property, or executed after construction of an improvement of the property but before the first sale of the property as so improved, or executed as a means of financing the first purchase of the property as so improved, and which is subordinate or which by its terms may become subordinate to any other trust deed on the property, but does not include a note which was executed in excess of three years prior to being offered for sale or a note secured by a first trust deed on real property in a subdivision, which evidences a bona fide loan made in connection with the financing of the usual costs of the development of a residential, commercial, or industrial building or buildings on the property under a written agreement providing for the disbursement of the loan funds as costs are incurred or in relation to the progress of the work and providing for title insurance insuring the priority of the security as against mechanic's liens or for the final disbursement of at least ten per cent of the loan funds after the expiration of the period for the filing of mechanic's liens. "Real property security" does not include any bond, debenture or note which is one of a series of notes of equal priority secured by an interest in the same real property.

- (3) "Sale" or "sell" includes every issuance, creation for resale, disposition or attempt to dispose of a real property security for value and includes all of the following, whether done directly or by circular letter, advertisement, radio or television broadcast or otherwise: (A) An offer to sell, (B) an attempt to sell, (C) a solicitation of a sale, (D) a contract of sale or (E) an exchange.
- (b) The sale to pension, retirement or similar trust funds, to corporations, to any bank and trust company, savings bank, savings and loan association, credit union or national banking association, to real estate brokers or to attorneys shall not be deemed a sale to the public for the purpose of sections 20-3290 to 20-329bb, inclusive.

<u>Sec. 20-329p. License and endorsement requirements</u>. No person shall act as a real property securities dealer in this state without first having obtained a real estate broker's license under this chapter and having an endorsement attached to such license, in such form as may be prescribed by the commission, stating that the licensee is entitled to deal in real property securities. Application for such endorsement shall be made in writing to the commission in such form as the commission may prescribe.

<u>Sec. 20-329q. Statement to purchaser.</u> (a) Every real property securities dealer selling or attempting to sell any real property security shall personally sign and deliver to the purchaser a statement in writing, containing all the information required by subsection (b) of this section before the purchaser shall be obligated to complete the transaction. No such real property securities dealer shall permit a purchaser to sign the statement if any information required by said subsection (b) is omitted. The real property securities dealer shall retain an executed copy of the statement for four years.

- (b) The statement required by subsection (a) of this section shall be in a form prescribed and approved by the commission and shall include, but not be limited to, the following information:
- (1) The legal description or address of the property subject to the lien securing the note or contract being made or sold;
- (2) The name and address of the fee owner of the property subject to the lien securing the note or contract being made or sold:
- (3) Available information relative to the ability of the person liable on the obligation to meet such person's contractual payments;
- (4) Any improvements on the property or the absence of such improvements;
- (5) Any streets, sewers, water mains, curbs and gutters on or adjacent to the property or the absence thereof;
- (6) Terms and conditions of the contract or note being made or sold, including the principal balance owing thereon, and the status of principal and interest payments thereon;
- (7) A statement of the approximate balloon payment on the note or contract being made or sold, which shall appear prominently in words and figures;
- (8) If available, the terms and conditions of all prior recorded encumbrances which constitute liens upon the property, the principal balance of such encumbrances, and the status of principal and interest payments thereon;
- (9) Amounts and terms of tax liens and assessments, if available;
- (10) A written statement of the real property securities dealer's considered opinion of the current fair market value of the property and of the equity in the property securing the note or contract or that the purchaser will obtain his own appraisal of such property;

(11) Whether the real property securities dealer is acting as a principal or as an agent;

an audit to be made and shall charge and collect the cost of the audit from such dealer.

- (12) A statement that the transaction is in compliance with the provisions of sections 20-3290 to 20-329bb, inclusive; and
- (13) Such other information as the Commissioner of Consumer Protection, with the advice and assistance of the commission, may require by regulation adopted in accordance with chapter 54.

<u>Sec. 20-329r. Appraisal of real property</u>. An appraisal of each parcel of real property which relates to a transaction subject to the provisions of section 20-3290 to 20-329bb, inclusive, shall be made by the real property securities dealer or by an independent appraiser unless the purchaser of the obligation to which the parcel relates indicates on the form required by subsection (b) of section 20-329q, pursuant to subdivision (10) of said subsection, that the purchaser will obtain his own appraisal. An appraisal by the real property securities dealer or his agent made pursuant to this section shall be kept on file for four years.

Sec. 20-329s. Filing and approval of materials to be used by dealer. Every real property securities dealer shall file with the commission, ten days prior to use, true copies of all material which pertains to activities subject to sections 20-329o to 20-329bb, inclusive. The commission shall approve or disapprove such material within ten days of receiving such material. If the commission fails to give notice to the real property securities dealer of its disapproval of any such material within ten days of receiving such material, the commission shall be deemed to have approved such material. No real property securities dealer shall use any such material in any way after the commission gives notice in writing that such material contains any statement that is false or misleading or omits to state material information that is necessary to make any statement in such material complete and accurate.

Sec. 20-329t. Annual financial report. (a) Every real property securities dealer shall file with the commission, annually, a report containing financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, accompanied by an opinion thereon by a certified public accountant based upon an audit of the real property securities dealer's business subject to sections 20-3290 to 20-329bb, inclusive, which is not materially restricted in scope. The report shall be filed with the commission within sixty days after the close of the period of the report unless, for good cause shown, the commission, in writing, extends the time for filing the report. The report shall include, but shall not be limited to: (1) The total number of sales, as principal or agent, subject to said sections during the period; (2) information relating to the receipt and disposition of all funds handled in connection with transactions subject to said sections; and (3) the total dollar volume of such sales. (b) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection, with the advice and assistance of the commission, may, by regulation adopted in accordance with chapter 54, require such additional information in such report as the commissioner may deem necessary. (c) In the event that a real property securities dealer fails to file a report pursuant to this section the commissioner may cause

Sec. 20-329u. Desist order for violation. Appeal. Whenever the commission finds that (1) any person is violating the provisions of sections 20-329o to 20-329bb, inclusive, (2) any person is conducting business as a real property securities dealer or issuer in an unsafe or injurious manner, (3) the further sale of real property securities by any person under the provisions of said sections would be unfair, unjust or inequitable, or (4) the method used by any person in the sale of real property securities would work a fraud upon the purchasers, the commission may order such person to desist and refrain from violating the provisions of said sections or from further sales of real property securities. Any person aggrieved by any order issued by the commission under this section may appeal under section 20-329aa.

<u>Sec. 20-329v. Permit to sell real property security required. Application.</u> (a) No real property security shall be sold to the public without either the issuer or the real property securities dealer first obtaining a permit from the commission.

(b) Each application for a permit to sell any real property securities shall be made in writing, on such forms and in such manner and accompanied by such evidence in support of such application as is prescribed by the commission. The commission may require such information with regard to the applicant as the commission deems desirable, with due regard to the paramount interests of the public as to the honesty, truthfulness, integrity and competency of the applicant. The Commissioner of Consumer Protection, with the advice and assistance of the commission, may, by regulation adopted in accordance with chapter 54, establish reasonable filing fees, which shall not be less than forty dollars. Such fees shall be deposited in the General Fund.

Sec. 20-329w. Issuance or denial of permit. Limitation of commission's authority. Hearing. (a) If the commission finds, in connection with an application filed under section 20-329v, that (1) the proposed plan of business of the applicant and the proposed sale of real property securities is fair, just and equitable, (2) the applicant intends to transact business fairly and honestly, and (3) the real property securities which the applicant proposed to sell are not such as, in the opinion of the commission will work a fraud upon the purchaser of such real property securities, the commission shall issue to the applicant a permit authorizing the applicant to sell such real property securities in such amounts and for such considerations and upon

such terms and conditions as the commission may provide in the permit. If the commission does not make such findings, the commission shall deny the application, refuse the permit and notify the applicant in writing of its decision. The authority to issue a permit under this section shall not empower the commission to authorize the sale of notes or contracts under a plan which provides for the establishment of investment participation pools based upon such notes or contracts or authorize the issuance of certificates based upon notes or contracts being used as collateral for the certificates.

(b) Any applicant aggrieved by the refusal of a permit under this section or the conditions of any permit issued under this section shall be given notice and afforded an opportunity for hearing as provided in the regulations adopted by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection.

Sec. 20-329x. Prohibited acts. Penalty. Any person shall be guilty of a class D felony if such person:

- (1) In any application to the commission or in any proceeding before the commission, or in any examination, audit or investigation made by the Department of Consumer Protection under this chapter, knowingly makes any false statement or representation, or, with knowledge of its falsity, files or causes to be filed with the commission any false statement or representation in a required report;
- (2) Issues, circulates or publishes, or causes to be issued, circulated or published any advertisement, pamphlet, prospectus or circular concerning any real property security which contains any statement that is false or misleading, or is otherwise likely to deceive a reader thereof, with knowledge that it contains such false, misleading or deceptive statement;
- (3) In any respect willfully violates or fails to comply with any provision of sections 20-3290 to 20-329bb, inclusive, or willfully violates or fails, omits or neglects to obey, observe or comply with all or any part of any order, decision, demand, requirement or permit of the commission under said sections; or
- (4) With one or more other persons, conspires to violate any permit or order issued by the commission or any provision of said sections.

Sec. 20-329y. Civil action for injury from transaction. Any person sustaining any injury resulting from a transaction subject to sections 20-329b to 20-329bb, inclusive, which was in violation of the provisions of said sections may recover in a civil action the amount of the damages with interest of seven per cent per annum from the date of the injury, and shall be entitled to be awarded reasonable attorney's fees. Any such action shall be brought within three years from the date of the transaction notwithstanding the date the injury was discovered.

<u>Sec. 20-329z. Regulations</u>. The Commissioner of Consumer Protection, with the advice and assistance of the commission, may adopt such reasonable regulations, in accordance with chapter 54, as the commissioner deems necessary to carry out the provisions of sections 20-329o to 20-329bb, inclusive.

<u>Sec. 20-329aa.</u> Appeal. Any person aggrieved by any decision or order of the commission under sections 20-3200 to 20-329bb, inclusive, may appeal from such decision or order in accordance with the provisions of section 4-183.

<u>Sec. 20-329bb. Exemptions</u>. (a) The provisions of sections 20-329b to 20-329bb, inclusive, shall not apply to any securities dealer who is not engaged in the offering for sale of any real property securities.

- (b) Any real property securities dealer who is required to be licensed and to obtain a permit under the provisions of said sections shall be exempt from the provisions of sections 36a-380 to 36a-386, inclusive, 36a-395 to 36a-399, inclusive, 36a-535 to 36a-546, inclusive, and 36b-2 to 36b-34, inclusive.
- (c) The provisions of said sections shall not apply to transactions involving a promissory note or notes, the payment of which is secured in whole or in part by a mortgage deed or deeds.

<u>Sec. 20-329cc.</u> "Nonmaterial fact concerning real property" defined. As used in sections 20-329cc to 20-329ff, inclusive, a "nonmaterial fact concerning real property" means a fact, set of facts or circumstance surrounding real estate which includes, but is not limited to: (1) The fact that an occupant of real property is or has been infected with a disease on the list of reportable diseases, emergency illnesses and health conditions issued by the Commissioner of Public Health pursuant to section 19a-2a; or (2) the fact that the property was at any time suspected to have been the site of a death or felony.

<u>Sec. 20-329dd. Nonmaterial fact concerning real property. No disclosure required. No cause of action.</u> (a) The existence of a nonmaterial fact concerning real property is not a material fact that must be disclosed in a real estate transaction.

(b) No cause of action shall arise against an owner of real estate, the owner's agent or any agent of the transferee for the failure to disclose a nonmaterial fact concerning real property to the transferee.

Sec. 20-329ee. Purchaser or lessee may request written disclosure of property's status re homicide, other felony or suicide. Notwithstanding sections 20-329cc and 20-329dd, if a purchaser or lessee of real estate, who was in the process of making a bona fide offer, advises an owner of real estate or his or her agent, in writing, that knowledge that the property was at any

time suspected to have been the site of a homicide, other felony or a suicide is important to the purchaser's decision to purchase or lease the property, the owner through his or her agent shall report any findings to the purchaser or lessee, in writing subject to and consistent with applicable laws of privacy. If the owner refuses to disclose such information, his or her agent shall so advise the purchaser or lessee in writing.

<u>Sec. 20-329ff. Legal rights retained for physical deficiencies</u>. Nothing in sections 20-329cc to 20-329ff, inclusive, shall alter the legal rights of a purchaser, lessee, seller or lessor of real estate for physical deficiencies of the transferred property.



COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION MANAGERS

<u>Sec. 20-450. Definitions.</u> As used in sections 20-450 to 20-462, inclusive, as amended by this act, unless the context otherwise requires:

- (1) "Association" means (A) an association, as defined in section 47- 202, and an association of unit owners, as defined in section 47-68a and in section 47-68 of the general statutes, revision of 1958, revised to January 1, 1975, and (B) the mandatory owners organization of any common interest community, as defined in section 47-202, which community was not created under chapter 825 or 828 or under chapter 825 of the general statutes, revision of 1958, revised to January 1, 1975. "Association" does not include an association of a common interest community which contains only units restricted to nonresidential use;
- (2) "Community association manager" means a natural person who directly provides association management services on behalf of such person;
- (3) "Association management services" means services provided to an association for remuneration, including one or more of the following: (A) Collecting, controlling or disbursing funds of the association or having the authority to do so; (B) preparing budgets or other financial documents for the association; (C) assisting in the conduct of or conducting association meetings; (D) advising or assisting the association in obtaining insurance; (E) coordinating or supervising the overall operations of the association; and (F) advising the association on the overall operations of the association. Any person licensed in this state under any provision of the general statutes or rules of court who provides the services for which such person is licensed to an association for remuneration shall not be deemed to be providing association management services. Any director, officer or other member of an association who provides services specified in this subdivision to the association of which he or she is a member shall not be deemed to be providing association management services unless such director, officer or other member owns or controls more than two-thirds but less than all of the votes in such association;
- (4) "Commission" means the Connecticut Real Estate Commission appointed under the provisions of section 20-311a;
- (5) "Department" means the Department of Consumer Protection;
- (6) "Person" means an individual, partnership, corporation, limited liability company or other legal entity; and
- (7) "Community association manager trainee" means a natural person working under the direct supervision of a community association manager, for the purpose of being trained in the provision of association management services.
- <u>Sec. 20-451.</u> Registration of community association managers required. (a) Except as otherwise provided in this section, no person shall (1) hold himself or herself out to be a community association manager or a community association manager trainee, or (2) engage in providing association management services, without first obtaining a certificate of registration as provided in sections 20-450 to 20-462, inclusive, as amended by this act.
- (b) A community association manager trainee may, for a period not to exceed six months, engage in association management services, so long as: (1) The community association manager trainee is directly supervised by, and acts under the direction of, a community association manager who holds a valid certificate of registration and who shall be liable for the actions or inactions of the community association manager trainee; and (2) the community association manager trainee has no authority to collect, control or disburse funds of the association. A certificate of registration as a community association manager trainee shall not be renewable.
- (c) A community association manager may employ or contract with support or administrative staff, not registered as a community association manager, to engage in the following activities:
- (1) Answer the telephone, take messages, and forward calls to the community association manager;
- (2) update files and forms maintained by the community association manager;
- (3) schedule and coordinate meetings, teleconferences, service calls and responses to maintenance and repair requests;
- (4) copy documents prepared by either the association or the community association manager and prepare mailings to the unit owners, vendors and other third parties, as authorized by the association or the community association manager;
- (5) attend meetings with and provide administrative support services to the community association manager, including taking notes as needed to maintain accurate records for the association;

- (6) assist the community association manager in maintaining the association's financial information and records, including, but not limited to, responding to inquiries from unit owners regarding their accounts with the association and drafting checks for payments approved by the association or the community association manager, provided no unregistered support or administrative staff may have direct access to or control over association funds; and
- (7) implement the decisions and directions of the community association manager.
- (d) The community association manager shall directly supervise, and assume liability for, work performed by any support or administrative staff member whether employee or contractor, who is not a registered community association manager or trainee, but who is providing services to an association. The community association manager shall ensure that such unlicensed person is: (1) Trained in the scope of work they are legally able to undertake in such role; and (2) operating in compliance with the provisions of this chapter.
- Sec. 20-452. Application for certificate of registration. Fees. (a) Any person seeking a certificate of registration as a community association manager or as a community association manager trainee shall apply to the department in writing, on a form provided by the department. Such application shall include the applicant's name, residence address, business address, business telephone number, a question as to whether the applicant has been convicted of a felony in any state or jurisdiction and such other information as the department may require. Except for a community association manager trainee, any person seeking an initial certificate of registration shall submit to a request by the commissioner for a state and national criminal history records check. No registration as a community association manager shall be issued unless the commissioner has received the results of such records check.
- (b) Each application for a certificate of registration as a community association manager shall be accompanied by an application fee of sixty dollars and a registration fee of one hundred dollars. The department shall refund the registration fee if it refuses to issue a certificate of registration. The department shall not charge either an application or a registration fee for a certificate of registration as a community association manager trainee.
- Sec. 20-453. Issuance, suspension and revocation of certificate. Educational requirements. Regulations. (a) Upon receipt of a completed application and the appropriate fees, the department, upon authorization of the commission, shall: (1) Issue and deliver to the applicant a certificate of registration; or (2) refuse to issue the certificate. The commission may suspend, revoke or refuse to issue or renew any certificate issued under sections 20-450 to 20-462, inclusive, as amended by this act, or may place a registrant on probation or issue a letter of reprimand for any of the reasons stated in section 20-456, as amended by this act. No application for the reinstatement of a certificate which has been revoked shall be accepted by the department within one year after the date of such revocation.
- (b) Any person issued an initial certificate of registration as a community association manager prior to October 1, 2019, shall, not later than one year following the date of issuance of such certificate, successfully complete a nationally recognized course on community association management and pass the National Board of Certification for Community Association Managers' Certified Manager of Community Associations examination, or a similar examination as may be prescribed by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection in regulations adopted pursuant to subsection (c) of this section.
- (c) The department, with the advice and assistance of the commission, shall adopt regulations, in accordance with chapter 54, concerning any examination required for certification under this chapter and the approval of schools, institutions or organizations offering courses in current practices and laws concerning community association management and the content of such courses. Such regulations shall include, but not be limited to: (1) Specifications for meeting the educational requirements prescribed in this section; and (2) exemptions from the educational requirements for reasons of health or instances of individual hardship. In adopting such regulations, the department may not disapprove a school, institution or organization that offers an examination or courses in current practices and laws concerning community association management solely because its examination or courses are offered or taught by electronic means, nor may the department disapprove an examination or course solely because it is offered or taught by electronic means.
- (d) An applicant for renewal of registration as a community association manager shall, in addition to the other requirements imposed by the provisions of this chapter, complete sixteen hours of continuing education over the course of the two-year period, retain proof of completion, and, upon request, provide such proof to the department. Continuing education shall consist of a course or courses, offered by the Connecticut Chapter of the Community Associations Institute, in community association management techniques and common interest community law, or similar courses as may be prescribed by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection in regulations adopted pursuant to this chapter.
- <u>Sec. 20-454. Hearing on denial of certificate. Subsequent application.</u> (a) Upon refusal to issue or renew a certificate, the department shall notify the applicant of the denial and of his or her right to request a hearing not later than ten days after the date of receipt of the notice of denial.
- (b) If the applicant requests a hearing within such ten days, the department shall give notice of the grounds for its refusal to issue or renew the certificate and shall conduct a hearing concerning such refusal in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 concerning contested cases.

(c) If the department or commission's refusal of a certificate is sustained after such hearing, an applicant may make a new application not less than one year after the date on which such refusal was sustained.

Sec. 20-455. Enforcement powers of commission and department. Injunctions. (a) The commission or department may hold hearings on any matter under the provisions of sections 20-450 to 20-462, inclusive, as amended by this act. The commission or department may issue subpoenas, administer oaths, compel testimony and order the production of books, records and documents. If any person refuses to appear, to testify or to produce any book, record, paper or document when so ordered, upon application of the commission or department, a judge of the Superior Court may make such order as may be appropriate to aid in the enforcement of this section. Upon a finding of the commission or department, following a hearing, that an individual has held themselves out as a community association manager without the proper registration, the commission or department may issue a cease and desist order and fine the respondent not more than five hundred dollars.

Sec. 20-456. Grounds for revocation, suspension or refusal to issue or renew certificate of registration. (a) The department or commission may revoke, suspend or refuse to issue or renew any certificate of registration as a community association manager or community association manager trainee, place conditions upon such registrations or issue a civil penalty of up to one thousand dollars per violation for: (1) Making any material misrepresentation; (2) making any false promise of a character likely to influence, persuade or induce; (3) failing, within a reasonable time, to account for or remit any moneys coming into his possession which belong to others; (4) conviction in a court of competent jurisdiction of this or any other state of forgery, embezzlement, obtaining money under false pretenses, larceny, extortion, conspiracy to defraud, or other like offense or offenses, provided suspension or revocation under this subdivision shall be subject to the provisions of section 46a-80; (5) commingling funds of others in an escrow or trustee account; (6) commingling funds of different associations; (7) any act or conduct which constitutes dishonest, fraudulent or improper dealings; (8) a knowing and material violation of any provision of chapter 825 or 828; or (9) a violation of any provision of sections 20-450 to 20-462, inclusive, as amended by this act, including, but not limited to, failure to comply with the educational requirements prescribed in section 20-453, as amended by this act, or any regulation adopted under section 20-461.

(b) The department or commission shall not revoke or suspend any certificate of registration except upon notice and hearing in accordance with chapter 54.

Sec. 20-457. Required and prohibited acts re certificate of registration. Penalties for violations. Expiration and renewal of certificate. (a) Each community association manager shall (1) exhibit his or her certificate of registration upon request by any interested party, (2) state in any advertisement the fact that he or she is registered, and (3) include his or her registration number in any advertisement. In the case of a business entity, the advertisement shall identify at least one principal, officer or director of the entity that is a community association manager and shall include the registration number of such principal, officer or director.

- (b) No person shall: (1) Present or attempt to present, as his or her own, the certificate of another, (2) knowingly give false evidence of a material nature to the commission or department for the purpose of procuring a certificate, (3) represent himself or herself falsely as, or impersonate, a registered community association manager, (4) use or attempt to use a certificate which has expired or which has been suspended or revoked, (5) offer to provide association management services without having a current certificate of registration under sections 20-450 to 20-462, inclusive, as amended by this act, (6) represent in any manner that his registration constitutes an endorsement of the quality of his or her services or of his or her competency by the commission or department. In addition to any other remedy provided for in sections 20-450 to 20-462, inclusive, as amended by this act, any person who violates any provision of this subsection shall, after an administrative hearing, be fined not more than one thousand dollars, or shall be imprisoned for not more than one year or be both fined and imprisoned. A violation of any of the provisions of sections 20-450 to 20-462, inclusive, as amended by this act, shall be deemed an unfair or deceptive trade practice under subsection (a) of section 42-110b.
- (c) Certificates issued to community association managers shall not be transferable or assignable.
- (d) All certificates issued to community association managers under the provisions of sections 20-450 to 20-462, inclusive, as amended by this act, shall expire annually on the thirty-first day of January. A holder of a certificate of registration who seeks to renew his or her certificate shall, when filing an application for renewal of the certificate, submit documentation to the department which establishes that he or she has passed any examination and completed any educational coursework, as the case may be, required for certification under this chapter. The fee for renewal of a certificate shall be two hundred dollars.
- (e) A community association manager whose certificate has expired more than one month before his or her application for renewal is made shall have his or her registration restored upon payment of a fee of fifty dollars in addition to his or her renewal fee. Restoration of a registration shall be effective upon approval of the application for renewal by the commission or department.
- (f) A certificate shall not be restored unless it is renewed not later than one year after its expiration.
- (g) Failure to receive a notice of expiration or a renewal application shall not exempt a community association manager from the obligation to renew.

- (h) All certificates issued to community association manager trainees under the provisions of sections 20-450 to 20-462, inclusive, as amended by this act, shall expire six months from the date of issuance and shall not be renewable.
- <u>Sec. 20-458.</u> Required provisions of contract. Sale or assignment of contract. Indemnification or hold harmless clause <u>prohibited.</u> (a) No contract between a person contracting to provide association management services and an association which provides for the management of the association shall be valid or enforceable unless the contract is in writing and provides that the person contracting to provide association management services or, in the case of a business entity, a principal, officer or director of such entity:
- (1) Shall be registered as provided in sections 20-450 to 20-462, inclusive, as amended by this act, and shall obtain insurance as provided in section 20-460, as amended by this act; and
- (2) Shall not issue a check on behalf of the association or transfer moneys exceeding a specified amount determined by the association without the written approval of an officer designated by the association; and
- (3) Shall not enter into any contract binding the association exceeding a specified amount determined by the association, except in the case of an emergency, without the written approval of an officer designated by the association.
- (b) No contract to provide association management services shall:
- (1) Be sold or assigned to another person without the approval of a majority of the executive board of the association; or
- (2) Include any clause, covenant or agreement that indemnifies or holds harmless the person contracting to provide association management services from or against any liability for loss or damage resulting from such person's negligence or willful misconduct.
- Sec. 20-460. Commercially available insurance policy required. Policy requirements. Payment of cost of policy. (a) No community association manager, nor any community association manager trainee or support or administrative staff employed or engaged by such community association manager shall control, collect, have access to or disburse funds of an association unless there is in effect, a commercially available insurance policy complying with the provisions of this section that provides protection of such funds belonging to an association from the theft by a community association manager, a community association manager trainee, a community association management company or its employees.
- (b) The commercially available insurance policy referred to in subsection (a) of this section shall: (1) Be written by an insurance company authorized to write such policies in this state; (2) except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, cover the maximum funds that will be in the custody of the community association manager at any time while the bond is in force, and in no event be less than the sum of three months' assessments plus reserve funds; (3) name the association as obligee; (4) cover the community association manager, community association manager trainee and all partners, officers, employees of the community association manager and may cover other persons controlling, collecting, having access to or disbursing association funds as well; (5) be conditioned upon the persons covered by the policy truly and faithfully accounting for all funds received by them, under their care, custody or control, or to which they have access; (6) provide that the insurance company issuing the policy may not cancel, substantially modify or refuse to renew the policy without giving thirty days' prior written notice to the association and the department, except in the case of a nonpayment of premiums, in which case ten days' prior written notice shall be given; (7) contain such other provisions as the department may, by regulation, require.
- (c) The policy of a person who is employed full-time by and provides association management services to an association of a common interest community, or to a master association as defined in section 47-239 exercising the powers on behalf of one or more common interest communities or for the benefit of the unit owners of one or more common interest communities, which community or communities were established prior to July 3, 1991, and have more than two thousand four hundred residential units, shall be in an amount which is not less than one-half the amount specified in subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of this section.
- (d) The community association manager shall furnish to the department, upon request, a certificate of each policy required under this section.
- (e) Unless otherwise provided for in a written agreement between the community association manager and association pursuant to subsection (f) of this section, the cost of the policy shall be paid for by the community association manager.
- (f) If, as of October 1, 1990, any community association manager is providing association management services, including the handling of funds, or has entered into an agreement to provide association management services including the handling of funds, and has no written agreement, concerning which party shall pay the cost of policy, the cost of the policy shall be paid for in accordance with the declaration and bylaws of the association, and if the declaration and bylaws contain no such provision, the cost of the policy shall be paid one-half by the community association manager and one-half by the association unless the parties otherwise agree in writing.
- (g) A separate policy shall be furnished for each association for which a community association manager provides association management services, including the handling of funds.
- (h) An insurance policy obtained and maintained by an association under section 47-255, which affords the coverages required in this section, shall be deemed compliant with this section.



PROGRAM FOR USE OF INTEREST EARNED ON REAL ESTATE BROKER OR TRUST ACCOUNTS

Sec. 8-265f. Program for use of interest earned on real estate broker escrow or trust accounts for mortgage assistance. (a) A program for the use of interest earned on real estate broker escrow or trust accounts is hereby established. Each real estate broker having an escrow or trust account under section 20-324k shall participate in such program. Under the program, moneys held on behalf of any principal, client or other person shall be deposited by participating real estate brokers in interest-bearing accounts specifically established pursuant to this program. Funds deposited in such accounts shall be subject to withdrawal upon request by the depositor and without delay, provided the funds are available in accordance with federal regulations. The interest earned thereon shall be paid to the Connecticut Housing Finance Authority for the purposes of section 8-265g. Nothing in this section shall prevent a real estate broker from depositing the funds of any principal, client or other person, regardless of the amount of such funds or the period for which such funds are expected to be held, in a separate interest-bearing account established on behalf of and for the benefit of the principal, client or person. The Connecticut Housing Finance Authority shall mail to each real estate broker participating in the program a detailed annual report of the mortgage assistance provided pursuant to section 8-265g.

(b) This program shall not require the banking corporations or financial institutions receiving such funds, holding such accounts and paying interest thereon to the depositors of the account to perform any additional administrative functions or assume any additional responsibilities or obligations in connection with such program or the accounts so maintained. The provisions of this section shall not apply to any escrow account established and maintained pursuant to section 47a-21. Nothing in this section shall be construed to impose any additional obligations on real estate brokers other than those contained in subsection (a) of this section.

<u>Sec. 8-265g. Mortgage assistance for low or moderate income families or persons.</u> (a) The Connecticut Housing Finance Authority, in consultation with the advisory panel established under section 8-265h, shall develop and administer a program of mortgage assistance to low or moderate income families or persons, as defined in section 8-243. In making mortgage assistance available under the program, the authority shall utilize down payment assistance or any other appropriate housing subsidies. The terms of any mortgage assistance shall allow the mortgagee to realize a reasonable portion of the equity gain upon sale of the mortgaged property.

(b) On or before March 15, 1998, and annually thereafter, the authority shall submit a report on the program to the advisory panel established pursuant to section 8-265h.

Sec. 8-265h. Housing advisory panel. (a) An advisory panel shall be established to perform the functions described in subsection (b) of this section consisting of eight members to be selected as follows: Two members shall be appointed by the Governor, one of whom shall be an executive director of a nonprofit corporation which provides housing in this state and one of whom shall be a realtor; four members shall be appointed by the cochairpersons of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to housing, two of whom may be the cochairpersons of said committee and two of whom may be members of the General Assembly and two members shall be appointed by the ranking member of the House of Representatives of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to housing. Each member of the panel shall serve for a term which is coterminous with the term of his appointing authority. A vacancy shall be filled by the original appointing authority for the balance of the unexpired term. (b) The advisory panel shall: (1) Consult with and make recommendations to the Connecticut Housing Finance Authority regarding the implementation and administration of the mortgage assistance program established pursuant to section 8-265g, including the methods of allocation and the allocation of funds to be disbursed under such program; (2) review and evaluate, and monitor the impact of the program; and (3) report on the program to the General Assembly as may from time to time be requested.



OTHER LAWS CONCERNING REAL ESTATE BROKERS AND SALESPERSONS

<u>Sec. 4-182. Matters involving licenses</u>. (a) When the grant, denial or renewal of a license is required to be preceded by notice and opportunity for hearing, the provisions of this chapter concerning contested cases apply.

(b) When a licensee has made timely and sufficient application for the renewal of a license or a new license with reference to any activity of a continuing nature, the existing license shall not expire until the application has been finally determined by the agency, and, in case the application is denied or the terms of the new license limited, until the last day for seeking review of the agency order or a later date fixed by order of the reviewing court.

- (c) No revocation, suspension, annulment or withdrawal of any license is lawful unless, prior to the institution of agency proceedings, the agency gave notice by mail to the licensee of facts or conduct which warrant the intended action and the specific provisions of the general statutes or of regulations adopted by the agency that authorize such intended action, and the licensee was given an opportunity to show compliance with all lawful requirements for the retention of the license. If the agency finds that public health, safety or welfare imperatively requires emergency action, and incorporates a finding to that effect in its order, summary suspension of a license may be ordered pending proceedings for revocation or other action. These proceedings shall be promptly instituted and determined.
- (d) (1) When an agency is authorized under the general statutes to issue a license, but is not specifically authorized to revoke or suspend such license, the agency may: (A) Revoke or suspend such license in accordance with the provisions of subsection (c) of this section; or (B) (i) adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, that provide a procedure for the revocation or suspension of such license consistent with the requirements of said subsection (c), and (ii) revoke or suspend such license in accordance with such regulations.
- (2) Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to affect (A) the validity of any regulation adopted in accordance with this chapter and effective on or before October 1, 1999, or (B) any contested case in which a notice under section 4-177 is issued on or before October 1, 1999.
- Sec. 21a-4. Refund of fees for unused permits. Fine for payment by check returned as uncollectible. Fine for late renewal of license, certificate or registration. Reinstatement of lapsed license. (a) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection may refund to any permittee the fee paid by him for any permit issued by said commissioner and returned to him prior to its use, provided application for such refund shall be made not later than sixty days after the effective date of such permit.
- (b) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection may impose a fine of twenty dollars on any applicant for a permit or license issued by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection who issues to the commissioner a check drawn on the account of such applicant in payment of a permit or license fee and whose check is returned to the Department of Consumer Protection as uncollectible. In addition, the commissioner may require the applicant to pay to the department any fees charged by a financial institution to the department as a result of such returned check.
- (c) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection may impose a fine on any applicant who fails to renew a license, permit, certificate or registration not later than the expiration date of such license, permit, certificate or registration. The amount of the fine shall be equal to ten per cent of the renewal fee but shall not be less than ten dollars or more than one hundred dollars.
- (d) Notwithstanding any other provision of the general statutes, each applicant whose license has lapsed for a period longer than the length of time allowing automatic reinstatement may apply for reinstatement to the appropriate board. Upon receipt of such application and payment of the fee, the board may, at its discretion, reinstate a lapsed license without examination, provided such application for reinstatement is accompanied by a notarized letter and supporting documentation attesting to the applicant's related work experience in their occupation or profession from the time he or she had let such license lapse. Such applicant, upon approval by the board, shall pay all back license and late fees in order for such license to be reinstated.
- (e) When a license, permit, certification or registration has lapsed for a period longer than the length of time allowing automatic reinstatement, or the general statutes are silent as to the period of time during which reinstatement of the license, permit, certification or registration is permissible, an applicant may apply for reinstatement to the department. Upon receipt of such application and payment of the corresponding application fee, the department may, if application was made not later than three years after the date allowing automatic reinstatement, reinstate the lapsed license, permit, certification or registration without examination. The applicant, prior to reinstatement by the department, shall pay all back license and late fees, unless the applicant attests that he or she has not worked in the applicable occupation or profession in this state while the license, permit, certification or registration was lapsed, in which case the applicant shall pay the current year's renewal fee for reinstatement. If the license, permit, certification or registration lapse is three years or more, the applicant shall apply for a new license, permit, certification or registration.
- (f) Unless expressly provided otherwise by law, application fees for a license, permit, certification or registration within the purview of the Department of Consumer Protection shall be nonrefundable.
- Sec. 21a-7. Powers and duties of boards and commissions within Department of Consumer Protection. Each board or commission transferred to the Department of Consumer Protection under section 21a-6 shall have the following powers and duties:
- (1) Each board or commission shall exercise its statutory functions, including licensing, certification, registration, accreditation of schools and the rendering of findings, orders and adjudications. Any exercise of such functions by such a board or commission that is adverse to a party shall be a proposed decision and subject to approval, modification or rejection by the commissioner.
- (2) Each board or commission may, in its discretion, issue (A) an appropriate order to any person found to be violating an applicable statute or regulation providing for the immediate discontinuance of the violation, (B) an order requiring the

violator to make restitution for any damage caused by the violation, or (C) both. Each board or commission may, through the Attorney General, petition the superior court for the judicial district wherein the violation occurred, or wherein the person committing the violation resides or transacts business, for the enforcement of any order issued by it and for appropriate temporary relief or a restraining order and shall certify and file in the court a transcript of the entire record of the hearing or hearings, including all testimony upon which such order was made and the findings and orders made by the board or commission. The court may grant such relief by injunction or otherwise, including temporary relief, as it deems equitable and may make and enter a decree enforcing, modifying and enforcing as so modified, or setting aside, in whole or in part, any order of a board or commission.

- (3) Each board or commission may conduct hearings on any matter within its statutory jurisdiction. Such hearings shall be conducted in accordance with chapter 54 and the regulations established pursuant to subsection (a) of section 21a-9. In connection with any such hearing, the board or commission may administer oaths, issue subpoenas, compel testimony and order the production of books, records and documents. If any person refuses to appear, testify or produce any book, record or document when so ordered, a judge of the Superior Court may make such order as may be appropriate to aid in the enforcement of this section.
- (4) Each board or commission may request the Commissioner of Consumer Protection to conduct an investigation and to make findings and recommendations regarding any matter within the statutory jurisdiction of the board or commission.
- (5) Each board or commission may recommend rules and regulations for adoption by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection and may review and comment upon proposed rules and regulations prior to their adoption by said commissioner.
- (6) Each board or commission shall meet at least once in each quarter of a calendar year and at such other times as the chairperson or the Commissioner of Consumer Protection deems necessary. A majority of the members shall constitute a quorum, except that for any examining board, forty percent of the members shall constitute a quorum. Any member who fails to attend three consecutive meetings or who fails to attend fifty percent of all meetings during any calendar year shall be deemed to have resigned from office. Members of boards or commissions shall not serve for more than two consecutive full terms which commence on or after July 1, 1982, except that if no successor has been appointed or approved, such member shall continue to serve until a successor is appointed or approved. Members shall not be compensated for their services but shall be reimbursed for necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.
- (7) In addition to any other action permitted under the general statutes, each board or commission may upon a finding of any cause specified in subsection (c) of section 21a-9: (A) Revoke or suspend a license, registration or certificate; (B) issue a letter of reprimand to a practitioner and send a copy of such letter to a complainant or to a state or local official; (C) place a practitioner on probationary status and require the practitioner to (i) report regularly to the board or commission on the matter which is the basis for probation, (ii) limit the practitioner's practice to areas prescribed by the board or commission, or (iii) continue or renew the practitioner's education until the practitioner has attained a satisfactory level of competence in any area which is the basis for probation. Each board or commission may discontinue, suspend or rescind any action taken under this subsection.
- (8) Each examining board within the Department of Consumer Protection or the Commissioner of Consumer Protection shall conduct any hearing or other action required for an application submitted pursuant to section 20-333 and any completed renewal application submitted pursuant to section 20-335 not later than (A) thirty days after the date of submission for such application or completed renewal application, as applicable, or (B) a period of time deemed appropriate by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection, but not to exceed sixty days after such date of submission.
- (b) Each board or commission within the Department of Consumer Protection or the Commissioner of Consumer Protection under section 21a-6 that makes a proposed final decision that is adverse to a party as described in subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of this section, shall submit such proposed decision to the Commissioner of Consumer Protection. Not later than thirty calendar days after receipt of any such proposed decision, the Commissioner of Consumer Protection shall notify such board or commission that the commissioner shall render the final decision concerning such matter. Not later than thirty days after receipt of any such proposed decision, the commissioner shall approve, modify or reject the proposed decision or remand the proposed decision for further review or for the taking of additional evidence. The commissioner shall notify the board or commission in writing of the commissioner's decision and include in such notification the rationale for such decision. The decision of the commissioner shall be the final decision in accordance with section 4-180 for purposes of reconsideration in accordance with section 4-181a or appeal to the Superior Court in accordance with section 4-183.
- <u>Sec. 21a-8. Departments and commissioner's powers and duties re boards and commissions.</u> (a) The Department of Consumer Protection shall have the following powers and duties with regard to each board or commission transferred to the Department of Consumer Protection under section 21a-6:
- (1) The department shall control the allocation, disbursement and budgeting of funds appropriated to the department for the operation of each board or commission transferred to say department.
- (2) The department shall employ and assign such personnel as the commissioner deems necessary for the performance of each board's or commission's functions.

- (3) The department shall perform all management functions, including purchasing, bookkeeping, accounting, payroll, secretarial, clerical, record keeping and routine housekeeping functions.
- (4) The department shall conduct any necessary review, inspection or investigation regarding qualifications of applicants for licenses or certificates, possible violations of statutes or regulations, accreditation of schools, disciplinary matters and the establishment of regulatory policy, and make recommendations to the appropriate board or commission. In connection with any such investigation, the Commissioner of Consumer Protection, or the commissioner's authorized agent, may administer oaths, issue subpoenas, compel testimony and order the production of books, records and documents. If any person refuses to appear, to testify or to produce any book, record or document when so ordered, a judge of the Superior Court may make such order as may be appropriate to aid in the enforcement of this section.
- (5) The department shall administer any examinations necessary to ascertain the qualifications of applicants for licenses or certificates and shall issue licenses or certificates to qualified applicants. The department shall maintain rosters of licensees or registrants and update such rosters annually, and may provide copies of such rosters to the public for an appropriate fee.
- (6) The department shall conduct any necessary investigation and follow-up in connection with complaints regarding persons subject to regulation or licensing by the board or commission.
- (7) The department shall perform any other function necessary to the effective operation of the board or commission and not specifically vested by statute in the board or commission.
- (8) The department shall receive complaints concerning the work and practices of persons licensed, registered or certified by such boards or commissions and shall receive complaints concerning unauthorized work and practice by persons not licensed, registered or certified by such boards or commissions. The department shall distribute monthly a list of all complaints received within the previous month to the chairperson of the appropriate board or commission. The department shall screen all complaints and dismiss any in which the allegation, if substantiated, would not constitute a violation of any statute or regulation. The department shall distribute notice of all such dismissals monthly to the chairperson of the appropriate board or commission. The department shall investigate any complaint in which the allegation, if substantiated, would constitute a violation of a statute or regulation under its jurisdiction. In conducting the investigation, the commissioner may seek the assistance of a member of the appropriate board, an employee of any state agency with expertise in the area, or if no such member or employee is available, a person from outside state service licensed to perform the work involved in the complaint. Board or commission members involved in an investigation shall not participate in disciplinary proceedings resulting from such investigation. The Commissioner of Consumer Protection may dismiss a complaint following an investigation if the commissioner determines that such complaint lacks probable cause. The commissioner may bring a complaint before the appropriate board or commission for a formal hearing if the commissioner determines that there is probable cause to believe that the offense alleged in the complaint has been committed and that the practitioner named in the complaint was responsible. The commissioner, or the commissioner's authorized agent, shall have the power to issue subpoenas to require the attendance of witnesses or the production of records, correspondence, documents or other evidence in connection with any hearing of a board or commission.
- (9) The department may contract with a third party, if the commissioner deems it necessary, to administer licensing examinations and perform all attendant administrative functions in connection with such examination and to monitor continuing professional education requirements, and may require the payment of a fee to such third party.
- (b) Not later than January 15, 2015, and annually thereafter, the commissioner, in accordance with section 11-4a, shall report the following to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to consumer protection and occupational licensing: (1) The total number of complaints received by the department in the previous calendar year concerning the work and practice of persons licensed, registered or certified by the boards or commissions specified in subdivisions (1) and (3) of section 21a-6, (2) the nature of each complaint, (3) the department's resolution of each complaint, including, if applicable, whether the complaint (A) was dismissed because the allegation, if substantiated, would not constitute a violation of any statute or regulation, (B) was investigated, (C) was dismissed, following an investigation, for lack of probable cause, (D) was resolved by a settlement, and whether a penalty was imposed pursuant to such settlement, or (E) was brought for formal hearing, and whether a violation was found and a penalty imposed.
- (c) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection shall have the following powers and duties with regard to each board or commission transferred to the Department of Consumer Protection under section 21a-6:
- (1) The commissioner shall, in consultation with each board or commission, exercise the functions of licensing, certification, registration, accreditation of schools and the rendering of findings, orders and adjudications.
- (2) The commissioner may, in the commissioner's discretion, issue an appropriate order to any person found to be violating any statute or regulation within the jurisdiction of such board or commission providing for the immediate discontinuance of the violation or requiring the violator to make restitution for any damage caused by the violation, or both. The commissioner may, through the Attorney General, petition the superior court for the judicial district in which the violation occurred, or in which the person committing the violation resides or transacts business, for the enforcement of any order issued by the commissioner under this subdivision and for appropriate temporary relief or a restraining order. The commissioner shall certify and file in the court a transcript of the entire record of the hearing or hearings, including all testimony upon which such order was made and the findings and orders made by the commissioner. The court may grant such relief by injunction

or otherwise, including temporary relief, as the court deems equitable and may make and enter a decree enforcing, modifying and enforcing as so modified, or setting aside, in whole or in part, any order of the commissioner issued under this subdivision.

- (3) The commissioner may conduct hearings on any matter within the statutory jurisdiction of such board or commission. Such hearings shall be conducted in accordance with chapter 54 and the regulations adopted pursuant to subsection (a) of section 21a-9. In connection with any such hearing, the commissioner may administer oaths, issue subpoenas, compel testimony and order the production of books, records and documents. If any person refuses to appear, testify or produce any book, record or document when so ordered, a judge of the Superior Court may make such order as may be appropriate to aid in the enforcement of this subdivision.
- (4) In addition to any other action permitted under the general statutes, the commissioner may, upon a finding of any cause specified in subsection (c) of section 21a-9: (A) Revoke or suspend a license, registration or certificate; (B) issue a letter of reprimand to a practitioner and send a copy of such letter to a complainant or to a state or local official; (C) place a practitioner on probationary status and require the practitioner to (i) report regularly to the commissioner on the matter which is the basis for probation, (ii) limit the practitioner's practice to areas prescribed by the commissioner, or (iii) continue or renew the practitioner's education until the practitioner has attained a satisfactory level of competence in any area which is the basis for probation. The commissioner may discontinue, suspend or rescind any action taken under this subdivision. If a license, registration or certificate is voluntarily surrendered or is not renewed, the commissioner shall not be prohibited from suspending, revoking or imposing other penalties permitted by law on any such license, registration or certificate.
- Sec. 21a-9. Uniform rules of procedure. Regulations re subjects within jurisdiction of boards and commissions within Department of Consumer Protection. Prohibited acts by practitioners. Definitions. (a) With regard to the boards and commissions within the Department of Consumer Protection, the Commissioner of Consumer Protection (1) shall adopt uniform rules of procedure, consistent with chapter 54, for hearings and other proceedings to be conducted by the boards or commissions or by the commissioner and for the giving of notice to persons affected by such proceedings, and (2) may, where authorized by statute, adopt regulations regarding any subject within the jurisdiction of a board or commission.
- (b) Any rules of procedure and regulations adopted pursuant to this section shall be adopted in accordance with chapter 54. No regulation shall be adopted pursuant to this section until the appropriate board or commission has had reasonable opportunity to review the proposed regulation and to offer comments thereon.
- (c) Each such board or commission may act in accordance with the provisions of subdivision (7) of section 21a-7, and the commissioner may act in accordance with the provisions of subdivision (4) of subsection (b) of section 21a-8, in the case of a practitioner who: (1) Engages in fraud or material deception in order to obtain a license, registration or certificate issued by the board, commission or commissioner or to aid another in obtaining a license, registration or certificate issued by the board, commission or commissioner; (2) performs work beyond the scope of the license, registration or certificate issued by the board, commission or commissioner; (3) illegally uses or transfers a license, registration or certificate issued by the board, commission or commissioner; (4) performs incompetent or negligent work; (5) makes false, misleading or deceptive representations to the public; (6) has been subject to disciplinary action similar to that specified in subdivision (7) of section 21a-7 or subdivision (4) of subsection (b) of section 21a-8 by a duly authorized professional agency of the United States, any state within the United States, the District of Columbia, a United States possession or territory or a foreign jurisdiction; or (7) violates any provision of the general statutes or any regulation established thereunder, relating to the practitioner's profession or occupation.
- (d) In order to ensure compliance with the provisions of the Sherman Act, 15 USC 1 et seq., as amended from time to time, the Commissioner of Consumer Protection shall reject any proposed final decision of a board or commission submitted for the commissioner's approval pursuant to section 21a-7 if the commissioner finds such decision will have an anticompetitive effect.
- (e) As used in chapters 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 396, 400g, 400j, 482 and 400/:
- (1) "Certificate" includes the whole or part of any Department of Consumer Protection permit which the department issues under authority of the general statutes and which (A) authorizes practice of the profession by certified persons but does not prohibit the practice of the profession by others, not certified, (B) prohibits a person from falsely representing that such person is certified to practice the profession unless the person holds a certificate issued by the department, and (C) requires as a condition of certification that a person submit specified credentials to the department which attest to qualifications to practice the profession.
- (2) "License" includes the whole or part of any Department of Consumer Protection permit, approval, or similar form of permission which the department issues under authority of the general statutes and which requires (A) practice of the profession by licensed persons only, (B) demonstration of competence to practice by examination or other means and meeting of certain minimum standards, and (C) enforcement of standards by the department or regulatory board or commission.
- (3) "Registration" includes the whole or part of any Department of Consumer Protection permit which the department issues under authority of the general statutes and which (A) requires persons to place their names on a list maintained by the department before they can engage in the practice of a specified profession or occupation, (B) does not require a person to

demonstrate competence by examination or other means, and (C) may be revoked or suspended by the commissioner for cause.

- <u>Sec. 21a-10a.</u> Retirement status license. (a) Any person currently holding a license issued by the Department of Consumer Protection pursuant to title 20 who has attained the age of sixty-five may renew his or her license as a retirement status license pursuant to subsections (b) to (d), inclusive, of this section.
- (b) An applicant for a retirement status license shall submit his or her original license to the Department of Consumer Protection, along with a letter of request for such classification. The letter shall contain a statement expressing the licensee's current retirement status and the acceptance of a restriction on the retirement status license prohibiting the applicant from actively engaging in the practice of the occupation or trade for which a license was originally issued.
- (c) A licensee issued a retirement status license shall not practice or offer to practice the occupation or trade for which a license was originally issued.
- (d) If the Department of Consumer Protection issues a retirement status license pursuant to this section, it shall return the original license submitted pursuant to subsection (b) of this section to the applicant. Such original license shall bear a designation or be stamped "Retired".
- (e) The fee for a retirement status license shall be twenty dollars.
- (f) A licensee issued a retirement status license may restore such licensee's original license by submitting a form, to be provided by the Department of Consumer Protection, requesting reinstatement and by paying the current annual fee for such license.
- (g) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection may, for good cause shown, grant a retirement status license to a person who does not meet the requirements of subsection (a) of this section.

<u>Sec. 22a-134. Transfer of hazardous waste establishments</u>: Definitions. For the purposes of this section and sections 22a-134a to 22a-134d, inclusive:

- (1) "Transfer of establishment" means any transaction or proceeding through which an establishment undergoes a change in ownership, but does not mean:
- (A) Conveyance or extinguishment of an easement;
- (B) Conveyance of an establishment through a foreclosure, as defined in subsection (b) of section 22a-452f, foreclosure of a municipal tax lien or through a tax warrant sale pursuant to section 12-157, an exercise of eminent domain by a municipality or pursuant to section 8-128, 8-169e or 8-193 or by condemnation pursuant to section 32-224 or purchase pursuant to a resolution by the legislative body of a municipality authorizing the acquisition through eminent domain for establishments that also meet the definition of a brownfield, as defined in section 32-760, or a subsequent transfer by such municipality that has foreclosed on the property, foreclosed municipal tax liens or that has acquired title to the property through section 12-157, or is within the pilot program established in subsection (c) of section 32-9cc of the general statutes, revision of 1958, revised to January 1, 2013, or the remedial action and redevelopment municipal grant program established in section 32-763, or has acquired such property through the exercise of eminent domain by a municipality or pursuant to section 8-128, 8-169e or 8-193 or by condemnation pursuant to section 32-224 or a resolution adopted in accordance with this subparagraph, provided (i) the party acquiring the property from the municipality did not establish, create or contribute to the contamination at the establishment and is not affiliated with any person who established, created or contributed to such contamination or with any person who is or was an owner or certifying party for the establishment, and (ii) on or before the date the party acquires the property from the municipality, such party or municipality enters and subsequently remains in the voluntary remediation program administered by the commissioner pursuant to section 22a-133x and remains in compliance with schedules and approvals issued by the commissioner. For purposes of this subparagraph, subsequent transfer by a municipality includes any transfer to, from or between a municipality, municipal economic development agency or entity created or operating under chapter 130 or 132, a nonprofit economic development corporation formed to promote the common good, general welfare and economic development of a municipality that is funded, either directly or through inkind services, in part by a municipality, a nonstock corporation or limited liability company controlled or established by a municipality, municipal economic development agency or entity created or operating under chapter 130 or 132, or a Connecticut brownfield land bank;
- (C) Conveyance of a deed in lieu of foreclosure to a lender, as defined in and that qualifies for the secured lender exemption pursuant to subsection (b) of section 22a-452f;
- (D) Conveyance of a security interest, as defined in subdivision (7) of subsection (b) of section 22a-452f;
- (E) Termination of a lease and conveyance, assignment or execution of a lease for a period less than ninety-nine years including conveyance, assignment or execution of a lease with options or similar terms that will extend the period of the leasehold to ninety-nine years, or from the commencement of the leasehold, ninety-nine years, including conveyance, assignment or execution of a lease with options or similar terms that will extend the period of the leasehold to ninety-nine years, or from the commencement of the leasehold;
- (F) Any change in ownership approved by the Probate Court;

- (G) Devolution of title to a surviving joint tenant, or to a trustee, executor or administrator under the terms of a testamentary trust or will, or by intestate succession;
- (H) Corporate reorganization not substantially affecting the ownership of the establishment;
- (I) The issuance of stock or other securities of an entity which owns or operates an establishment;
- (J) The transfer of stock, securities or other ownership interests representing less than forty per cent of the ownership of the entity that owns or operates the establishment;
- (K) Any conveyance of an interest in an establishment where the transferor is the sibling, spouse, child, parent, grandparent, child of a sibling or sibling of a parent of the transferee;
- (L) Conveyance of an interest in an establishment to a trustee of an inter vivos trust created by the transferor solely for the benefit of one or more siblings, spouses, children, parents, grandchildren, children of a sibling or siblings of a parent of the transferor;
- (M) Any conveyance of a portion of a parcel upon which portion no establishment is or has been located and upon which there has not occurred a discharge, spillage, uncontrolled loss, seepage or filtration of hazardous waste, provided either the area of such portion is not greater than fifty per cent of the area of such parcel or written notice of such proposed conveyance and an environmental condition assessment form for such parcel is provided to the commissioner sixty days prior to such conveyance;
- (N) Conveyance of a service station, as defined in subdivision (5) of this section;
- (O) Any conveyance of an establishment which, prior to July 1, 1997, had been developed solely for residential use and such use has not changed;
- (P) Any conveyance of an establishment to any entity created or operating under chapter 130 or 132, or to an urban rehabilitation agency, as defined in section 8-292, or to a municipality under section 32-224, or to Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated or any subsidiary of the corporation;
- (Q) Any conveyance of a parcel in connection with the acquisition of properties to effectuate the development of the overall project, as defined in section 32-651;
- (R) The conversion of a general or limited partnership to a limited liability company;
- (S) The transfer of general partnership property held in the names of all of its general partners to a general partnership which includes as general partners immediately after the transfer all of the same persons as were general partners immediately prior to the transfer;
- (T) The transfer of general partnership property held in the names of all of its general partners to a limited liability company which includes as members immediately after the transfer all of the same persons as were general partners immediately prior to the transfer;
- (U) Acquisition of an establishment by any governmental or quasi-governmental condemning authority;
- (V) Conveyance of any real property or business operation that would qualify as an establishment solely as a result of (i) the generation of more than one hundred kilograms of universal waste in a calendar month, (ii) the storage, handling or transportation of universal waste generated at a different location, or (iii) activities undertaken at a universal waste transfer facility, provided any such real property or business operation does not otherwise qualify as an establishment; there has been no discharge, spillage, uncontrolled loss, seepage or filtration of a universal waste or a constituent of universal waste that is a hazardous substance at or from such real property or business operation; and universal waste is not also recycled, treated, except for treatment of a universal waste pursuant to 40 CFR 273.13(a)(2) or (c)(2) or 40 CFR 273.33 (a)(2) or (c)(2), or disposed of at such real property or business operation;
- (W) Conveyance of a unit in a residential common interest community in accordance with section 22a-134i;
- (X) Acquisition of an establishment that is in the abandoned brownfield cleanup program established pursuant to section 32-768 and all subsequent transfers of the establishment, provided the establishment is undergoing remediation or is remediated in accordance with subsection (f) of section 32-768;
- (Y) Any transfer of title from a bankruptcy court or a municipality to a nonprofit organization;
- (Z) Acquisition of an establishment that is in the brownfield remediation and revitalization program and all subsequent transfers of the establishment, provided the establishment is in compliance with the brownfield investigation plan and remediation schedule, the commissioner has issued a no audit letter or successful audit closure letter in response to a verification or interim verification submitted regarding the remediation of such establishment under the brownfield remediation and revitalization program, or a one-hundred-eighty-day period has expired since a verification or interim verification submitted regarding the remediation of such establishment under the brownfield remediation and revitalization program without an audit decision from the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection;
- (AA) Conveyance of an establishment in connection with the acquisition of properties to effectuate the development of a project certified and approved pursuant to section 32-9v, provided any such property is investigated and remediated in accordance with section 22a-133y;
- (BB) Conveyance from the Department of Transportation to the Connecticut Airport Authority of any properties comprising (i) Bradley International Airport and all related improvements and facilities now in existence and as hereafter acquired, added, extended, improved and equipped, including any property or facilities purchased with funds of, or revenues derived from,

Bradley International Airport, and any other property or facilities allocated by the state, the Connecticut Airport Authority or otherwise to Bradley International Airport, (ii) the state-owned and operated general aviation airports, including Danielson Airport, Groton/New London Airport, Hartford Brainard Airport, Waterbury-Oxford Airport and Windham Airport and any such other airport as may be owned, operated or managed by the Connecticut Airport Authority and designated as general aviation airports, (iii) any other airport as may be owned, operated or managed by the Connecticut Airport Authority, and (iv) any airport site or any part thereof, including, but not limited to, any restricted landing areas and any air navigation facilities; or

- (CC) Conveyance of an establishment to a Connecticut brownfield land bank and all subsequent transfers of such establishment, provided (i) such establishment was entered into a remediation or liability relief program under section 22a-133x, 22a-133y, 32-768, or 32-769, and the conveyor or transferor of such establishment is in compliance with such program at the time of transfer of such establishment, and (ii) none of the activities described in subdivision (3) of this section were conducted at such establishment after the date such establishment was entered into such remediation or liability relief program;
- (2) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection or the designated agent of the commissioner;
- (3) "Establishment" means any real property at which or any business operation from which (A) on or after November 19, 1980, there was generated more than one hundred kilograms of hazardous waste in any one month, (B) hazardous waste generated at a different location was recycled, reclaimed, reused, stored, handled, treated, transported or disposed of, (C) the process of dry cleaning was conducted on or after May 1, 1967, (D) furniture stripping was conducted on or after May 1, 1967, or (E) a vehicle body repair facility was located on or after May 1, 1967. "Establishment" does not include any real property or any business operation from which more than one hundred kilograms of hazardous waste was generated in any one month solely as a result of either:
- (i) The one-time generation of hazardous waste in any one month, as a result of either the first time such waste was generated or such a one-time generation since the last time a Form I, Form II, Form III or Form IV was required to be submitted; or (ii) One or more of the following: (I) Remediation of polluted soil, groundwater or sediment; (II) The removal or abatement of building materials or removal of materials used for maintaining or operating a building; (III) The removal of unused chemicals or materials as a result of the emptying or clearing out of a building, provided such removal is supported by facts reasonably established at the time of such removal; or (IV) The complete cessation of a business operation, provided the waste is removed not later than ninety days after such cessation and such cessation is supported by facts reasonably established at the time of such cessation.
- (4) "Hazardous waste" means any waste which is (A) hazardous waste identified in accordance with Section 3001 of the federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976, 42 USC 6901 et seq., (B) hazardous waste identified by regulations adopted by the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection, or (C) polychlorinated biphenyls in concentrations greater than fifty parts per million except that sewage, sewage sludge and lead paint abatement wastes shall not be considered to be hazardous waste for the purposes of this section and sections 22a-134a to 22a-134d, inclusive;
- (5) "Service station" means a retail operation involving the resale of motor vehicle fuel including, but not limited to, gasoline, diesel fuel and kerosene and which operation does not otherwise meet the definition of an establishment;
- (6) "Certifying party" means, in the case of a Form III or Form IV, a person associated with the transfer of an establishment who signs a Form III or Form IV and who agrees to investigate the parcel in accordance with prevailing standards and guidelines and to remediate pollution caused by any release at the establishment in accordance with the remediation standards and, in the case of a Form I or Form II, a transferor of an establishment who signs the certification on a Form I or II;
- (7) "Party associated with the transfer of an establishment" means (A) the present or past owner or operator of the establishment, (B) the owner of the real property on which the establishment is located, (C) the transferor, transferee, lender, guarantor or indemnitor, (D) the business entity which operates or operated the establishment, or (E) the state;
- (8) "Remediation standards" means regulations adopted by the commissioner pursuant to section 22a-133k;
- (9) "Parcel" means piece, parcel or tract of land which constitutes an establishment, as defined in subdivision (3) of this section, or on which is or was located any business operation which constitutes an establishment;
- (10) "Form I" means a written certification by the transferor of an establishment on a form prescribed and provided by the commissioner that: (A) No discharge, spillage, uncontrolled loss, seepage or filtration of hazardous waste or a hazardous substance has occurred at the establishment which certification is based on an investigation of the parcel in accordance with prevailing standards and guidelines, or (B) no discharge spillage, uncontrolled loss, seepage or filtration of hazardous waste has occurred at the establishment based upon an investigation of the parcel in accordance with the prevailing standards and guidelines and the commissioner has determined, in writing, or a licensed environmental professional has verified, in writing, that any discharge, spillage, uncontrolled loss, seepage or filtration of a hazardous substance has been remediated in accordance with the remediation standards and that since any such written approval or verification, including any approval or verification for a portion of an establishment, no discharge, spillage, uncontrolled loss, seepage or filtration of hazardous waste or hazardous substances has occurred at any portion of the establishment;

- (11) "Form II" means a written certification by the transferor of an establishment on a form prescribed and provided by the commissioner that the parcel has been investigated in accordance with prevailing standards and guidelines and that (A) any pollution caused by a discharge, spillage, uncontrolled loss, seepage or filtration of hazardous waste or a hazardous substance which has occurred from the establishment has been remediated in accordance with the remediation standards and that the remediation has been approved in writing by the commissioner or has been verified pursuant to section 22a-133x or section 22a-134a in writing attached to such form by a licensed environmental professional to have been performed in accordance with the remediation standards and that since any such written approval or verification, including any approval or verification for a portion of an establishment, no discharge, spillage, uncontrolled loss, seepage or filtration of hazardous waste or hazardous substances has occurred at any portion of the establishment, (B) the commissioner has determined in writing or a licensed environmental professional has verified pursuant to section 22a-133x or section 22a-134a in writing, attached to the form that no remediation is necessary to achieve compliance with the remediation standards, or (C) a Form IV verification was previously submitted to the commissioner and, since the date of the submission of the Form IV, no discharge, spillage, uncontrolled loss, seepage or filtration of hazardous waste or a hazardous substance has occurred at the establishment, which certification is based on an investigation of the parcel in accordance with prevailing standards and guidelines;
- (12) "Form III" means a written certification signed by a certifying party on a form prescribed and provided by the commissioner, which certification states that (A) a discharge, spillage, uncontrolled loss, seepage or filtration of hazardous waste or a hazardous substance has occurred at the establishment or the environmental conditions at the establishment are unknown, and (B) that the person signing the certification agrees to investigate the parcel in accordance with prevailing standards and guidelines and to remediate pollution caused by any release of a hazardous waste or hazardous substance from the establishment in accordance with the remediation standards;
- (13) "Form IV" means a written certification signed by one or more certifying parties on a form prescribed and provided by the commissioner and which is accompanied by a written determination by the commissioner or by a verification by a licensed environmental professional pursuant to section 22a-134a or 22a-133x, which certification states and is accompanied by documentation demonstrating that the parcel has been investigated in accordance with prevailing standards and guidelines and that (A) there has been a discharge, spillage, uncontrolled loss, seepage or filtration of hazardous waste or a hazardous substance on the establishment, and (B) all actions to remediate any pollution caused by any release at the establishment have been taken in accordance with the remediation standards except postremediation monitoring, natural attenuation monitoring or the recording of an environmental land use restriction, and (C) the person or persons signing the certification agree, in accordance with the representations made in the form, to conduct postremediation monitoring or natural attenuation monitoring in accordance with the remediation standards and if further investigation and remediation are necessary to take further action to investigate the establishment in accordance with prevailing standards and guidelines and to remediate the establishment in accordance with the remediation standards;
- (14) "Person" means person, as defined in section 22a-2;
- (15) "Remediate" means to contain, remove or abate pollution, potential sources of pollution and substances in soil or sediment which pose an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment and includes, but is not limited to, the reduction of pollution by natural attenuation;
- (16) "Licensed environmental professional" means an environmental professional licensed pursuant to section 22a-133v;
- (17) "Environmental condition assessment form" means a form prescribed and provided by the commissioner, prepared under the supervision of a licensed environmental professional, and executed by (A) the certifying party under sections 22a-134 to 22a-134e, inclusive, or (B) the owner of the property under section 22a-133x which form describes the environmental conditions at the parcel;
- (18) "Pollution" means pollution, as defined in section 22a-423;
- (19) "Verification" means the rendering of a written opinion by a licensed environmental professional on a form prescribed by the commissioner that an investigation of the parcel has been performed in accordance with prevailing standards and guidelines and that the establishment has been remediated in accordance with the remediation standards;
- (20) "Vehicle" means any motorized device for conveying persons or objects except for an aircraft, boat, railroad car or engine, or farm tractor;
- (21) "Business operation" means any business that has, or any series of substantially similar businesses that have, operated continuously or with only brief interruption on the same parcel, either with a single owner or successive owners;
- (22) "Corporate reorganization not substantially affecting the ownership of an establishment" means implementation of a business plan to restructure a corporation through a merger, spin-off or other plan or reorganization under which the direct owner of the establishment does not change;
- (23) "Form IV verification" means the rendering of a written opinion by a licensed environmental professional, after a Form IV has been filed, that post-remediation monitoring, natural attenuation or the recording of an environmental land use restriction has been completed in accordance with the Form IV;
- (24) "Hazardous substance" means hazardous substance, as defined in Section 101 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, 42 USC 9601, or a petroleum product or by-product for which there are

remediation standards adopted pursuant to section 22a-133k or for which such remediation standards have a process for calculating the numeric criteria of such substance;

- (25) "Sediment" means unconsolidated material occurring in a stream, pond, wetland estuary or other water body;
- (26) "Universal waste" means batteries, pesticides, thermostats, lamps and used electronics regulated as a universal waste under regulations adopted pursuant to subsection (c) of section 22a-449. "Universal waste" does not mean (A) batteries, pesticides, thermostats and lamps that are not covered under 40 CFR Part 273, or (B) used electronics that are not regulated as a universal waste under regulations adopted pursuant to subsection (c) of section 22a-449;
- (27) "Universal waste transfer facility" means any facility related to transportation, including loading docks, parking areas, storage areas and other similar areas where shipments of universal waste are held during the normal course of transportation for ten days or less;
- (28) "Interim verification" means a written opinion by a licensed environmental professional, on a form prescribed by the commissioner, that (A) the investigation has been performed in accordance with prevailing standards and guidelines, (B) the remediation has been completed in accordance with the remediation standards, except that, for remediation standards for groundwater, the selected remedy is in operation but has not achieved the remediation standards for groundwater, (C) identifies the long-term remedy being implemented to achieve groundwater standards, the estimated duration of such remedy, and the ongoing operation and maintenance requirements for continued operation of such remedy, and (D) there are no current exposure pathways to the groundwater area that have not yet met the remediation standards.
- (29) "Connecticut brownfield land bank" has the same meaning as provided in section 32-760.

<u>Sec. 46a-59. Discrimination in associations of licensed persons prohibited. Penalty.</u> (a) It shall be a discriminatory practice in violation of this section for any association, board or other organization the principal purpose of which is the furtherance of the professional or occupational interests of its members, whose profession, trade or occupation requires a state license, to refuse to accept a person as a member of such association, board or organization because of his race, national origin, creed, sex, gender identity or expression, color or status as a veteran.

(b) Any association, board or other organization which violates the provisions of this section shall be fined not less than one hundred dollars nor more than five hundred dollars.

<u>Sec. 46a-64c. Discriminatory housing practices prohibited. Disposition of complaints. Penalty.</u> (a) It shall be a discriminatory practice in violation of this section:

- (1) To refuse to sell or rent after the making of a bona fide offer, or to refuse to negotiate for the sale or rental of, or otherwise make unavailable or deny, a dwelling to any person because of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, gender identity or expression, marital status, age, lawful source of income, familial status or status as a veteran.
- (2) To discriminate against any person in the terms, conditions, or privileges of sale or rental of a dwelling, or in the provision of services or facilities in connection therewith, because of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, gender identity or expression, marital status, age, lawful source of income, familial status or status as a veteran.
- (3) To make, print or publish, or cause to be made, printed or published any notice, statement, or advertisement, with respect to the sale or rental of a dwelling that indicates any preference, limitation, or discrimination based on race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, gender identity or expression, marital status, age, lawful source of income, familial status, learning disability, physical or mental disability or status as a veteran, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination.
- (4) (A) To represent to any person because of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, gender identity or expression, marital status, age, lawful source of income, familial status, learning disability, physical or mental disability or status as a veteran that any dwelling is not available for inspection, sale or rental when such dwelling is in fact so available.
- (B) It shall be a violation of this subdivision for any person to restrict or attempt to restrict the choices of any buyer or renter to purchase or rent a dwelling (i) to an area which is substantially populated, even if less than a majority, by persons of the same protected class as the buyer or renter, (ii) while such person is authorized to offer for sale or rent another dwelling which meets the housing criteria as expressed by the buyer or renter to such person, and (iii) such other dwelling is in an area which is not substantially populated by persons of the same protected class as the buyer or renter. As used in this subdivision, "area" means municipality, neighborhood or other geographic subdivision which may include an apartment or condominium complex; and "protected class" means race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, gender identity or expression, marital status, age, lawful source of income, familial status, learning disability, physical or mental disability or status as a veteran.
- (5) For profit, to induce or attempt to induce any person to sell or rent any dwelling by representations regarding the entry or prospective entry into the neighborhood of a person or persons of a particular race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, gender identity or expression, marital status, age, lawful source of income, familial status, learning disability, physical or mental disability or status as a veteran.
- (6) (A) To discriminate in the sale or rental, or to otherwise make unavailable or deny, a dwelling to any buyer or renter because of a learning disability or physical or mental disability of: (i) Such buyer or renter; (ii) a person residing in or intending to reside in such dwelling after it is so sold, rented, or made available; or (iii) any person associated with such buyer or renter.

- (B) To discriminate against any person in the terms, conditions or privileges of sale or rental of a dwelling, or in the provision of services or facilities in connection with such dwelling, because of a learning disability or physical or mental disability of: (i) Such person; or (ii) a person residing in or intending to reside in such dwelling after it is so sold, rented, or made available; or (iii) any person associated with such person.
- (C) For purposes of this subdivision, discrimination includes: (i) A refusal to permit, at the expense of a person with a physical or mental disability, reasonable modifications of existing premises occupied or to be occupied by such person if such modifications may be necessary to afford such person full enjoyment of the premises; except that, in the case of a rental, the landlord may, where it is reasonable to do so, condition permission for a modification on the renter agreeing to restore the interior of the premises to the condition that existed before the modification, reasonable wear and tear excepted; (ii) a refusal to make reasonable accommodations in rules, policies, practices or services, when such accommodations may be necessary to afford such person equal opportunity to use and enjoy a dwelling; (iii) in connection with the design and construction of covered multifamily dwellings for the first occupancy after March 13, 1991, a failure to design and construct those dwellings in such manner that they comply with the requirements of Section 804(f) of the Fair Housing Act or the provisions of the state building code as adopted pursuant to the provisions of sections 29-269 and 29-273, whichever requires greater accommodation. "Covered multifamily dwellings" means buildings consisting of four or more units if such buildings have one or more elevators, and ground floor units in other buildings consisting of four or more units.
- (7) For any person or other entity engaging in residential real-estate-related transactions to discriminate against any person in making available such a transaction, or in the terms or conditions of such a transaction, because of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, gender identity or expression, marital status, age, lawful source of income, familial status, learning disability, physical or mental disability or status as a veteran.
- (8) To deny any person access to or membership or participation in any multiple-listing service, real estate brokers' organization or other service, organization, or facility relating to the business of selling or renting dwellings, or to discriminate against him in the terms or conditions of such access, membership or participation, on account of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, gender identity or expression, marital status, age, lawful source of income, familial status, learning disability, physical or mental disability or status as a veteran.
- (9) To coerce, intimidate, threaten, or interfere with any person in the exercise or enjoyment of, or on account of his having exercised or enjoyed, or on account of his having aided or encouraged any other person in the exercise or enjoyment of, any right granted or protected by this section.
- (b) (1) The provisions of this section shall not apply to (A) the rental of a room or rooms in a single-family dwelling unit if the owner actually maintains and occupies part of such living quarters as his residence or (B) a unit in a dwelling containing living quarters occupied or intended to be occupied by no more than two families living independently of each other, if the owner actually maintains and occupies the other such living quarters as his residence. (2) The provisions of this section with respect to the prohibition of discrimination on the basis of marital status shall not be construed to prohibit the denial of a dwelling to a man or a woman who are both unrelated by blood and not married to each other. (3) The provisions of this section with respect to the prohibition of discrimination on the basis of age shall not apply to minors, to special discount or other public or private programs to assist persons sixty years of age and older or to housing for older persons as defined in section 46a-64b, provided there is no discrimination on the basis of age among older persons eligible for such housing. (4) The provisions of this section with respect to the prohibition of discrimination on the basis of familial status shall not apply to housing for older persons as defined in section 46a-64b or to a unit in a dwelling containing units for no more than four families living independently of each other, if the owner of such dwelling resides in one of the units. (5) The provisions of this section with respect to the prohibition of discrimination on the basis of lawful source of income shall not prohibit the denial of full and equal accommodations solely on the basis of insufficient income. (6) The provisions of this section with respect to the prohibition of discrimination on the basis of sex shall not apply to the rental of sleeping accommodations to the extent they utilize shared bathroom facilities when such sleeping accommodations are provided by associations and organizations which rent such sleeping accommodations on a temporary or permanent basis for the exclusive use of persons of the same sex based on considerations of privacy and modesty.
- (c) Nothing in this section limits the applicability of any reasonable state statute or municipal ordinance restricting the maximum number of persons permitted to occupy a dwelling.
- (d) Nothing in this section or section 46a-64b shall be construed to invalidate or limit any state statute or municipal ordinance that requires dwellings to be designed and constructed in a manner that affords persons with physical or mental disabilities greater access than is required by this section or section 46a-64b.
- (e) Nothing in this section prohibits a person engaged in the business of furnishing appraisals of real property to take into consideration factors other than race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, gender identity or expression, marital status, age, lawful source of income, familial status, learning disability, physical or mental disability or status as a veteran.
- (f) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, complaints alleging a violation of this section shall be investigated within one hundred days of filing and a final administrative disposition shall be made within one year of filing unless it is impracticable to do so. If the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities is unable to complete its investigation or make

a final administrative determination within such time frames, it shall notify the complainant and the respondent in writing of the reasons for not doing so.

(g) Any person who violates any provision of this section shall be guilty of a class D misdemeanor.

Sec. 46a-80. Denial of employment based on prior conviction of crime. Inquiry re prospective employee's past convictions. Dissemination of arrest record prohibited. (a) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, subsection (b) of section 46a-81 and section 36a-489, and notwithstanding any other provisions of law to the contrary, a person shall not be disqualified from employment by the state or any of its agencies, nor shall a person be disqualified to practice, pursue or engage in any occupation, trade, vocation, profession or business for which a license, permit, certificate or registration is required to be issued by the state or any of its agencies solely because of a prior conviction of a crime.

- (b) Except for a position for which any provision of the general statutes specifically disqualifies a person from employment by the state or any of its agencies because of a prior conviction of a crime, no employer, as defined in section 5-270, shall inquire about a prospective employee's past convictions until such prospective employee has been deemed otherwise qualified for the position.
- (c) A person may be denied employment by the state or any of its agencies, or a person may be denied a license, permit, certificate or registration to pursue, practice or engage in an occupation, trade, vocation, profession or business by reason of the prior conviction of a crime if, after considering (1) the nature of the crime and its relationship to the job for which the person has applied; (2) information pertaining to the degree of rehabilitation of the convicted person; and (3) the time elapsed since the conviction or release, the state or any of its agencies determines that the applicant is not suitable for the position of employment sought or the specific occupation, trade, vocation, profession or business for which the license, permit, certificate or registration is sought. In making a determination under this subsection, the state or any of its agencies shall give consideration to a provisional pardon issued pursuant to section 54-130e, or a certificate of rehabilitation issued pursuant to section 54-108f or 54-130e, and such provisional pardon or certificate of rehabilitation shall establish a presumption that such applicant has been rehabilitated. If an application is denied based on a conviction for which the applicant has received a provisional pardon or certificate of rehabilitation, the state or any of its agencies, as the case may be, shall provide a written statement to the applicant of its reasons for such denial.
- (d) If a conviction of a crime is used as a basis for rejection of an applicant, such rejection shall be in writing and specifically state the evidence presented and reasons for rejection. A copy of such rejection shall be sent by registered mail to the applicant.
- (e) In no case may records of arrest, which are not followed by a conviction, or records of convictions, which have been erased, be used, distributed or disseminated by the state or any of its agencies in connection with an application for employment or for a permit, license, certificate or registration.
- <u>Sec. 47a-3f. Rental agreement: Notice re operative fire sprinkler system.</u> (a) As used in this section, "fire sprinkler system" means a system of piping and appurtenances designed and installed in accordance with generally accepted standards so that heat from a fire will automatically cause water to be discharged over the fire area to extinguish or prevent its further spread.
- (b) When renting a dwelling unit in a building required to be equipped with a fire sprinkler system pursuant to section 29-315, the State Fire Safety Code, the State Fire Prevention Code or any other statute or regulation, the landlord of such dwelling unit shall include notice in the rental agreement as to the existence or nonexistence of an operative fire sprinkler system in such building, and such notice shall be printed in not less than twelve-point boldface type of uniform font.
- (c) If there is an operative fire sprinkler system in the building, the rental agreement shall provide further notice as to the last date of maintenance and inspection, and such notice shall be printed in not less than twelve-point boldface type of uniform font.

Sec. 47-36bb. Validation re transfer of interest in real property to trust rather than trustee. Treatment of subsequent transfers. Indexing by town clerk. Presumptions re certain instruments recorded in the land records. (a) Any transfer of an interest in real property to a trust, rather than to the trustee or trustees of the trust, shall constitute a valid and enforceable transfer of such interest.

- (b) Any subsequent transfer of such interest in real property, or any portion or part thereof (1) made by the trust and executed by a duly authorized trustee of the trust, shall be treated as if the transfer was made by such duly authorized trustee, or (2) made and executed by a duly authorized trustee of the trust, shall be treated as if the transfer was made by the trust.
- (c) Any instrument whose grantor, grantee, releasor, releasee, assignor, assignee, transferor or transferee is a trust shall be indexed by the town clerk in the name of the trust identified in such instrument and also in the name or names of all trustees identified in such instrument.

- (d) With respect to any instrument that has been recorded in the land records and whose grantor, releasor, assignor or transferor is a trust, it shall be presumed, in the absence of evidence in the land records indicating otherwise, that the (1) person who executed such instrument on the trust's behalf was duly authorized to so act, and (2) trust on whose behalf such person acted contained a provision conferring upon the trustee or trustees, the power to convey an interest in real property.
- Sec. 49-7f. Mortgage brokers and lenders prohibited from referring buyers of real property to a real estate broker, salesperson or attorney for a fee or commission. Suspension or revocation of licenses. (a) No mortgage broker or lender, as defined in subdivision (5) of section 49-31d, or any person affiliated with such mortgage broker or lender shall receive a fee, commission or other form of referral fee for the referral of any person to (1) a real estate broker, real estate salesperson, as defined in section 20-311, or any person affiliated with such broker or salesperson or any person engaged in the real estate business, as defined in said section 20-311, or (2) an attorney-at-law admitted to practice within this state or any person affiliated with such attorney.
- (b) Any person who violates the provisions of subsection (a) of this section shall upon a verified complaint in writing of any person, provided such complaint, or such complaint together with evidence, documentary or otherwise, presented in connection therewith, shall make out a prima facie case, to the Banking Commissioner, who shall investigate the actions of any mortgage broker or lender, or any person who assumes to act in any of such capacities within this state. The Banking Commissioner shall have the power temporarily to suspend or permanently to revoke any license issued under the provisions of subpart (A) of part I of chapter 668 and, in addition to or in lieu of such suspension or revocation, may, in the commissioner's discretion, impose a fine of not more than one thousand dollars for each offense for any violation of the provisions of subsection (a) of this section.
- PA 19-88. An Act Concerning Real estate Closings. (a) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, no person shall conduct a real estate closing unless such person has been admitted as an attorney in this state under the provisions of section 51-80 of the general statutes and has not been disqualified from the practice of law due to resignation, disbarment, being placed on inactive status or suspension. For the purposes of this subsection, "real estate closing" means a closing for (1) a mortgage loan transaction, other than a home equity line of credit transaction or any other loan transaction that does not involve the issuance of a lender's or mortgagee's policy of title insurance in connection with such transaction, to be secured by real property in this state, or (2) any transaction wherein consideration is paid by a party to such transaction to effectuate a change in the ownership of real property in this state.
- (b) Any person who violates the provisions of subsection (a) of this section shall have committed a violation of subdivision (8) of subsection (a) of section 51-88 of the general statutes and be subject to the penalties set forth in subsection (b) of section 51-88 of the general statutes.
- Sec. 51-81h. Escrow agreement not invalid when attorney-at-law, law firm or agent is escrow holder. (a) For the purposes of this section: (1) "Escrow agreement" means a written or oral agreement under which money, documents, instruments or other property is delivered by a party to the agreement or another person to a third party to be held by such third party for delivery or disbursement to another party to the agreement or another person upon the occurrence of an event or condition specified in the agreement.
- (2) "Escrow holder" means a third party to whom money, documents, instruments or other property is delivered for subsequent delivery or disbursement in accordance with the escrow agreement.
- (b) No escrow agreement shall be ineffective, invalid or unenforceable because the escrow holder is the attorney-at-law, law firm or agent for one or more parties to the escrow agreement, whether in connection with the matter to which the escrow agreement is related or otherwise.
- Sec. 51-87b. Attorneys and persons affiliated with attorneys prohibited from referring persons to real estate brokers, salespersons, or mortgage brokers or lenders, for fee or commission. Penalties. (a) No attorney-at-law admitted to practice within this state or any person affiliated with such attorney may receive a fee, commission or other form of referral fee for the referral of any person to (1) a real estate broker or real estate salesperson, as defined in section 20-311, or any person affiliated with such broker or salesperson or any person engaged in the real estate business, as defined in said section 20-311, or (2) any mortgage broker or mortgage lender, as defined in subdivision (5) of section 49-31d, or any person affiliated with such mortgage broker or lender.
- (b) Any person who violates the provisions of subsection (a) of this section shall be subject to the penalties set forth in subsection (b) of section 51-87.



PASSING SCORES FOR BROKERS, SALESPERSONS

<u>Sec. 20-314-1. Passing score to attain real estate broker's license</u>. A score of at least 75% must be attained by an applicant in order to pass the personal written_examination for a Real Estate Broker's license given by the Department of Consumer Protection or a national testing service.

<u>Sec. 20-314-2. Passing score to attain real estate salesman's license</u>. A score of at least 70% must be attained by an applicant in order to pass the personal written examination for a Real Estate Salesman's license given by the Department of Consumer Protection or a national testing service.



APPROVAL OF REAL ESTATE SCHOOLS AND COURSES

<u>Sec. 20-314a-1. School approval procedure</u>. (a) Each school desirous of offering approved real estate courses shall submit a formal filing of each course seeking approval with the real estate commission. Approved courses shall not be held on the premises of a real estate brokerage office, real estate franchise or appraiser's office.

(b) Each school seeking approval of its real estate broker's courses shall offer to the general public at least the three courses required to meet the minimum broker's qualification. These shall include, but not be limited to the following: (1) a real estate principles and practices course consisting of not less than sixty classroom hours of study, (2) a real estate legal compliance course consisting of not less than fifteen classroom hours of study, and (3) a real estate course consisting of at least thirty classroom hours of study approved by the commission.

<u>Sec. 20-314a-2. Course filing requirements</u>. The filing for each course shall include, but not be limited to the following: (1) detailed course outline, (2) instructors' lecture guidelines, (3) copy of text and related teaching materials, (4) copy of final examination, (5) copy of any quizzes, (6) grading system, (7) copy of affidavits and certificates to be issued, (8) copy of all proposed advertising and publicity, (9) seminars and indoctrination attended by instructors, (10) locations of all classrooms, (11) names and addresses of all instructors to be used.

Sec. 20-314a-3. Instructor approved. Each request for the approval of an instructor shall be made in writing together with a resume of the individual setting forth specific real estate education and experience. Instructors shall possess the following minimum qualifications: (1) Five years of experience as a practicing broker or a professional designation from an institute or society in the field the proposed instructor wishes to teach, or (2) Experience in teaching a course in a formal education program or attendance at an accredited college or university extension instructors seminar. For collegiate level courses in degree programs, the instructor should have teaching experience plus a master's degree in an appropriate field or such other combination of qualifications as the commission may approve.

<u>Sec. 20-314a-4. Principals and practice course</u>. The real estate principles and practice course shall consist of a minimum of sixty hours of classroom instruction and shall include, but not be limited to the following subject matter: (1) real estate law, (2) brokerage, (3) Connecticut real estate licensing laws and regulations, (4) equal opportunity in housing, (5) real estate valuation, (6) financing, (7) specialized fields of real estate practice, (8) development, (9) land use regulations, (10) taxation, (11) market analysis, (12) the real estate business.

Sec. 20-314a-5. Appraisal I course. (a) The real estate appraisal I course, entitled residential real estate appraisal, shall consist of a minimum of thirty hours of classroom instruction and shall include, but not be limited to, the following subject matter: (1) nature of appraisals and appraising, (2) nature and principles of real estate value, (3) the appraisal framework, (4) region, neighborhood and site analysis, (5)improvements analysis, (6) site valuation, (7) direct sales comparison, (8) gross rent multiplier analysis, (9) cost analysis, (10) correlation and final value estimate, (11) appraisal report writing, and (12) professional ethics and standards of practice for appraisers.

(b) The real estate appraisal II course, entitled income-producing real estate appraisal, shall consist of a minimum of thirty hours of classroom instruction and shall include, but not be limited to, the following subject matter: (1) income capitalization approach, (2) income expectancy, (3) relationship of income and value, (4) analysis of market evidence, (5) direct capitalization, (6) mathematics of finance and compound interest tables, (7) lease interests, (8) mortgage equity

capitalization, (9) internal rate of return, (10) discounting procedures, (11) cash flow analysis, and (12) ethics and professional standards.

<u>Sec. 20-314a-6.</u> Related courses. All related courses seeking approval shall consist of a minimum of thirty hours of classroom instruction and include, but not be limited to the fundamentals expected to be obtained from such course. Said course content shall be approved on an individual basis.

Sec. 20-314a-7. Advertising guidelines. All schools advertising approved courses shall comply with the following guidelines:

- (1) All advertising materials shall be submitted prior to publication,
- (2) All advertising and notices shall tell the truth and reveal significant facts, the concealment of which would mislead the public,
- (3) Advertisers and their agents shall be willing to provide substantiation of claims made,
- (4) All advertising and public notices shall be free of statements, illustrations or implications which do not enhance the dignity and integrity of the real estate profession,
- (5) All facilities offering services shall refrain from attacking competitors unfairly or disparaging their services or methods of operations,
- (6) All advertising and written or oral statements shall avoid the use of exaggerated or unprovable claims and misrepresentations. In discussing the student's possible or potential economic future in the field of real estate only reasonable claims may be made,
- (7) No unfounded guarantee shall be offered. All notices shall clearly and conspicuously disclose the full nature of services offered,
- (8) False or misleading claims as to tuition and other course costs shall be clearly avoided,
- (9) Material containing testimonials shall be clearly limited to those individuals reflecting their own personal experiences,
- (10) In any advertising all schools are to refrain from using the wording "Approved by the Connecticut Real Estate Commission." The following wording may be used: "This course meets the minimum requirements as set forth by the real estate commission,"
- (11) The size of type setting forth the wording in item 10 of this section no larger than the smaller type used in the advertisement,
- (12) All locations where courses are offered must be submitted to the real estate commission for prior approval.

Sec. 20-314a-8. Affidavit or certificate requirements. No affidavit or certificate of successful completion of an approved course of study in real estate shall be issued to any student unless said student shall have first attended a minimum of thirty hours of classroom instruction, except in the case of principles and practice, where attendance shall be a minimum of sixty hours, and shall have achieved a passing numerical grade of at least 70% on a final examination. Each school shall issue an affidavit to the student in such form as may be adopted by the school attesting to the required minimum attendance, dates of attendance, school code and final numerical grade for the course. Said affidavit is to be signed by an authorized official of the school.

<u>Sec. 20-314a-9. Course approval by commission</u>. Each school conducting an approved course shall, at least ten days prior to the first scheduled session of each course, submit to the commission a schedule of the dates, hours, locations, advertising and instructors for each course to be offered. No courses shall commence or be advertised as approved nor shall an instructor be used in the classroom without prior written approval of this commission. There shall be no change or alteration in any approved course or instructional staff without prior written notice and approval of the commission.

<u>Sec. 20-314a-10.</u> Records. All schools conducting approved courses shall keep and retain complete records of student attendance and grades for a period of at least three years after the completion of each course and such records shall be available for inspection by the commission.

<u>Sec. 20-314a-11. Commission visits</u>. The commission may, without prior notice, visit the school and observe the instruction given to insure proper standards as to method and content of any approved courses.

<u>Sec. 20-319-1. School and course approval</u>. (a) Each school, institution or organization desirous of offering courses of real estate continuing education shall submit a formal filing for each course for which approval is sought to the Connecticut Real Estate Commission.

(b) The filing for each course shall include, but not be limited to, the following: (1) detailed course outline; (2) instructors' lecture guidelines; (3) copy of text and/or related teaching materials; (4) copy of affidavits and certificates to be issued by the school, institution or organization upon completion of the course other than that prescribed by the commission, (5) copy of

all proposed advertising; (6) locations of all classrooms, unless the course is a distance education course; (7) names and addresses of all instructors to be used; and (8) tuition and other related costs.

- (c) No course of less than three (3) hours will be approved.
- (d) No distance education course shall be permitted, unless such course has received a distance education certification from the association of real estate license law officials (ARELLO).
- (e) Each school, institution or organization shall submit an updated course filing containing any changes from the previous offering within each two (2) year period from original approval date.
- <u>Sec. 20-319-2.</u> Notification of course offering and locations. (a) Each school, institution or organization conducting an approved course shall, at least ten (10) days prior to the first scheduled session of each course submit to the commission a schedule of the dates, hours, locations, tuition fees and instructors for each course to be offered. No courses shall commence or be advertised as approved, without prior written approval of the commission. There shall be no change or alteration in any approved course without prior written notice and approval of the commission. Course approval may be withdrawn for failure to comply with the provisions of Sections 20-319-1 through 20-319-9 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies.
- (b) Identification of all locations where courses are offered must be submitted to the Connecticut Real Estate Commission for prior approval. Each course of study, except distance education courses, shall be offered in a classroom or other facility which is adequate to implement the offering. Approved courses shall not be held on the premises of a real estate brokerage office or real estate franchise. Classroom locations shall be approved by the local Fire Marshal for such use.
- <u>Sec. 20-319-3. Course content</u>. (a) The contents of continuing education programs shall consist of current real estate licensing laws and practices that are broad-based and essential to the role of a real estate general practitioner as he or she acts in the best interests of the consumer. These contents shall directly relate to real estate principles and practices such as described in the Connecticut Real Estate Licensing Laws and Regulations and any overview text on real estate principles and practices or to new developments in the field for which licensees have a demonstrated need.
- (b) Real estate brokers and salespersons shall take courses consisting of at least twelve (12) classroom hours in each two (2) year continuing education period. The following course shall be mandated unless otherwise directed by the real estate commission: One course consisting of at least three (3) classroom hours in current real estate and fair housing legislation, licensing laws and regulations.
- (c) The commission shall not approve offerings in mechanical office and business skills such as typing, speed-reading, memory development, personal motivation, salesmanship, sales psychology, nor sales promotions or other meetings held in conjunction with the general business of a salesperson's broker. Generally acceptable courses may include, but shall not be limited to:
 - (1) Fair Housing Laws;
 - (2) Ethics;
 - (3) Finance;
 - (4) Appraisal;
 - (5) Management;
 - (6) Planning and Zoning;
 - (7) Securities and Syndications;
 - (8) Investment Analysis;
 - (9) Common Interest Ownership;
 - (10) Interstate Land Sales;
 - (11) Taxes and Liens;
 - (12) Title Closing;
 - (13) Real Estate Documents; and
 - (14) Real Estate Math.
- (d) Courses completed prior to certification by the Connecticut Real Estate Commission may not qualify for continuing education Hours.
- (e) Continuing education hours shall not be approved more than once for completing the same course within each two (2) year continuing education period.

Sec. 20-319-4. Advertising. All schools advertising courses shall comply with the following requirements:

- (a) All advertising materials shall be submitted to the commission prior to publication;
- (b) All advertising and notices shall not be deceptive or misleading and shall reveal significant facts, the concealment of which would mislead the public;
- (c) Advertisers and their agents shall substantiate claims made in an advertisement upon request of the commission;

- (d) All advertising and written or oral statements shall avoid the use of exaggerated or unprovable claims and misrepresentations. In discussing the student's possible or potential economic future in the field of real estate, only reasonable claims may be made;
- (e) No unfounded guarantee shall be offered. All notices shall clearly and conspicuously disclose the full nature of services offered;
- (f) False or misleading claims as to tuition and other course costs are prohibited;
- (g) Material containing testimonials shall be clearly limited to those individuals reflecting their own personal experiences;
- (h) In any advertising all schools are to refrain from using the wording "Approved by the Department of Consumer Protection/Real Estate Commission" or other like wording. The following wording may be used: "This course meets the minimum requirements as set forth by the Department of Consumer Protection/Real Estate Commission"; and
- (i) The size of type setting forth the wording in item (h) of this section shall be no larger than the smaller type used on the advertisement.
- <u>Sec. 20-319-5.</u> Records. (a) All schools, institutions or organizations conducting approved courses shall keep and retain complete records of student attendance and evidence of completion for a period of at least four (4) years after the completion of each course. Such records shall be available for inspection by the commission. Upon satisfactory completion of any approved course, a certificate, as prescribed by the commission, will be furnished by the school, institution or organization to the student.
- (b) The burden of proof of completion of each course shall be upon the licensee. Documentation of such courses shall be submitted in such manner and at such times as prescribed by the commission.
- <u>Sec. 20-319-6.</u> Equivalent continuing education experience and study. (a) Courses approved by the Connecticut Real Estate Commission pursuant to sections 20-314a-4, 20-314a-5 or 20-314a-6 of the regulations may be deemed equivalent for purposes of continuing educational study.
- (b) Any other continuing educational courses taken by the licensee shall be considered by the commission on an individual basis. Evidence of such courses must be submitted 90 days prior to the end of each two (2) year continuing education period.
- (c) Instructing an approved continuing education course or courses taught pursuant to sections 20-314a-4, 20-314a-5 or 20-314a-6 of these regulations shall be deemed equivalent for purposes of continuing educational experience. Continuing education credit for such instruction shall not be accepted by the Connecticut Real Estate Commission if for less than three (3) hours. Continuing education hours shall not be approved more than once for instructing the same course within each two
- (2) year continuing education period.
- <u>Sec. 20-319-7. Written exam.</u> The written exam option as provided by section 20-319 (a) (2) of the General Statutes will be conducted by either the Department of Consumer Protection or a national testing service at the time, place and dates prescribed by the department or such national testing service. Such exam will cover current real estate practices and licensing laws.
- <u>Sec. 20-319-8. Hardship.</u> Upon appropriate showing of a bona fide health, or other individual hardship, the commission may consider an exception to the continuing education requirements as set forth in section 20-319 of the General Statutes.
- (a) Loss of income resulting from cancellation of a license is not a bona fide hardship.
- (b) Requests for exceptions shall be submitted in writing not less than 60 days prior to the date of license renewal and shall include an explanation and verification of the hardship.
- (c) Exceptions may include but not be limited to: (1) individuals serving in military service; and (2) individuals who are physically handicapped which handicap prohibits them from sitting for an exam or attending courses.
- <u>Sec. 20-319-9. Hearings on denial of school or course approval</u>. (a) Upon the refusal of the commission to approve a school, institution or organization for the offering of continuing education courses or a particular course or upon the decision of the Connecticut Real Estate Commission to withdraw such approval, the commission shall notify the applicant of the denial and of his right to request a hearing within ten (10) days from the date of receipt of the notice of denial.
- (b) In the event the applicant requests a hearing within such ten (10) days, the commission shall give notice of the grounds for his refusal and shall conduct a hearing concerning such refusal in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 54 of the General Statutes concerning contested matters.



MORTGAGE BROKERAGE FEES CHARGED BY REAL ESTATE BROKERS AND SALESPERSONS

<u>Sec. 20-325c-1. Definitions</u>. As used in Sections 1 to 5, inclusive, of these regulations:

- (a) "Buyer" means any buyer of residential real property.
- (b) "Broker" means any real estate broker or real estate salesman as defined in section 20-311 of the Connecticut General Statutes and any person affiliated with such real estate broker or salesman.

<u>Sec. 20-325c-2. Scope of regulations</u>. Any fee, commission or other valuable consideration received by a broker for negotiating, soliciting, arranging, placing or finding a first mortgage loan for a buyer of residential real property, which is in addition to the consideration received by such broker for the sale of such property, shall be in accordance with these regulations.

<u>Sec. 20-325c-3.</u> Written agreement. Prior to the accrual of any charges for mortgage brokering services performed by a broker on behalf of a buyer, the broker and buyer shall execute a written agreement. The terms of the agreement, in addition to any disclosures required by law, shall include, but not be limited to, the amount, term and type of first mortgage loan that the buyer seeks to obtain, the maximum rate of interest and number of points that a buyer would pay, an approximate loan closing date, the hourly rate upon which the fee, commission, or other valuable consideration to be received by a broker is based and a description of the manner in which any such fee, commission or other valuable consideration will be determined. The agreement shall specify that a buyer who finds a loan without the assistance of the broker or who does not consummate the purchase of the property will not be obligated to pay any consideration to the broker. Amendments to the agreement shall be in writing and signed by the parties.

<u>Sec. 20-325c-4. Fee, commission, consideration.</u> Any fee, commission or other valuable consideration received by a broker for assisting a buyer in obtaining a first mortgage loan shall be based on a reasonable hourly rate. An hourly rate may accrue for any bona fide activity performed by the broker when negotiating, soliciting, arranging, placing or finding a first mortgage loan for a buyer, including, but not limited to, the time spent with the buyer discussing financing options, completing applications, negotiating with prospective lenders, and performing underwriting activities.

<u>Sec. 20-325c-5. Itemized invoice required.</u> The broker shall maintain a written record of the amount of time spent in negotiating, soliciting, arranging, placing or finding a first mortgage loan for a buyer. In addition, prior to the receipt of any fee, commission or other valuable consideration, the broker shall provide the buyer with an itemized invoice of the services rendered, which shall include the hourly rate and the number of hours or fractions thereof spent on each service. A copy of the invoice and written record shall be maintained by the broker for a period of two years from the date of the invoice.



DISCLOSURE OF REPRESENTATION

<u>Sec. 20-325d-1. Definitions</u>. For the purposes of Sections 20-325d-1 through 20-325d-7, inclusive, of these regulations, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

- (a) "Broker" or "Real estate broker" means "real estate broker" as this term is defined by Connecticut General Statutes Section 20-311(1), as amended;
- (b) "Salesman" or "Real estate salesman" means "real estate salesman" as this term is defined by Connecticut General Statutes Section 20-311(2), as amended;
- (c) "Seller's Agent" or "Agent of the seller" means a real estate broker or real estate salesman who acts in a fiduciary capacity for the prospective seller or prospective lessor in a real estate transaction:
- (d) "Buyer's agent" or "Agent of the buyer" means a real estate broker or real estate salesman who acts in a fiduciary capacity for the prospective buyer or prospective lessee in a real estate transaction;
- (e) "Dual agent" means a real estate broker or real estate salesman who acts in a fiduciary capacity for both the prospective seller or prospective lessor and the prospective buyer or prospective lessee in a real estate transaction; and
- (f) "Licensee" means real estate broker and/or real estate salesman.

<u>Sec. 20-325d-2. Agency disclosure.</u> (a) A real estate broker or real estate salesman, when acting as a seller's agent, shall make a written disclosure of whom the brokerage firm and its agents represent to prospective buyers or lessees, unless such prospective buyer or lessee is represented by another real estate broker. A real estate broker or real estate salesperson, when acting as a buyer's agent, shall make a written disclosure of whom the brokerage firm and its agents represent to prospective sellers or lessors, unless such prospective seller or lessor is represented by another real estate broker. The disclosure shall be in one of the following forms:

Form 1 Dual Agency/Designated Agency Disclosure Notice and Consent Agreement Given to Persons Represented by the Same Brokerage Firm

The brokerage firm has entered into a written agency relationship with both buyer and seller (or tenant and landlord). Buyer (tenant) is now interested in buying (leasing) seller's (landlord's) property. If this transaction proceeds, the brokerage firm will be a dual agent, since the brokerage firm represents both parties. Connecticut law allows a brokerage firm to be a dual agent, but only after both buyer and seller (or tenant and landlord) understand what dual agency is and consent to it.

Connecticut law also allows brokerage firms that are dual agents to appoint individual designated agents within their firm to solely represent buyer and seller (or tenant and landlord); again, this designation can only be made after both buyer and seller (or tenant and landlord) understand what designated agency is and consent to it.

Both buyer and seller (or tenant and landlord) are free to seek legal and tax advice with regard to this transaction, and with regard to all documents signed in connection with this transaction.

Understanding dual agency

Dual agency means that the brokerage firm, and all the brokers and salespersons for the firm (unless designated agency is chosen) act in a fiduciary capacity for both buyer and seller (or tenant and landlord). In dual agency, the brokerage firm does not represent either the buyer or seller (or tenant or landlord) exclusively, and the parties cannot expect the brokerage firm's undivided loyalty.

The brokerage firm may not disclose to either the buyer or seller (or tenant or landlord) any personal, financial, or confidential information to the other party except as authorized by either party or required by law. The brokerage firm may not disclose, unless otherwise instructed by the respective party:

- To buyer (tenant) that seller (landlord) will accept less than the asking or listed price;
- To the seller (landlord) that the buyer (tenant) can pay a price greater than the price submitted in a written offer to the seller, unless otherwise instructed to do so in writing by the buyer (tenant);
- The motivation of either buyer or seller (or tenant or landlord) for selling, buying, leasing the property; and
- That buyer or seller will agree to financing terms other than those offered.

Dual agency consent

Buyer and seller (or landlord and tenant) understand dual agency and consent to the brokerage firm acting as a dual agent in this transaction.

Understanding designated agency

Designated agency means the appointment by the brokerage firm of one broker or salesperson (referred to as agent) affiliated with or employed by the brokerage firm to solely represent buyer (tenant) as a designated buyer's agent and appoint another to solely represent seller (landlord) as a designated seller's agent in this transaction.

A designated buyer's agent and designated seller's agent owe the party for whom they have been appointed undivided fiduciary obligations, such as loyalty, reasonable care, disclosure, obedience to lawful instruction, confidentiality and accountability. The designated agent is not deemed to be a dual agent, and thus does not owe fiduciary duties to the other party. A designated agent may use confidential information obtained about the other party while a designated agent for the

benefit of the party for whom they have been appointed, however, information obtained before the designation is still confidential. In the case of designated agency, the brokerage firm is still considered a dual agent.

Appointment of designated agents

Date: _____

	ler (or landlord and ter the appointment of do			ited agency and		
	has been	designated to designated to	o solely rep o solely rep	resent buyer (te resent seller (la	been appointed: enant) as a designated buyer agent. ndlord) as a designated seller agent.	
Appointing broker Date:	/authorized agent:					
Acknowledgment	of buyer (tenant)		Ac	knowledgemen	nt of seller (landlord)	
Signature(s)	Date		Sig	gnature(s)	Date	
		Pool Estat	Form	2 Disclosure Notice	•	
				ented Persons	e	
					re disclosing whom the real estate licens oices about your relationship with real esta	
Given to:	(date)	_ (Unreprese	ented person	/persons)		
Our firm		_ represents	□ Seller □ Buyer	☐ Landlord☐ Tenant		
	Unre	presented Po	erson(s) Rig	thts and Respon	nsibilities	
transaction undi instruction, confi	vided fiduciary oblig	gations, suc intability. Th	ch as: loya ne agent(s	ilty, reasonabl	is transaction owe the other party to the care, disclosure, obedience to law other party's interest first and negotian	ful
2. All real estate ag honestly and fairly	-	enting you or	not, are ob	oligated by law to	o treat all parties to a real estate transacti	ion
your understandin					eements to make sure they accurately refl ther such matters, it is your responsibility	
your own real est	ate brokerage firm a	nd its agents	s. Do not a	ssume that a re	the advice, assistance and representation eal estate brokerage firm or its agents a ting with that real estate brokerage firm.	
Acknowledgment	of unrepresented per	son(s)*	Ad	knowledgment	of agent	
Signature(s)			Sig	gnature		
Print name(s)			Pr	Print name(s)		

Date: _____

- * To be signed by the buyer/tenant when the agent represents the seller/landlord, or to be signed by the seller/landlord when the agent represents the buyer/tenant
- (b)(i) A real estate broker or real estate salesperson, when acting as a dual agent, shall make a written disclosure of dual agency to all parties by using the dual agency consent agreement, Connecticut General Statutes section 20-325g, or the dual agency designated agency disclosure notice and consent agreement as set forth in the Connecticut regulations concerning designated agency.
- (ii) Real estate brokers who represent both buyers and sellers shall disclose the potential for a dual agency situation in their listing agreements and buyer agency agreements.
- <u>Sec. 20-325d-5. Time of disclosure</u>. (a) Any licensee acting as a seller's agent or intending to act as a seller's agent shall give the disclosure required by Section 20-325d-2 of these regulations to the prospective buyer or lessee at the beginning of the first personal meeting concerning the prospective buyer's or lessee's specific real estate needs. The disclosure shall be signed by the prospective buyer or lessee and the broker or salesman, and shall be attached to any offer, binder, option, agreement to purchase or lease. If the prospective buyer or lessee refuses to sign the disclosure, the seller's agent shall note this refusal on the line indicated for the prospective buyer's or lessee's signature.
- (b) Any licensee acting as a buyer's agent or intending to act as a buyer's agent shall give the disclosure required by Section 20-325d-2 of these regulations to the seller or lessor or to the seller's or lessor's agent at the beginning of the first personal meeting with the seller or lessor or the seller's or lessor's agent concerning the seller's or lessor's real property. The disclosure shall be signed by the seller or lessor, or the seller's or lessor's agent, and the prospective buyer's agent, and shall be attached to any offer, binder, option, agreement to purchase or lease. If the seller, lessor or seller's or lessor's agent refuses to sign the disclosure, the prospective buyer's agent shall note this refusal on the line indicated for the seller's, lessor's or seller's or lessor's agent's signature.
- <u>Sec. 20-325d-6. Disclosure by cooperating licensees</u>. (a) The notices required by Connecticut General Statutes Section 20-325d need only be given once to each prospective seller, lessor, buyer or lessee by a real estate licensee.
- (b) Any licensee acting as a cooperating licensee shall be responsible for providing the notice required by Connecticut General Statutes Section 20-325d, unless no cooperating licensee is involved, in which case the seller's or buyer's agent or the dual agent shall be responsible for providing the notice.
- <u>Sec. 20-325d-7. Open houses, auctions</u>. (a) The disclosure to prospective buyers or lessees required by Connecticut General Statutes Section 20-325d need not be given to individuals who attend an open house, provided that:
- (1) the licensee, by sign, poster, pamphlet or other similar means, conspicuously discloses the licensee's agency relationship; and
- (2) no personal meeting concerning the prospective buyer's or lessee's specific real estate needs is held. If such a meeting is held, the written disclosure shall be given at the beginning of the meeting.
- (b) The disclosure to prospective buyers or lessees required by Connecticut General Statutes Section 20-325d need not be given to individuals who attend a real estate auction, provided that:
- (1) the licensee, by sign, poster, pamphlet or other similar means, conspicuously discloses the licensee's agency relationship; and
- (2) the licensee provides the disclosure to the successful bidder prior to the time a written offer to purchase is executed.



RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY CONDITION REPORT

<u>Sec. 20-327b-1.</u> Residential property condition report. The following form shall be used by sellers who are required by Section 20-327b of the Connecticut General Statutes to provide a written residential property condition report to prospective purchasers.

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER PROTECTION 450 Columbus Blvd, Suite 901 • Hartford, CT 06103



RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY CONDITION REPORT

The Uniform Property Condition Disclosure Act (Connecticut General Statutes Section 20-327b) requires the seller of residential property to provide this report to the prospective purchaser prior to the prospective purchaser's execution of any binder, contract to purchase, option, or lease containing a purchase option. These provisions apply to the transfer of residential real property of four dwelling units or less, including cooperatives and condominiums, made with or without the assistance of a licensed broker or salesperson. The seller will be required to credit the purchaser with the sum of \$500 at closing if the seller fails to furnish this report (Connecticut General Statutes Section 20-327c).

INSTRUCTIONS TO SELLERS:

- 1. You must answer all questions to the best of your knowledge.
- 2. You are required to identify and disclose any problems regarding the subject property.
- 3. Your real estate licensee cannot complete this form on your behalf.
- 4. "UNK" means Unknown, "N/A" means Not Applicable.
- 5. If you need additional space to complete any answer or explanation, attach additional page(s) to this form. Include subject property address, seller's name and the date.

Pursuant to the Uniform Property Condition Disclosure Act, the seller is obligated to answer the following questions and to disclose herein any knowledge of any problem regarding the following:

				A.	SUBJECT PROPERTY
				1)	Name of seller(s):
				2)	Street address, municipality, zip code:
YES	NO	UNK	N/A	B.	GENERAL INFORMATION
				3) 4) 5)	What year was the structure built? If not applicable, indicate with N/A. Does anyone else claim to own any part of your property, including, but not limited to, any encroachments? If yes, explain:
				6)	Does anyone other than you have or claim to have any right to use any part of your property, including, but not limited to, any easement or right of way? If yes, explain:
				7)	Is the property in a flood hazard area or an inland wetlands area? If yes, explain:
					Seller Initials Buyer Initials Revised 08/2019

YES	NO	UNK	N/A	B. GENERAL INFORMATION (Continued)
				8) Do you have any reason to believe that the municipality in which the subject property is located may impose any assessment for purposes such as sewer installation, sewer improvements, water main installation, water main improvements, sidewalks or other improvements? If yes, explain:
				9) Is the property located in a municipally designated village district, municipally designated historic district, or listed on the National Register of Historic Places? If yes, explain:
				Note: Information concerning village districts and historic districts may be obtained from the municipality's village district commission, if applicable.
				10) Is the property located in a special tax district? If yes, explain:
				11) Is the property subject to any type of land use restrictions, other than those contained within the property's chain of title or that are necessary to comply with state laws or municipal zoning? If yes, explain:
				12) Is the property located in a common interest community? If yes, is it subject to any community or association dues or fees? Please explain:
				13) Do you have any knowledge of prior or pending litigation, government agency or administrative actions, orders or liens on the property related to the release of any hazardous substance? If yes, explain:
YES	NO	UNK	N/A	C. LEASED EQUIPMENT
				14) Does the property include any leased or rented equipment that would necessitate or oblige either of the following: the assignment or transfer of the lease or rental agreement(s) to the buyer or the replacement or substitution of the equipment by the buyer? If yes, indicate by checking all items
				that apply: Propane fuel tank Water treatment system
				□ Water heater □ Solar devices
				☐ Security alarm system ☐ Major appliances
				☐ Fire alarm system ☐ Other
				□ Satellite dish antenna
		ddress:		Seller Initials Buyer Initials Page 2 of 9

YES	NO	UNK	N/A	D. MECHANICAL/ UTILITY SYSTEMS
				15) Fuel types? Are you aware of any heating system problems? If yes, explain:
				16) Hot water heater type? Age: Are you aware of any hot water problems? If yes, explain:
				17) Is there an underground storage tank? If yes, list the age of tank and location:
				18) Are you aware of any problems with the underground storage tank? If yes, explain:
				During the time you have owned the property, has there ever been an underground storage tank located on the property? If yes, has it been removed? Yes No If yes, what was the date of removal and what was the name and address of the person or business who removed such underground storage tank?
				Provide any and all written documentation of such removal within your control or possession by attaching a copy of such documentation to this form. 20) Air conditioning type: Central; Window; Other Are you aware of any air conditioning problems? If yes, explain:
				21) Plumbing system problems? If yes, explain:
				22) Electrical system problems? If yes, explain:
				23) Electronic security system problems? If yes, explain:
				24) Are there carbon monoxide or smoke detectors located in the dwelling on the property? If yes, state the number of detectors and whether there have been problems with such detectors:
				25) Fire sprinkler system problems? If yes, explain:
Proper	ty Ao	ldress:		Seller Initials Buyer Initials Page 3 of 9

YES	NO	UNK	N/A	E. WATER SYSTEM
				26) Domestic water system type: □ Public; □ Private well; Other
				27) If public water:
				a) Is there a separate expense/fee for water usage? If yes, is the expense/fee for water usage
				flat or metered? Provide the amount of the expense/feeand explain:
				b) Are there unpaid water charges? If yes, state amount unpaid:
				28) If private well:
Ш	Ш		Ц	Has the well water been tested for contaminants/volatile organic compounds? If yes, attach a copy of the report. If no report is available, provide name of entity that performed testing and describe
				results of such testing:
				If public water or private well: Are you aware of any problems with the well or with the water
				quality, quantity, recovery, or pressure? If yes, explain:
YES	NO	UNK	N/A	F. SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEM
				29) Sewage disposal system type: □ Public; □ Septic; □ Cesspool; Other:
				30) If public sewer:
				a) Is there a separate charge made for sewer use? If yes, is it flat or metered?
				b) If it is a flat amount, state amount and due dates:
				c) Are there any unpaid sewer charges? If yes, state the amount:
				31) If private:
				a) Name of service company:
				b) Date last pumped: Frequency of pumping during ownership:
				c) For any sewage system, are there problems? If yes, explain:
Drone	ets/ A -	ldress:		Seller Initials Buyer Initials Page 4 of 9
гторе	Ity AC	idiess:_		Schei initials Buyer initials Fage 4 of 9

YES	NO	UNK	N/A	G. ASBESTOS/ LEAD
				32) Are asbestos insulation or building materials present? If yes, location:
				33) Is lead paint present? If yes, location:
				34) Is lead plumbing present? If yes, location:
YES	NO	UNK	N/A	H. BUILDING/ STRUCTURE/ IMPROVEMENTS
				35) Is the foundation made of concrete? If no, explain:
				36) Foundation/slab problems or settling? If yes, explain:
				37) Basement water seepage/dampness? If yes, explain amount, frequency and location:
				38) Sump pump problems? If yes, explain:
				39) Do you have knowledge of any testing or inspection done by a licensed professional related to a foundation on the property? If yes, disclose the testing or inspection method, the areas or locations that were tested or inspected, the results of such testing or inspection and attach a copy of the report concerning such testing or inspection. If no report is available, provide name of entity that performed testing and describe results of such testing:
				40) Do you have knowledge of any repairs related to a foundation on the property? If yes, describe such repairs, disclose the areas repaired and attach a copy of the report concerning such repairs: 41) Do you have any knowledge related to the presence of pyrrhotite in a foundation on the property?
				If yes, explain:
				42) Roof type:; Age:
Prope	rtv A	ddress:		Seller Initials Buver Initials Page 5 of 9

				44)	Exterior siding problems? If yes, explain:			
				45)	Chimney, fireplace, wood or coal stove problems? If yes, explain:			
				46) 1	Patio/deck problems? If yes, explain:			
YES	NO 1	UNK	N/A	Н. І	BUILDING/ STRUCTURE/ IMPROVEMENTS (Continued)			
				47)	If patio/deck is constructed of wood, is the wood treated or untreated?			
				48)	Driveway problems? If yes, explain:			
				49)	Water drainage problems? If yes, explain:			
				50)	Interior floor, wall and/or ceiling problems? If yes, explain:			
				51)	Fire and/or smoke damage? If yes, explain:			
				52)	Termite, insect, rodent or pest infestation problems? If yes, explain:			
				53)	Rot or water damage problems? If yes, explain:			
				54)	Is the structure(s) insulated? If yes, type:; location:			
				1	Has a test for radon been performed? If yes, attach copy of the report. If no report is available, provide the name of entity that performed the testing and describe the results of such testing:			
				56)	Is there a radon control system in place? If yes, explain:			
				57)	Has a radon control system been in place in the previous 12 months? If yes, explain:			
	The seller should attach additional pages, if necessary, to further explain any item(s) above. Indicate here the number of additional pages attached: Questions or Comments? Consumer Problems? Visit the Department of Consumer Protection website at: www.ct.gov/dcp							
Proper	Property Address: Seller Initials Buyer Initials Page 6 of 9							

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

(A) Responsibilities of Real Estate Brokers

This report in no way relieves a real estate broker of his or her obligation under the provisions of section 20-328-5a of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies to disclose any material facts. Failure to do so could result in punitive action taken against the broker, such as fines, suspension or revocation of license.

(B) Statements Not to Constitute a Warranty

Any representations made by the seller on the written residential property condition report shall not constitute a warranty to the buyer.

(C) Nature of Report

This Residential Property Condition Report is not a substitute for inspections, tests, and other methods of determining the physical condition of the property.

(D) Information on the Residence of Convicted Felons

Information concerning the residence address of a person convicted of a crime may be available from law enforcement agencies or the Department of Public Safety.

(E) Building Permits and Certificates of Occupancy

Prospective buyers should consult with the municipal building official in the municipality in which the property is located to confirm that building permits and certificates of occupancy have been issued for work on the property.

(F) Home Inspection

Buyers should have the property inspected by a licensed home inspector.

Buyer_

(G) Concrete Foundation

Prospective buyers may have a concrete foundation inspected by a licensed professional engineer who is a structural engineer for deterioration of the foundation due to the presence of pyrrhotite.

(H) Buyer's Certification

Date

The buyer is urged to carefully inspect the property and, if desired, to have the property inspected by an expert. The buyer understands that there are areas of the property for which the seller has no knowledge and that this report does not encompass those areas. The buyer also acknowledges that the buyer has read and received a signed copy of this report from the seller or seller's agent.

Buyer___

		Signature		Frint Name
Date	Buyer		Buyer	
		Signature		Print Name
(I) Seller's Cer	rtification			
and accurate for	those areas of the prope		al estate broker or sale	the information contained above is the esperson is utilized, the seller authorizagents or buyer's agents.
Date	Seller		Seller	
		Signature		Print Name
Date	Seller		Seller_	
		Signature		Print Name
operty Address:				

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER PROTECTION



450 Columbus Blvd, Suite 901 ♦ Hartford, CT 06103

RESIDENTIAL FOUNDATION CONDITION REPORT

This report must be filled out for the transfer of residential property located in a town determined by the Capitol Region Council of Governments to be affected, or potentially affected, by crumbling foundations <u>and</u> that was acquired by: (1) a political subdivision of this state; (2) a judgment of strict foreclosure; (3) foreclosure by sale; or (4) a deed in lieu of foreclosure. The owner or political subdivision shall make the disclosures below to the prospective purchaser of such property prior to the prospective purchaser's execution of any binder, contract to purchase, option, or lease containing a purchase option. The seller is required to credit the purchaser with the sum of \$500 at closing if the seller fails to furnish this report (C.G.S. Section 20-327c).

A list of affected or potentially affected towns may be found at http://crcog.org/crumbling-foundations/realestatemap/.

INSTRUCTIONS TO SELLERS:

- 1. You **must** answer **all** questions to the best of your knowledge.
- 2. You are not required to undertake investigations or inspections of the foundation to verify your answers.
- 3. Your real estate licensee cannot complete this form on your behalf.
- 4. "UNK" means Unknown, "N/A" means Not Applicable.
- 5. If you need additional space to complete any answer or explanation, attach additional page(s) to this form. Include the subject property address, seller's name and the date on all additional pages.

Pursuant to the Uniform Property Condition Disclosure Act, the seller is obligated to answer the following questions and to disclose any knowledge of any problem regarding the following:

				A.	SUBJECT PROPERTY
				1)	Name of seller(s):
				2)	Street address, municipality, zip code:
YES	NO	UNK	N/A	В.	INFORMATION ABOUT THE FOUNDATION
					Do you have any knowledge related to the presence of pyrrhotite in any concrete foundation on the subject property? If yes, explain:
				4)	Are you aware of any damage or deterioration in any concrete foundation on the subject property, including, but not limited to, any damage or deterioration caused by the presence of pyrrhotite in any concrete foundation on the property? If yes, explain
					Seller Initials Buyer Initials Page 1 of 2

ES NO UNK	N/A	B. INFOR	MATION ABOUT THE FOUNDATION (Continued)
		-	aware of any repairs or remediation to any concrete foundation on the subject property? I
The seller sho			if necessary, to further explain any item(s) above. Indicate here the number of additional
	Q	uestions? Visit th	e Department of Consumer Protection website at: www.ct.gov/dcp
			IMPORTANT INFORMATION
(A) Responsi	bilities o	f Real Estate Brol	kers
Regulations o	f Connec	ticut State Agencies	broker of the broker's obligation under the provisions of section 20-328-5a of the sto disclose any material facts. Failure to do so could result in punitive action taken on or revocation of license.
(B) Statemen	nts Not to	Constitute a Wa	rranty
Any represent	ations ma	ade by the seller on	this residential foundation condition report shall not constitute a warranty to the buyer.
(C) Nature o	f Report		
foundation. P	rospectiv	e buyers may have	ons, tests, and other methods of determining the physical condition of the a concrete foundation inspected by a licensed professional engineer who is a foundation due to the presence of pyrrhotite.
(D) Buyer's	Certifica	<u>tion</u>	
understands the	hat there	are parts of the prop	e foundation and, if desired, to have the foundation inspected by an expert. The buyer perty, including the foundation, for which the seller has no knowledge and that this the buyer also acknowledges that the buyer has read and received a signed copy of this
Date		Buyer	Buyer
			Signature Print Name
Date		Buyer	Signature Buyer Print Name
(E) Seller's (ertificat	ion	Signature
To the extent seller acknow	of the se ledges the	ller(s) knowledge a nat the information	as an owner of a property acquired through foreclosure or deed in lieu of foreclosure, the contained above is true and accurate. In the event a real estate broker or salesperson is or salesperson to provide the above information to prospective buyers, selling agents or
Date		Seller	Seller
			Signature Print Name
Date		Seller	SellerSignature Print Name
			Signature Frint Name
perty Address:			Page 2 of 2



CONDUCT OF REAL ESTATE BROKERS AND SALESPERSONS

<u>Sec. 20-328-1a. Definitions</u>. For purposes of Sections 20-328-1a through 20-328-10a, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

- (a) "Blockbusting" means to induce or attempt to induce a person to sell or rent a dwelling by representations regarding the entry or prospective entry into the neighborhood of a person or persons of a particular race, creed, religion, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, familial status, marital status, age, sexual orientation, lawful source of income, learning disability, mental retardation or physical or mental disability, including but not limited to blindness or deafness;
- (b) "Broker" or "Real estate broker" means "real estate broker" as this term is defined by Connecticut General Statutes, Section 20-311 (1), as amended;
- (c) "Commercial real estate transaction" means "Commercial real estate transaction" as defined in Connecticut General Statutes, Section 20-311(9) as amended;
- (d) "Licensee" means "Real estate broker" or "real estate salesman" as these terms are defined by Connecticut General Statutes, Section 20-311 (1) and (2);
- (e) "Net listing" means a listing contract in which the broker receives as a commission all excess moneys over and above the minimum sales price agreed upon by the broker and seller;
- (f) "Salesperson" or "Real estate salesperson" means "real estate salesperson" as this term is defined by Connecticut General Statutes, Section 20-311 (2); and
- (g) "Steering" means to restrict or attempt to restrict, because of race, creed, religion, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, familial status, marital status, age, sexual orientation, lawful source of income, learning disability, mental retardation or physical or mental disability, including but not limited to blindness or deafness, the choices of a person by word or conduct in connection with seeking, negotiating for, buying or renting a dwelling so as to perpetuate, or tend to perpetuate, segregated housing patterns, or to discourage or obstruct choices in a community, neighborhood or development.
- (h) "Advertising" means all forms of identification, representation, promotion and solicitation disseminated in any manner and by any means of communication to the public for any purpose related to engaging in the real estate business.

<u>Sec. 20-328-2a.</u> Duties to parties. (a) A licensee shall not undertake to provide professional services concerning a property or its value where the licensee has a present or contemplated interest unless such interest is specifically disclosed to all affected parties.

- (b) A licensee shall not acquire an interest in or buy for himself or herself, any member of the licensee's immediate family, the licensee's firm or any member thereof, or any entity in which the licensee has a substantial ownership interest, property listed with the licensee, without disclosing to the listing owner the licensee's relationship to the prospective buyer or lessee. In selling or leasing property owned by the licensee or in which the licensee has any interest, the licensee shall reveal the extent of his or her ownership or interest to the prospective buyer or lessee.
- (c) A licensee accepting an exclusive right to sell or lease listing or an exclusive agency to sell or lease listing shall make a diligent effort to sell or lease the property listed. A licensee who agrees to become an exclusive agent of a prospective buyer or lessee shall make a diligent effort to find a property within the prospective buyer's or lessee's specifications.
- (d) No licensee shall submit to an owner a written offer to purchase or lease real property unless either (1) such offer contains the essential terms and conditions of the offer, including the manner in which the purchase is to be financed; or (2) such offer is conditioned upon the later execution of a bond for deed or complete agreement for sale. No licensee shall submit to an owner a written agreement or a bond for deed for the sale of real estate which contains a mortgage contingency clause which conditions the prospective buyer's performance on obtaining a mortgage from a third party unless the contingency clause includes at least the following: (1) the principal amount of the mortgage the prospective buyer must obtain; (2) the time period within which the mortgage commitment must be obtained; and (3) the term of years of the mortgage.
- (e)(1) The listing real estate broker shall submit all offers or counter-offers to the seller, owner or lessor as quickly as possible. Unless the listing real estate broker and the seller, owner or lessor agree otherwise, the listing real estate broker shall not be obligated to continue to market the property after an offer or counter-offer has been accepted. After the acceptance of an offer or counter-offer, the listing real estate broker shall advise any other offerors that an offer or counter-offer on the listed property has been accepted. (2) A licensee acting as the agent of the buyer or lessee shall present all offers or counter-offers to the prospective buyer or lessee as quickly as possible. Unless a licensee acting as the agent of the prospective buyer or lessee agree otherwise, the licensee shall not be obligated to continue to show properties to the prospective buyer or lessee after an offer or counter-offer has been accepted.
- (f)(1) All dealings concerning property exclusively listed with an agent shall be conducted with the listing agent, and not the seller, owner or lessor. A licensee may contact the seller, owner or lessor of property exclusively listed with an agent if the listing agent consents to the contact or the licensee, after diligent effort, is unable to communicate with the listing agent or a licensee designated by the listing agent to service the listing in the listing agent's absence. (2) All dealings concerning a

prospective buyer or lessee who is exclusively represented by an agent shall be conducted with the prospective buyer's or lessee's agent, and not with the prospective buyer or lessee. A licensee may contact a prospective buyer or lessee who is exclusively represented by an agent if the agent representing the prospective buyer or lessee consents to the contact or the licensee, after diligent effort, is unable to communicate with the prospective buyer's or lessee's agent or a licensee designated by the buyer's or lessee's agent to service the buyer in the buyer's or lessee's agent's absence.

- (g) No signs shall be placed on any property which relate to a real estate transaction without the written consent of the owner or the lessor, or his or her duly authorized agent or fiduciary.
- (h) In the sale or lease of property which is exclusively listed with a real estate broker pursuant to an exclusive right to sell or lease listing or an exclusive agency to sell or lease listing, the broker shall cooperate with other real estate brokers upon mutually agreed upon terms when it is in the best interests of the party or parties for whom the broker is acting.
- Sec. 20-328-3a. Duty to cooperate with department and real estate commission. A licensee shall cooperate with department staff if the licensee is contacted in connection with an investigation performed by the Department of Consumer Protection concerning possible violations of real estate statutes or regulations. A licensee shall not make any untruthful or misleading statements in connection with any Department of Consumer Protection or Real Estate Commission investigation or hearing.

<u>Sec. 20-328-4a.</u> Discrimination and fair housing. (a) A licensee shall neither deny equal professional services to any person nor be party to any plan or agreement to discriminate against a person or persons on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, marital status, age, sexual orientation, lawful source of income, learning disability, mental retardation, mental disability, or physical disability, including, but not limited to, blindness or deafness. A licensee shall not violate any federal or state fair housing statute or regulation.

- (b) No licensee shall participate in activities which constitute blockbusting or steering.
- (c) A licensee shall place in all listing and buyer agency agreements a statement in the following form: This agreement is subject to the Connecticut General Statutes prohibiting discrimination in commercial and residential real estate transactions (C.G.S. Title 46a, Chapter 814c).

<u>Sec. 20-328-5a. Misrepresentation, disclosure and advertising.</u> (a) A licensee shall not misrepresent or conceal any material facts in any transaction.

- (b) No licensee shall misrepresent the actual selling price of real estate to any lender or any other interested party, either verbally or through the preparation of a false sales contract.
- (c) A real estate broker shall exercise diligence at all times in obtaining and presenting accurate information in the broker's advertising and representations to the public. No broker shall advertise to sell, buy, exchange, rent or lease the property of another in a manner indicating the offer to sell, buy, exchange, rent or lease such property is being made by a private party not engaged in the real estate business. The real estate broker shall neither advertise without disclosing the broker's name nor permit any person associated with the broker to use individual names, telephone numbers or mailing addresses, to the exclusion of the name of such broker.
- (d) No real estate licensee shall modify or change the listing information of a real estate broker without the express permission of the real estate broker. No real estate licensee shall advertise real estate listed with a real estate broker with whom the real estate licensee is not affiliated without the permission of the listing real estate broker. No real estate licensee shall advertise real estate listed with a real estate broker with whom the real estate licensee is not affiliated without updating such advertising at least once every seventy-two (72) hours. No real estate licensee shall advertise real estate listed with a real estate broker with whom the real estate licensee is not affiliated without identifying that the real estate is not listed with the real estate licensee.
- (e) A real estate licensee advertising or marketing on an internet site, owned or controlled by the real estate licensee, shall include on the home page of the site on which the real estate licensee's advertisement or information appears the following data: (1) licensee's name and office address as it appears on said licensee's real estate license; (2) name of the real estate broker with whom the licensee is affiliated, as that real estate broker's name is registered with the commission; (3) all states in which the licensee holds a salesperson or broker license; (4) last date on which property information shown on the site was revised.
- (f) A real estate licensee using internet electronic communication for advertising or marketing, including but not limited to e-mail, e-mail discussion groups, and bulletin boards, shall include on the first or last page of all communications the following data: (1) the licensee's name and office address; (2) the name of the real estate broker with whom the licensee is affiliated as that real estate broker's name is registered with the commission; (3) all states in which the licensee holds a salesperson or broker license.

<u>Sec. 20-328-6a.</u> Agreements. (a) (1) Before a licensee attempts to negotiate a sale, exchange, or lease of real estate, other than a commercial real estate transaction, on behalf of the owner or lessor of real estate, the licensee shall enter into a listing agreement with the party or parties for whom the licensee will act. All listing agreements shall be in writing, properly

identifying the property and containing all of the terms and conditions of the sale, exchange or lease, including the commission to be paid, the date on which the listing agreement is entered into and its expiration date. The listing agreement shall be signed by the owner, seller or lessor or an agent authorized to act on behalf of the owner, seller or lessor only by a written document executed in the manner provided for conveyances in Connecticut General Statutes, Section 47-5, and by the broker or the broker's authorized agent. The type of listing shall be clearly indicated in the listing agreement. The licensee shall deliver immediately a copy of any listing agreement to any party or parties executing the same, where such listing agreement has been prepared by such licensee or under the licensee's supervision and where such listing agreement relates to a real estate transaction with which the licensee is associated as a broker or a salesman. For listing agreements entered into on or after October 1, 2004, if the real estate broker permits real estate licensees not affiliated with the real estate broker to advertise the real estate, the real estate broker shall disclose such permission and all exceptions to the advertising on the listing agreement and obtain the owner's or lessor's authorization for such advertising.

- (2) Before a licensee attempts to negotiate a purchase, exchange or lease of real estate, other than a commercial real estate transaction, on behalf of a prospective buyer or lessee of real estate, the licensee shall enter into an agency agreement with the party or parties for whom the licensee will act. All agency agreements shall be in writing, containing all of the terms and conditions of the agency agreement, including the compensation to be paid, the date on which the agency agreement is entered into and its expiration date. The agency agreement shall be signed by the prospective buyer or lessee or an agent authorized to act on behalf of the prospective buyer or lessee only by a written document executed in the manner provided for conveyances in Connecticut General Statutes, section 47-5, and by the broker or the broker's authorized agent. The licensee shall deliver immediately a copy of any agency agreement to any party or parties executing the same, where such agency agreement has been prepared by such licensee or under the licensee's supervision and where such buyer agency agreement relates to a real estate transaction with which the licensee is associated as a broker or salesman.
- (b) For all instruments other than listing agreements, buyer agency agreements or lessee agency agreements, the licensee, for the protection of all parties, shall use his or her best efforts to assure that all contractual commitments regarding real estate transactions with which the licensee is associated are in writing, dated, and express the agreement of the parties. The licensee shall deliver immediately a copy of any such instrument to any party or parties executing the same, where such instrument has been prepared by such licensee or under the licensee's supervision and where such instrument relates to a real estate transaction with which the licensee is associated as a broker or a salesman.
- (c) No licensee shall accept or enter into a net listing. In cases where the owner or the lessor wishes to list in this manner, the agreed upon fee shall be added and listings made in the usual manner.
- (d) A licensee attempting to negotiate or negotiating a sale, exchange, or lease of a commercial real estate transaction shall obtain a listing, buyer or tenant representation agreement, memorandum, letter, or other writing stating for whom the licensee will act or has acted, signed by the party for whom the licensee will act or has acted in the commercial real estate transaction, the duration of the authorization and the amount of any compensation payable to the licensee.
- <u>Sec. 20-328-7a. Deposits</u>. (a) When a licensee receives a deposit or other moneys with respect to any transaction in which the licensee is engaged on behalf of the real estate broker with whom the licensee is affiliated, the licensee shall promptly pay over the deposit or other moneys to such real estate broker.
- (b) Any real estate broker who, in the course of the real estate broker's real estate business and in connection with any transaction, accepts from any principal, client or other person any moneys, to which the real estate broker is not personally and legally entitled, including but not limited to any down payment, earnest money, deposit, rental money or other money to be held by the real estate broker in trust, shall deposit such moneys in an escrow or trust account in a bank doing business in the State of Connecticut unless otherwise required by law.
- <u>Sec. 20-328-8a. Commissions and compensation</u>. (a) No licensee shall demand compensation unless reasonable cause for payment of compensation exists.
- (b) When an owner, lessor, prospective buyer or lessee wrongfully fails or is unable to consummate a transaction, the real estate broker has no right to any portion of the money, if any, deposited with the real estate broker, even though compensation may have been earned.
- (c) While engaging in the real estate business, a licensee shall not accept any commission, rebate, or profit on expenditures made for the licensee's principal, without the knowledge and consent of the licensee's principal.
- (d) A licensee shall not accept compensation from more than one party in a real estate transaction without notifying all parties to the transaction prior to the closing.
- (e) No licensee shall offer, promise, allow, give, pay or rebate, directly or indirectly, any part or share of the licensee's commission or compensation arising or accruing from any real estate transaction to any person who is engaging in the real estate business and who was not licensed as a real estate broker or real estate salesman at the time the real estate broker or real estate salesman performed the acts or rendered the services for which the licensee offers, promises, allows, gives, pays or rebates such commission or compensation.

- (f) If a licensee receives or is awarded any compensation with respect to any transaction in which the licensee is engaged on behalf of the real estate broker with whom the licensee is affiliated, the licensee shall promptly pay over or assign such compensation to such real estate broker.
- (g) In a cooperative real estate transaction, a real estate broker shall compensate the cooperating real estate broker and shall not compensate nor offer to compensate, directly or indirectly, any of the real estate salesmen or brokers employed by or affiliated with the cooperating real estate broker without the prior express knowledge and consent of the cooperating broker.

<u>Sec. 20-328-9a. Interference with agency or contract relationship</u>. (a) A licensee shall not engage in any practice or take any action which interferes with the agency relationship of another licensee.

- (b) No licensee shall induce or attempt to induce any party to a contract of sale or lease of real property to breach or terminate such contract for the purpose of substituting in lieu thereof a new contract with another principal of the licensee.
- (c) No licensee shall induce or attempt to induce an owner or a lessor of property to breach or terminate an exclusive right to sell or lease listing or an exclusive agency to sell or lease listing for the purpose of substituting in lieu thereof a new listing contract. No licensee shall induce or attempt to induce a prospective buyer or lessee to breach or terminate an exclusive representation agency agreement for the purpose of substituting a new exclusive representation agency agreement in lieu thereof.

<u>Sec. 20-328-10a.</u> Brokers and salesmen. (a) Upon termination of a licensee's employment or affiliation with a real estate broker, a licensee shall immediately turn over to such broker any and all information and records obtained during the licensee's employment or affiliation, whether such information or records were originally given by the licensee's broker or copied from the records of such employing broker or acquired by the licensee during the licensee's employment or affiliation with the real estate broker.

(b) Upon the termination of the employment or affiliation of a licensee with a real estate broker, the real estate broker shall give the licensee, within ten days of the date on which the licensee turns over to the real estate broker any and all information and records in accordance with this section, or within forty-five days of said termination, whichever is earlier, a written accounting setting forth all active listing agreements, agency agreements, transactions, commissions and compensation in which the licensee was involved. The accounting required by this subsection shall also include a statement of the commission or compensation, if any, which the real estate broker intends to pay the salesman on account of the active listings, agency agreements, transactions, commissions and compensation in which the licensee was involved.



REGULATIONS ON DISPOSITION, ADVERTISING, SALE OR EXCHANGE IN THIS STATE OF REAL ESTATE LOCATED IN ANOTHER STATE

Sec. 20-329m-1. Definitions.

- (a) "Disposition" or "dispose of" means any sale, exchange, lease, assignment, award by lottery or other transaction designed to convey an interest in a subdivision or parcel, lot, or unit thereof when undertaken for gain or profit;
- (b) "offer" means every inducement, solicitation or attempt to bring about a disposition;
- (c) "person" means an individual, firm, company, association, corporation, government or governmental subdivision or agency, business trust, estate trust, partnership, unincorporated association or organization two or more of any of the foregoing having a joint or common interest, or any other legal or commercial entity;
- (d) "broker" means a resident real estate broker duly licensed in this state;
- (e) "salesman" means any person duly licensed in this state as a real estate salesman;
- (f) "purchaser" means a person who acquires an interest in any lot, parcel or unit in a subdivision;
- (g) "subdivision" means any improved or unimproved land or tract of land located outside this state which is divided or proposed to be divided into five or more lots, parcels, units, or interests, for the purpose of disposition, at any time as part of a common promotional plan and where any land which is under common ownership or which is controlled by a single developer or a group of developers acting in concert, and such land is contiguous in areas and is designated or advertised as a common unit or by a common name shall be presumed, without regard to the number of lots, parcels, units or interests covered by each individual offering, to be part of a common promotional plan;
- (h) "the commission" means the Connecticut real estate commission.
- (i) "advertising" means publishing or causing to be published: (a) by means of any newspaper or periodical; (b) by means of any radio or television broadcast; (c) by means of any written or printed or photographic matter produced by any duplicating process producing ten copies or more, any information offering for sale or for the purpose of causing or inducing any other person to purchase or to acquire an interest in the title to subdivided lands, including the land sales contract to be used any

photographs or drawings or artist's representations of physical conditions or facilities on the property existing or to exist; (d) by means of any material used in connection with the disposition or offer of subdivided lands by radio, television, telephone or any other electronic means, provided, however, that "advertising" shall not be deemed to include: stockholder communications such as annual reports and interim financial reports, proxy materials, registration statements, securities prospectuses, application for listing securities on stock exchanges and the like; prospectuses, property reports, offering statements or other documents required to be delivered to prospective purchasers by an agency of any other state or the federal government; all communications addressed to and relating to the account of any persons who have previously executed a contract for the purchase of the subdivider's lands except where directed to the sale of additional lands; press releases or other communications delivered to newspapers or other periodicals for general information or public relations purposes, provided no charge is made by such newspapers or other periodicals for the publication or use of any part of such communications.

<u>Sec. 20-329m-2. Transaction restricted to broker. Exception.</u> No person except a broker or his duly licensed salesmen shall offer for disposition or dispose of in this state any subdivision or lot, parcel, unit or interest in any subdivision unless exempted by the provisions of section 20-329b of the general statutes.

<u>Sec. 20-329m-3. License requirement.</u> No person shall in this state offer any subdivision or lot, parcel, unit or interest in any subdivision for disposition or shall dispose of any such subdivision or lot, parcel, unit or interest in any subdivision until he has received a license to do so from the commission, provided this section, shall not apply to any person or subdivision exempted under the provisions of section 20-329b of the general statutes.

<u>Sec. 20-329m-4.</u> Application for license. Any broker who wishes to offer for disposition or to dispose of any subdivision or lot, parcel, unit or interest in any subdivision, and who is required to obtain a license to do so from the commission, shall submit to the commission:

- (1) A questionnaire and license application form duly completed by the applicant under oath. Such questionnaire and license application form shall include but shall not be limited to a statement by the applicant
- (a) that he has reviewed and verified the truth, authenticity and accuracy of all papers, maps, plats, plans, drawings, photographs, permissions, licenses, documents, deeds, instruments and promotional material, including but not limited to the sales prospectus or property report which is to be used in every offer of disposition in this state of any subdivision or lot, parcel, unit or interest in any subdivision, and
- (b) that all said materials and documentation reasonably portray the facts relating to the subdivision and any lot, parcel, unit or interest therein and its situation and location, and
- (c) that said materials and documentation are in no way misleading and subject to misinterpretation by the public;
- (2) proof of compliance with the requirements of section 20-329c of the general statutes relating to the appointment of the secretary of the state as the broker's attorney for service of process;
- (3) details of any bond which may be required by the commission;
- (4) a certified, carbon, photographic, Xerox or similarly reproduced copy of any title policy covering the subdivision;
- (5) a copy of any trust deed or mortgage affecting the subdivision, together with a copy of the conditional or partial releases to be used in the disposition of any lot, parcel, unit or interest in the subdivision;
- (6) a detailed statement of the method of handling all deposit monies received by the broker from any person, purchaser or prospective purchaser including but not limited to the name and address of the bank in which the escrow account is established, as well as the account number. In addition, such money shall remain in such escrow account, in accordance with section 20-329n, until final legal disposition is made by the person legally entitled to such money;
- (7) copies of all papers and documents to be used in any disposition in this state, including but not limited to any deed, trust deed or instrument, warranty deed, quitclaim deed, contract, agreement, lease, option, deposit receipt and maps, plan, drawings, or photographs or both;
- (8) copies of all conditions, restrictions, covenants, reservations and encumbrances affecting the subdivision, including but not limited to mineral or other such rights;
- (9) copies of all maps, plats or plans, approved by the local governmental authority, with evidence of such approval, depicting the subdivision or property or interest to be offered for disposition, together with maps depicting the topography and soil composition and definitive plans for construction; all such maps, plats or plans to be certified as to their accuracy by a duly qualified and licensed engineer;
- (10) (a) copies of all documentation or reports issued by the local governmental authority with respect to
- (i) the availability and potability of water,
- (ii) the sanitary disposal of human waste,
- (b) a complete report of all flood hazards and drainage affecting the subdivision, as issued by the local flood engineer or other competent and qualified authority,
- (c) a complete report covering the construction of access highways, roads and sidewalks affecting the subdivision, and

- (d) a complete report relating to the services which will be available to each purchaser of any lot, parcel, unit or interest in the subdivision;
- (11) (a) copies of proofs of all advertising and promotional material to be used in this state, including but not limited to a detailed description and legal description of the subdivision, together with a map showing the division proposed or made, the dimensions of the lots, parcels, units, or interests and the relation of the subdivision to existing streets, roads, and other offsite improvements,
- (b) copies of the sales prospectus or property report to be used;
- (c) the plan under which the disposition of the subdivision or any lots, parcels, units or interests therein is to be made, and
- (d) such other information as the commission may require in rendering a decision as to the issuance of a license to the applicant;
- (12) a copy of the price list of all the lots, parcels, units or interests in the subdivision and the terms and conditions of any offering under which any person or purchaser is to be induced to accept any such offer;
- (13) the names and addresses of the persons in whom title to the subdivision is vested, together with the names and addresses of all other persons having a financial interest in the proposed offer or promotional sale or both;
- (14) an adequate financial statement covering the persons in whom title to the subdivision is vested, together with at least two bank references in respect of each such person;
- (15) a statement made under oath by those persons listed in subsection (13) of this section setting forth in detail (a) any prior arrests, proceedings or convictions in any jurisdiction against such persons within ten years prior to the date of the application, concerning the following charges or offenses: forgery, embezzlement, obtaining money under false pretenses, extortion, criminal conspiracy to defraud, or other like offense or offenses
- (b) whether any of them has ever had his real estate license revoked or suspended, and
- (c) if there have been no such arrests, proceedings, convictions, license revocations or suspensions, said statement shall clearly state that there have been "none";
- (16) a copy, certified by a duly authorized and qualified person, of any report, review, inspection, approval or release which may have been required by the state or jurisdiction in which the subdivision is located;
- (17) the statutory filing fee of one hundred dollars plus the license fee to be computed on the basis of the rates set forth in section 20-329f, subsection (b). The commission shall supply free of charge all necessary questionnaire and license application forms and shall make no official review of any license application until it has received from the applicant all necessary documentation duly completed.
- Sec. 20-329m-5. Subdivision registered under Federal Interstate Land Sales Full Disclosure Act. Any broker, unless exempted under the provisions of subsections (a) or (b) of section 20-329b of the general statutes, wishing to offer for disposition or to dispose of in this state any subdivision or lot, parcel, unit or interest in any subdivision which is registered under the Federal Interstate Land Sales Full Disclosure Act shall submit to the commission, prior to making any such offer of disposition;
- (a) A certified copy of the effective statement of record filed with the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development;
- (b) a certificate in letter form from said secretary confirming the filing with him of the particular subdivision and of the effective statement of record;
- (c) the statutory filing fee of one hundred dollars plus the license fee to be computed on the basis of the rates set forth in section 20-329f, subsection (b). The commission shall supply free of charge all necessary registration application forms. Any amendments to the statement of record which are filed with said secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall be reported in writing and under oath to the commission within fourteen days after the same are filed with said secretary. The fee for filing a consolidation or an additional number of units not included in the initial filing shall be one hundred dollars.
- (d) any subdivision which has been registered under the federal interstate land sales full disclosure act shall be exempt from all the provisions of section 20-329d of the general statutes by complying with all provisions of subsection (c) of section 20-329(b) of the general statutes.
- <u>Sec. 20-329m-6. Land registered in another jurisdiction</u>. (a) Any broker wishing to offer for disposition or to dispose of in this state any subdivision or lot, parcel, unit or interest in any subdivision which is registered or approved pursuant to the laws of any other state or jurisdiction shall submit to the commission
- (1) an exemption application form duly completed under oath
- (2) a copy of all the materials and documentation supplied to or registered with such other state or jurisdiction, including but not limited to the sales prospectus to be used in the offer or disposition,
- (3) A certificate in letter form from such other state or jurisdiction
- (i) establishing the authenticity and accuracy of said materials and documents and that same have been filed or registered with such other state or jurisdiction, and
- (ii) certifying that the applicant is of good standing in such state or jurisdiction and that he has not had his real estate license revoked or suspended and listing any arrest or conviction within ten years prior thereto connected with the following

offenses: forgery, embezzlement, obtaining money under false pretenses, extortion, criminal conspiracy to defraud, or other like offense or offenses.

(b) The commission, after receipt of and based upon the materials, documents and certificates required by this section to be submitted to it, shall make a determination concerning those provisions, if any, of the general statutes relating to the offering or disposition in this state of subdivisions, from which the applicant shall be exempt.

<u>Sec. 20-329m-7. Sale contract provisions.</u> (a) Every contract for the sale of any subdivision, or lot, parcel or unit in any subdivision, unless specifically exempted by section 20-329b of the general statutes shall include the following provisions:

- (1) A clear statement of the exact time and date when the contract was signed by the purchaser;
- (2) a clear statement of the exact time and date when the purchaser received a copy of the sales prospectus;
- (3) a clear statement notifying the purchaser that if he did not receive a copy of the sales prospectus more than seventy-two hours in advance of the time he signed the contract, then he has the power to revoke the contract by communicating such revocation to the seller within seventy-two hours of the last occurring of the following events;
- (i) the time the purchaser signed the contract or agreement, or
- (ii) the time the purchaser received the sales prospectus;
- (4) list the broker's residence and office address and provide that the transmittal of the written revocation to either address shall be sufficient to effect the revocation.
- (b) The contract or agreement may provide that the foregoing power of revocation shall not apply in the case of a purchaser who:
- (1) Has received the sales prospectus and inspected the subdivision in advance of signing the contract or agreement, and
- (2) acknowledges by his signature that he has made the inspection and has read and understood the sales prospectus.
- (c) The broker shall, at the time the contract or agreement is signed, deliver to the purchaser a form which may be followed by the purchaser in effecting such revocation which form shall comply with the requirements of section 20-329m-8. If the purchaser elects to revoke the contract or agreement within the time limits as prescribed in section 20-329h of the general statutes, the broker shall return all moneys paid by the purchaser without any deduction.
- (d) the broker or salesman shall retain the signed receipt for any sales prospectus, property report or offering statement from any purchaser for a period of seven years. The broker or salesman, upon termination with the developer, shall turn these receipts over to the developer within thirty days and the developer shall retain them for the duration of the seven year period.

<u>Sec. 20-329m-8.</u> Revocation form. (a) The written form of revocation permitted under subsection (c) of section 20-329h of the general statutes of any contract or agreement relating to any subdivision or lot, parcel, unit or interest in any subdivision

- (1) show the names and addresses of the parties to the contract or agreement being revoked,
- (2) identify the subdivision or lot, parcel, unit or interest in the subdivision which is the subject of the contract or agreement,
- (3) state the date and exact time the sales prospectus was received by the purchaser.
- (b) The revocation shall be deemed to have been communicated, if, within the time limit specified in subsection (c) of said section 20-329h, the written revocation is delivered to the broker's residence at any time or his office address during regular business hours. Such written revocation may be in the form of a letter sent by registered or certified mail.

<u>Sec. 20-329m-9.</u> Reports to commission. Every broker who has been granted a license to offer for disposition or to dispose of in this state any subdivision or lot, parcel, unit or interest in any subdivision shall immediately report in writing and under oath to the commission all factual changes in any way materially affecting the value, marketability, or use of the subdivision or any lot, parcel, unit or interest therein or the offering or disposition thereof, provided, if no such changes have occurred, this fact shall be reported in writing and under oath by the broker to the commission at least every six months.

<u>Sec. 20-329m-10. Hearing on license refusal</u>. Any broker who is refused a license by the commission to offer for disposition or to dispose of in this state any subdivision or lot, parcel, unit of interest in any subdivision may request a hearing before the commission and the commission shall grant such request and shall hold the requested hearing.

<u>Sec. 20-329m-11. Deposits to be held in escrow</u>. (a) any broker accepting moneys paid or advanced by the purchaser or lessee or prospective purchaser or prospective lessee in respect to the sale or lease of any subdivision shall comply with the following provisions:

- (1) deposit any such moneys as described in section 20-329m-11(a) in an escrow account, approved by the commission, in a bank doing business in the state of Connecticut,
- (2) maintain such moneys as described in section 20-329m-11(a) in the broker's escrow account until
- (i) a proper and valid release is obtained therefor, or
- (ii) either party has defaulted under the contract or agreement and the commission or the court has made a determination as to the disposition of such money, or

- (iii) the seller or lessor orders the return of such money to such purchaser or lessee.
- (b) the broker shall not release any moneys until the time limits for revoking the contract or agreement have expired as prescribed under section 20-329h, subsection (c) of the general statutes.



CONNECTICUT REAL ESTATE COMMISSION POLICY ON USE OF UNLICENSED PERSONS BY LICENSEES

Licensees, both brokers and salespersons, often use unlicensed persons, either employed or contracted, to perform various tasks related to a real estate transaction which do not require a license. Such persons, for example, are used as personal assistants, clerical support staff, closing secretaries, etc.

The Connecticut Real Estate Commission prohibits unlicensed persons from negotiating, listing, selling, buying, or renting real property for another for a fee. It is, therefore, important for employing brokers and other licensees using such persons to carefully restrict the activities of such persons so that allegations of wrongdoing under Connecticut General Statutes or State Regulations can be avoided. Licensees should not share commissions with unlicensed persons acting as assistants, clerical staff, closing secretaries, etc. The temptation for such unlicensed persons, in such situations, to go beyond what they can do and negotiate or take part in other prohibited activities is greatly increased when their compensation is based on the successful completion of the sale. In order to provide guidance to licensees with regard to which activities related to a real estate transaction unlicensed persons can and cannot perform, the commission establishes the following Policy:

Activities which *can* be performed by unlicensed persons who, for example, act as personal assistants, clerical support staff, closing secretaries, etc., include, but are not necessarily limited to:

- 1. Answer the phone and forward calls to licensee.
- 2. Transmit listings and changes to a multiple listing service.
- 3. Follow up on loan commitments after a contract has been negotiated.
- 4. Assemble documents for closing.
- 5. Secure documents; i.e., public information from town/city hall, courthouse, sewer district, water district, tax assessor, etc.
- 6. Have keys made for company listings.
- 7. Write and prepare ads (with review of licensee), flyers and promotional materials and place such advertising.
- 8. Record and deposit earnest money and other trust funds.
- 9. Type contract forms under direction of licensee.
- 10. Monitor licenses and personnel files.
- 11. Compute commission checks.
- 12. Place signs on property.
- 13. Order items of routine repair as directed by licensee and/or supervising broker.
- 14. Act as courier service to deliver documents, pick up keys, etc.
- 15. Schedule appointments for licensee to show listed property.
- 16. Measure property.

Activities which *cannot* be performed by unlicensed persons who, for example, act as personal assistants, clerical support staff, closing secretaries, etc., include but are not necessarily limited to:

- 1. Host open houses, kiosks, home show booths or fairs, or hand out materials at such functions.
- 2. Show property.
- 3. Answer any questions from consumers on listing, title, financing, closing, etc.
- 4. Contact cooperative brokers, whether in person or otherwise, regarding any negotiations or open transactions.
- 5. Discuss or explain a contract, offer to purchase, agreement, listing, or other real estate document with anyone outside the
- 6. Be paid on the basis of commission, or any amount based on listings, sales, etc.
- 7. Negotiate or agree to any commission, commission split or referral fee on behalf of a licensee.
- 8. Place calls that would require a license such as cold calls, solicit listings, contacting expired listings or for sale by owners, or extending invitations to open houses.
- 9. Attend inspections or pre-closing walk-through unless accompanied by licensee.
- 10. The unlicensed assistant is not a decision maker; rather, shall take all direction from supervising licensee.

Employing brokers, whether they are employing unlicensed persons or whether licensees under their supervision are using unlicensed persons as personal assistants or the like, are responsible for assuring that such unlicensed persons are not

involved in activities which require a license and/or activities which violate this policy. Brokers should establish guidelines for the use of unlicensed persons and procedures for monitoring their activities. It is the responsibility of the designated broker to assure at unlicensed persons, either directly employed or contracted, or employed or contracted by licensees under his or her supervision, are not acting improperly.



CONNECTICUT REAL ESTATE COMMISSION POLICY ON AGENCY Summary

Two significant new agency laws were enacted in 1996 (Public Act 96-159) and 1999 (Public Act 99-229) that affect real estate brokerage practices. Taken together, these new laws essentially do the following four things:

- (i) Limit Subagency. In cooperating sales, there is no longer the presumption that the broker working with the buyer is the subagent of the seller. The primary purpose of this change is to encourage buyer representation. Subagency is still allowed, but for each listing shown, the seller would have to approve the subagency relationship by signing a written consent to subagency.
- (ii) Allow Dual Agency. Provides for a dual agency consent forms to be used to obtain a buyer's and seller's (or landlord and tenant's) consent to dual agency. For in-house sales, where only one brokerage firm is involved, the brokerage firm can represent both the buyer and seller as a dual agent, provided that this consent is obtained. The forms provide guidance as to what type of disclosures cannot be made in a dual agency relationship.
- (iii) Allow Designated Agency. Real estate brokers are now allowed to appoint a separate seller agent and separate buyer agent for a dual agency transaction. The designated agents are not considered dual agents.
- (iv) Protect confidential client information. Requires preservation of confidential information at any time during or after an agency relationship.

In order to provide guidance to licensees with regard to issues related to the new laws, the Commission establishes the following policies:

OVERVIEW

1. Agency documents

Refer to Table 1 for an outline of agency documents required to be entered into with or given to buyers and sellers.

2. Agency in practice

Refer to <u>Table 2</u> for an outline of issues to consider regarding the practical application of agency relationships.

3. Agency runs to the brokerage firm, not individual licensees.

In general, agency runs from a client to the broker in a brokerage firm and all salespersons in that brokerage firm. This means that if the brokerage firm has entered into a listing agreement with a seller, then all of the brokers and salespersons in that firm are agents of that seller, represent that seller, and owe fiduciary duties to that seller. Likewise, if the brokerage firm enters into a buyer agency agreement with a buyer, then all of the brokers and salespersons in that firm are the agents of the buyer, represent that buyer, and owe fiduciary duties to that buyer. Further, once a seller consents to a cooperating broker acting as a subagent, all licensees affiliated with that broker are that seller's subagent for the listed property. The only exception to this is in the case of the appointment of designated agents, as outlined in paragraph 10.

WORKING WITH BUYERS

4. The law allows licensees to work with a buyer as either a client or customer.

The law does not require that a licensee enter into an agency relationship with a buyer as a client, in order for the licensee to provide services to the buyer. A licensee can work with a buyer without representing the buyer in one of two ways.

(A licensee can also provide some services to a buyer that the licensee intends to potentially represent before a buyer agency agreement is entered into, as outlined in paragraph 5).

First, the broker can be the buyer's agent as long as the buyer agrees with this. If a licensee represents a buyer, the law requires that a written buyer agency agreement be entered into before the licensee negotiates on behalf of the buyer (see paragraph 5 for further detail on what constitutes negotiating and the timing).

Second, a licensee can work with a buyer as a customer, meaning that the licensee does not represent the buyer. The licensee can show the buyer in-house listings, in which cases the licensee is the agent of the seller. The licensee can also show the buyer another firm's listing by being the sub-agent of the seller, after obtaining the seller's written consent to subagency. Note that a licensee is not legally entitled to enforce a compensation arrangement when working with a buyer on another firm's listings unless the licensee's firm enters into a buyer representation agreement with the buyer or obtains the seller's written permission to act as a subagent.

A licensee can also work with the buyer without being the buyer's agent for in-house sales and subsequently represent the buyer for another company's listings. Once the licensee becomes the buyer's agent, the licensee would then be either a dual agent or designated agent for any in-house sales with that buyer.

The steps involved in working with a buyer as a client and as a customer are outlined in more detail in Table 2. Office policy may be more restrictive than what the law allows. Real estate firms that have chosen to work with buyers only as buyer agents must advise buyers that it is their policy (not the law) to only work with buyers as buyer agents.

5. A licensee may conduct preliminary activities for a buyer before a written buyer representation agreement is entered into, given the following guidelines are met.

- a. **Before** a licensee works with the buyer, the licensee should:
 - (i) ask whether the buyer is currently being represented by another real estate firm.
 - (ii) explain the real estate firm's office policy on the various agency, dual agency, designated agency, and customer relationships that the licensee could potentially have with the buyer; and
 - (iii) specifically tell the buyer not to provide confidential information unless and until the buyer and licensee have entered into an agency relationship.
- b. The licensee can do the following for a buyer, without entering into a written buyer agency agreement:
 - (i) give the buyer property information;
 - (ii) give the buyer information on the licensee's firm; or
 - (iii) give the buyer information on mortgage rates and lending institutions.
- c. The licensee **cannot do** the following for a buyer, **unless** either (1) a written buyer agency agreement is entered into, or (2) the licensee is going to represent the seller and has presented the buyer with the form Agency Disclosure Notice (given to Unrepresented Persons) stating that the licensee represents the seller (and for cooperating sales, obtains the seller's consent to subagency):
 - (i) ask the buyer to disclose confidential information (including information about the buyer's financial status, reasons for purchasing, etc.);
 - (ii) express an opinion on or give advice about particular real estate (note that a licensee representing the seller should be cautious expressing an opinion or giving advice);
 - (iii) physically show the buyer in-house listings;
 - (iv) physically show the buyer property listed with another firm; or
 - (v) discuss an offer with the buyer; or
 - (vi) engage in any verbal or written negotiations on the buyer's behalf concerning the price or any terms or conditions of the purchase.

6. Buyer-brokers must accurately explain compensation arrangements with buyers.

A broker entering into a buyer brokerage agreement with a buyer must explain the provisions of the agreement which detail the compensation arrangement. A broker cannot advertise or represent that buyers can be represented with no liability to pay a fee or commission (unless in fact the buyer has no obligation to pay compensation in any circumstances under the agreement).

7. A licensee is not required to represent buyers that come into open houses.

A licensee is not legally required to enter into an agency relationship with buyers who come to the licensee's open house. The licensee can work with the buyer as the seller's agent. (See Table 2, Brokerage Firm Represents Seller and Brokerage Firm Working with Buyer.) The form Agency Disclosure Notice (given to Unrepresented Persons) need not be given to prospective buyers, provided there is a sign or pamphlet disclosing the licensee's agency relationship and the specific real estate needs of the prospective buyer are not discussed. If the licensee and buyer both desire, a buyer agency agreement can be entered into. (See <u>Table 2</u>, Brokerage Firm Represents Buyer).

REPRESENTING BOTH BUYERS AND SELLERS

8. The possibility of dual agency must be stated in agency agreements.

If a brokerage firm represents both buyers and sellers, that firm's agency agreements must contain a statement, as set forth in the licensing regulations, that the potential exists for a broker to be a dual agent.

9. Dual agency is allowed, if both parties give their informed consent.

Dual agency is permitted if both the buyer and seller give their informed consent to it. One way that this consent can be obtained is by using the Dual Agency/Designated Agency Disclosure Notice and Consent Agreement. Buyer and Seller must

sign the form, having checked that they "do" consent do dual agency. Another way to obtain this consent is to use the Dual Agency Consent Agreement. Both Buyer and Seller must sign the form. Details on the timing of the execution of these forms are set in paragraph 10.

10. Notice of and informed consent to dual agency can be obtained by using EITHER the Dual Agency/Designated Agency Notice and Consent Form OR the Dual Agency Consent Agreement.

Either the Dual Agency/Designated Agency Disclosure Notice and Consent Agreement or the Dual Agency Consent Agreement may be generically signed by the seller at the time a listing agreement is entered into, identifying the buyer as "all buyers that the licensee now represents or may represent in the future." Similarly, either form may be generically signed by the buyer at the time the buyer agency agreement is entered into, identifying the seller as "all sellers that the licensee now represents or may represent in the future" and the property as "all property currently listed with the licensee or listed with the licensee in the future." Before a specific buyer-client makes an offer on a specific seller-client's property, both the buyer and seller must execute a specific Dual Agency/Designated Agency Disclosure Notice and Consent Agreement or Dual Agency Consent Agreement listing the proper parties and property.

Practical Note: For a transaction where designated agents will be appointed, the Dual Agency/Designated Agency Notice and Consent Form should be used to obtain dual agency consent.

11. Designated agency is allowed, if both parties give their informed consent.

In the case of dual agency, if all parties agree, the Brokerage Firm can appoint one or more licensees to solely represent the Buyer as a Designated Buyer's Agent and one or more licensees to solely represent the Seller as a Designated Seller's Agent in a specific transaction. These designated agents would not be deemed to be dual agents, although the brokerage firm and other licensees within the firm would still be considered dual agents.

12. Designated agency is not an option for only one party/client in a transaction.

The designated agency option is not available to only one party to a transaction. In other words, a brokerage firm cannot designate a designated agent to solely represent the Buyer, and not use designated agency for the Seller in a specific transaction.

13. Notice of and informed consent to Designated Agency can be obtained by using the Dual Agency/Designated Agency Notice and Consent Form.

For designated agency to occur, the law requires that both the buyer and seller be given notice and give their informed consent. These two requirements can be met by using the Dual Agency/Designated Agency Disclosure Notice and Consent Agreement. The designated agents must be listed on the form, having been appointed by the Brokerage Firm. Additionally, Buyer and Seller must sign the form, having checked that they "have" agreed to the appointment of designated agents. This portion of the form would be filled out when the dual agency portion is, with the timing being the same.

APPLICATION

14. Application to leasing transactions.

All of the above applies to leasing transactions, except the limitation on subagency. In a lease transaction (but not a lease-purchase-option transaction), licensees working with a tenant may be a subagent of the landlord, without obtaining a written Subagency Consent document.

15. Application to commercial property.

All of the above applies to both residential and commercial property transactions.

Adopted by the Connecticut Real Estate Commission this 6th day of January, 2000.

TABLE 1 CONNECTICUT AGENCY DOCUMENTS

	Agency Representation Agreement	Agency Disclosure Notice	Dual Agency /Designated Agency Notice and Consent Documentation
COOPERATING SALE			
Broker represents Seller	Listing Agreement	give to unrepresented potential Buyer at time of first personal meeting concerning Buyer's need (not required if Buyer represented by another agent)	
Broker represents Buyer	Buyer Agency Agreement	give to unrepresented potential Seller at time of first personal meeting with Seller (not required if Seller represented by another agent)	
Broker working with Buyer, subagent of Seller	Seller Consent to Subagency	give to unrepresented potential Buyer at time of first personal meeting concerning Buyer's needs	n/a
IN-HOUSE SALE			
Broker represents both Seller and Buyer, no Designated Agents	Listing Agreement and Buyer Agency Agreement (must contain statement about possibility of dual agency)	n/a	before Buyer makes a written offer: both Buyer and Seller must sign "Dual Agency Consent Agreement"
Broker represents both Seller and Buyer, Designated Agents have been appointed	Listing Agreement and Buyer Agency Agreement (must contain statement about possibility of dual agency)	n/a	before Buyer makes a written offer: both Buyer, Seller, and broker must sign "Dual Agency/Designated Agency Disclosure Notice and Consent Agreement" with names of Desingated Agents inserted
Broker represents only Seller, working with Buyer	Listing Agreement	give to unrepresented potential Buyer at time of first personal meeting concerning Buyer's needs (not required if Buyer represented by another agent)	

TABLE 2 CONNECTICUT REAL ESTATE AGENCY RELATIONSHIPS IN PRACTICE*

	Brokerage Firm Represents Seller	Brokerage Firm Represents Buyer	Brokerage Firm Working with Buyer as Customer
STEP A1.	Enter into written Listing Agreement. Go to STEP A2.	STEP B1. Enter into written Buyer Agency Agreement. Go to STEP B2.	STEP C1. Determine whether Buyer seeks representation
STEP A2.	Before Seller's property is shown to each potential Buyer, determine whether Buyer is represented by a brokerage firm.	STEP B2. Before Buyer is shown a property, determine whether the Seller of that property is represented by a	(i) If yes, go to STEP B1. (ii) If no, go to STEP C2.
	(i) If Buyer is not represented, but would like to be represented by your firm, go to STEP B1. (ii) If Buyer is not represented, and does not wish to be represented, go to STEP A3. (iii) If Buyer is represented by another firm, go to STEP A4. (iv) If Buyer is represented by your firm, go to STEP A5.	brokerage firm. (i) If Seller is not represented, go to STEP B3. (ii) If Seller is represented by another firm, go to STEP B4. (iii) If Seller is represented by your firm, go to STEP A5.	STEP C2. This is a difficult way to go, although it is allowed by the law. Procedure depends upon whether Buyer is going to be shown an inhouse listing or another firm's listing. (i) For in-house listings, go to
STEP A3.	Give Agency Disclosure Notice to unrepresented Buyer at time of first personal meeting concerning Buyer's needs. Go to STEP A4.	STEP B3. Give Agency Disclosure Notice to unrepresented Seller at time of first personal meeting with Seller. Go to STEP B4.	STEP C3. (ii) For another firm's listings, go to STEP C4. STEP C3. Broker may work with Buyer as the
STEP A4.	Proceed as Seller's Agent.	STEP B4. Proceed as Buyer's Agent.	Seller's Agent. Go to STEP A3. STEP C4. Does Seller agree to Broker being Seller's subagent?
STEP A5.	Have both Buyer and Seller given their informed consent to dual agency? (i) If yes, both Buyer and Seller must sign either		(i) If yes, Broker must obtain Seller's written consent to
STEP A6.	⇒Dual Agency Consent Agreement (if not designating agents) or ⇒Dual Agency/Designated Agency Disclosure Notice and Consent Agreement (if also designating agents) Go to STEP A6. (ii) If no, Stop. Cannot represent both parties in the same transaction without obtaining their informed consent. Have Brokerage Firm and both Buyer and		subagency, containing subagent Broker's name and licensee number and containing a statement that the law imposes vicarious liability on the Seller for the acts of the sub-agent. Go to STEP A3. (ii) If no, Stop. Cannot proceed in this transaction and be legally entitled to compensation.
•	Seller agreed to the appointment of Designated Agents? (i) If yes, both Buyer, Seller, and broker sign Dual Agency/ Designated Agency Disclosure Notice and Consent Agreement and broker must appoint designated agents in that Agreement. Designated agents proceed as such, rest of office proceeds as Dual Agent. (ii) If no, proceed as Dual Agent, with no designated agency.		

These are the most common scenarios that a Broker may encounter, although this outline is not all encompassing. Refer to the Connecticut General Statutes for further detail and clarification on Connecticut agency relationships.



CONNECTICUT REAL ESTATE COMMISSION POLICY ON (I) REFERRAL FEES AND

(II) INTERFERING WITH AGENCY RELATIONSHIPS

History.

There has been real estate brokerage industry concern in Connecticut that real estate relocation companies (and affinity groups) are charging brokers referral fees for business that the broker already has (either because an agent generated it or another broker referred it). In this situation, there is no referral of business and no agreement between the broker and relocation company that the broker will pay a fee. Therefore, the broker is under no legal obligation to pay the relocation company a referral fee. However, brokers have stated that they feel pressured to pay the fee because otherwise (1) benefits will be withheld from the broker's client, and (2) a broker may not be sent future referrals.

In order to provide guidance to licensees on the issues of (I) referral fees and (II) interfering with agency relationships, the Connecticut Real Estate Commission establishes the following policy:

- I. Section 20-328-8a(e) of the Connecticut real estate regulations prohibits a broker from paying a referral fee to an unlicensed person engaging in the real estate business. In order to meet this license requirement, the person receiving the referral fee can be licensed in either Connecticut or another state.
- II. Section 20-328-8a(a) of the Connecticut real estate regulations prohibits a licensee from demanding a referral fee, unless a reasonable cause for payment of the referral fee exists. A reasonable cause for payment (which would allow a licensee to demand a referral fee, but not necessarily mean that the licensee has a legal right to a referral fee) means that (1) an actual introduction of business has been made, (2) a subagency relationship exists, (3) a contractual referral fee relationship exists, or (4) a contractual cooperative brokerage relationship exists.
- III. Section 20-328-9a(a) of the Connecticut real estate regulations prohibits a licensee from interfering with the agency relationship of another licensee (and further, section 20-328-9a(c) prohibits a licensee from attempting to induce a seller or landlord to break a listing contract with another licensee for the purpose of substituting it for a new listing contract). For purposes of this section, an agency relationship is not established until a written agency agreement (either a listing or buyer representation agreement) is entered into. Interfering with the agency relationship of another licensee includes (1) demanding a referral fee from another licensee without reasonable cause, (2) threatening to take harmful action against a client of another licensee because of the agency relationship, and (3) counseling a client of another licensee on how to terminate or amend an existing agency contract. Any activities that involve the communication of corporate relocation policies or benefits to a transferring employee, as long as that communication does not involve advice or encouragement on how to terminate or amend an existing agency contract, shall not be considered interference.

Concerns that a company or individual may not be complying with any regulations or statutes contained in this policy statement should be addressed to: Connecticut Real Estate Commission, 165 Capital Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut 06106.

Adopted this 5th day of March, 1998



MEMORANDUM FOR ALL REAL ESTATE LICENSEES:

I am writing on behalf of the Department of Consumer Protection and the Real Estate Commission to provide you with non-regulatory guidance concerning an emerging issue arising from the new agency law, the question of how brokers can work with buyers. We are providing this guidance to advise you of how you can avoid inadvertent misconduct in a new area.

A common misconception about the new law is that licensees can now only work with buyers as clients. This is not the case. As before, brokers and their salespeople can still work with a buyer in one of two ways:

(1) A broker can work with a buyer as a client. In this case, the broker and all salespersons working for the broker represent the buyer. If this arrangement is pursued, the law requires the broker to enter into a written buyer agency

agreement with the buyer before the broker is still permitted to represent the seller as a client as well as the buyer if both the buyer and seller give their informed consent to dual agency.

(2) A broker can work with the buyer as a customer. In this case, the broker and all the salespersons working for the broker represent the seller. A broker represents a seller by either entering into a written listing agreement with the seller, or by cooperating with another broker who has entered into a listing agreement with the seller and obtaining the seller's written consent to subagency.

The Department and the Commission are concerned that brokerage firms that take listings may institute office policies that exclude working with a buyer as a customer. This is not permitted, because a broker representing a seller though an exclusive listing has a fiduciary legal duty to the seller to make a diligent effort to sell the listed property. Part of that duty involves introducing potential buyers to the listed property. It is the view of this Department that a broker cannot legally refuse to show an in-house listed property to a potential buyer because the buyer would not enter into an agency relationship with that broker.

In summary, the new agency law allows brokers to work with buyers on either a client or a customer basis. A brokerage firm that lists properties cannot refuse to work with a buyer on a customer basis if that buyer does not seek representation and wishes to only be shown in-house listed properties.

Mark A. Shiffrin Commissioner October 31, 1997



SUMMARY OF RELATED LEGAL OPINIONS / RULINGS

<u>Reciprocity</u>. Non-residents holders of license-by-reciprocity who become Connecticut residents have a valid Connecticut license and are not required to qualify with course, experience, and examination requirements in order to maintain the validity of their license. Legal Opinion, Connecticut Attorney General's Office, June 11, 1999.

<u>Licensing of on-site employees</u>. Section 20-329 of the Connecticut General Statutes provides "regular employees who are employed as on-site residential superintendents or custodians" are exempt from real estate licensing requirements. The Commission has interpreted this law as requiring all of the following conditions for the exemption to apply: The individual must (1) be a regular employee, (2) be employed as a superintendent or custodian, (3) work on a residential site where he engages in licensed activities, and (4) reside at the location where he works and engages in those licensed activities. Declaratory Ruling, Connecticut Real Estate Commission, April 1, 1999.

Operation of a Brokerage / Officers and Titles. Interpreting Section 20-312(b) of the Connecticut General Statutes, the Commission has ruled that any officer of a brokerage firm must be individually licensed as a broker (i.e. salespersons cannot be officers), and that each owner of a brokerage firm actively engaged in the management or control of a brokerage business be individually licensed as a broker. Declaratory Ruling, Connecticut Real Estate Commission, July 19, 2002.

Advertisements by Agents. Interpreting Section 20-328-5a of the Regulations of the Connecticut State Agencies, the Commission has ruled salespersons must disclose the identity of the responsible broker in any advertisement for the sale of real estate. The Commission also ruled that licensees advertising property without having a listing agreement on that property must have a signed authorization from the listing broker to do so. Declaratory Ruling, Connecticut Real Estate Commission, July 19, 2002.



CONTINUING EDUCATION FOR CYCLE ENDING IN 2020

Mandatory Continuing Education Course for the Cycle Ending in 2020. Pursuant to Section 20-319-3 of the Connecticut General Statutes, the Real Estate Commission had mandated that all Connecticut real estate licensees complete six hours of "Connecticut Real Estate Agency Law and Fair Housing" (Parts One and Two) as part of their twelve hours of continuing education requirements for the cycle ending in 2020.