### **Monmouth Ocean Regional REALTORS®**



Governance & Policy Manual June 16, 2023 (Revised 9/24/25)

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# Monmouth Ocean Regional REALTORS® Policy & Procedure Change

Policies and procedures may be changed at any time by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

This document is subject to change at any time to comply with Board of Director policy changes.

If at any time the policies of the Association are in conflict with the Bylaws of the Association, the Bylaws are to be deemed authoritative and shall supersede the policy.

## Monmouth Ocean Regional REALTORS® Confidentiality Policy

This Confidentiality Policy (Policy) is adopted in order to ensure matters which are to remain known only to certain persons affiliated with the ASSOCIATION are kept that way. ASSOCIATION members and staff are frequently involved in proceedings or actions that involve information that should be kept private. The purpose of this Policy is to define and set forth what information that is and to inform members and staff of procedures to be followed to ensure confidentiality.

This Policy is applicable to all members of the ASSOCIATION who serve in voluntary governance positions. Voluntary governance positions include all members of the Executive/Personnel Committee, Board of Directors, Committees, Sub-Committees, and Task Forces.

Confidential Information includes but is not limited to any information pertaining to The ASSOCIATION's matters of competition, current or anticipated operations, Human Resources, procedures, 3<sup>rd</sup> party relationships and agreements, work product, and personal identification information. Some examples of Confidential Information are:

- Information related to any previous, current, or anticipated Professional Standards proceedings (including the Ombudsman, Mediation, Ethics, and Arbitration programs)
- Information related to Professional Development programs and the creation of such programs that is specifically identified as confidential
- Information related to the development and creation of any artwork, marketing material, graphic design, and other printed material to be used by the ASSOCIATION, its staff and members
- Information concerning the process used to create and publish the ASSOCIATION magazine, newsletters, podcasts and any other communications tool utilized by the ASSOCIATION
- Information related to vendor contracts and any proprietary information learned by the ASSOCIATION in obtaining and fulfilling its obligations pursuant to vendor contracts
- Any information related to government affairs and political involvement programming
  of the ASSOCIATION not otherwise required to be made public (e.g. process used to
  determine campaign contributions, discussions surrounding decisions for campaign
  contributions and endorsements, and membership data, etc.)
- Information pertaining to the process used to create and publish the ASSOCIATION
   Forms Library that is specifically identified as confidential
- Information related to personnel decisions (e.g. hiring, firing, promotion, reprimand, salary increases, etc.)
- Information related to the identity of any individual such as date of birth, social security number, tax ID number or other private/secure information.
- Financial information including credit card numbers, account numbers and other finance related instruments.

- Information obtained pursuant to closed meetings of ASSOCIATION committees, Board of Directors, or Executive Committee
- Any other information not generally known that if disseminated could be reasonably expected to adversely affect the ASSOCIATION

#### General Non-Disclosure of Confidential Information

At no time shall an ASSOCIATION member disclose Confidential Information unless expressly permitted to do so at the discretion or direction of the CEO of the ASSOCIATION. Further, unless expressly permitted to do so, at no time shall an ASSOCIATION member make copies of Confidential Information except as may be required in the performance of the person's job duties or voluntary governance position duties.

#### Governance

From time to time, it may be necessary or required for meetings of ASSOCIATION leadership (i.e. certain committees, Executive Committee, Board of Directors) to be held in executive session. The proceedings of these meetings are confidential in nature and shall not be disclosed to individuals who were not present at the meeting.

Any information discussed at a meeting held in executive session or documents that are disseminated are to remain confidential and may not be shared with anyone not in attendance.

#### Member Information

Members of the ASSOCIATION frequently provide information to the ASSOCIATION related to membership requirements with the National Association of REALTORS® New Jersey REALTORS® as well as information regarding contributions to the REALTORS® Political Action Committee. Any information provided to the ASSOCIATION for these limited purposes shall be deemed confidential and may not be shared with any other member of the ASSOCIATION or with ASSOCIATION staff holding positions to which the information would not be relevant.

#### <u>Acknowledgment</u>

By agreeing to serve in an ASSOCIATION voluntary governance position, each Applicable Person agrees to abide by the terms in this Policy. Applicable Persons also acknowledge that Confidential Information learned or discovered throughout the course of the person's affiliation with the ASSOCIATION is the sole property of the ASSOCIATION and further agrees to leave any hard copies containing Confidential Information in the possession of the ASSOCIATION upon either the end of the Applicable Person's affiliation with the ASSOCIATION or the end of the person's service in a voluntary governance position.

As a condition of service to hold a position of service on the Board of Directors, Executive/Personnel Committee, any Standing Committee, Special Committee, Sub-Committee or Task Force of Monmouth Ocean Regional REALTORS®, members are required to sign the following statement:

# Monmouth Ocean Regional REALTORS® Confidentiality Policy Acknowledgment

By agreeing to serve in an ASSOCIATION voluntary governance position, I agree to abide by the terms in the Confidentiality Policy of Monmouth Ocean Regional REALTORS®. I also acknowledge that Confidential Information learned or discovered during the course of my affiliation with the ASSOCIATION is the sole property of the ASSOCIATION and further agree to leave any hard copies containing Confidential Information in the possession of the ASSOCIATION upon the end of my service in a voluntary governance position.

, agree to abide by the terms and conditional pulated in the Confidentiality Policy. I acknowledge that I have received a copy of the Policy have read its terms very carefully. I understand that my failure to abide by the terms of the policy may result in my immediate dismissal from my volunteer governance position with the GOCIATION as well as my Good Standing membership status in Monmouth Ocean Regional ALTORS®.	У
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## Monmouth Ocean Regional REALTORS® Antitrust Policy

ANTITRUST- Monmouth Ocean Regional REALTORS® is a not-for-profit trade organization whose membership is voluntary and whose objectives are:

- a) To unite those engaged in the recognized branches of the real estate profession for the purpose of exerting a beneficial influence upon the profession and related interests.
- b) To promote and maintain high standards of conduct in the real estate profession as expressed in the Code of Ethics of the National Association OF REALTORS®.
- c) To provide a unified medium for real estate owners and those engaged in the real estate profession whereby their interests may be safeguarded and advanced.
- d) To further the interests of home and other real property ownership.
- e) To unite those engaged in the real estate profession in this community with the New Jersey REALTORS® and the National Association of REALTORS®, thereby furthering their own objectives throughout the state and nation and obtaining the benefits and privileges of membership therein.
- f) To designate for the benefit of the public, those individuals authorized to use the terms REALTOR®, REALTORS®, AND REALTOR-ASSOCIATE® as licensed, prescribed, and controlled by the National Association of REALTORS®.

All attendees of any event, meeting, class or activity of the ASSOCIATION agree to comply with any/all Anti-Trust laws established by the Federal, State, County governments or other entities who exercise control and legal authority over this entity.

It is each individual's responsibility to ensure that the ASSOCIATION is neither engaging in behavior that is or could be interpreted as violating Anti-Trust Laws, rather, to ensure that participants have a forum to freely express diverse opinions without in any means attempting to influence the free market.

# Monmouth Ocean Regional REALTORS® Conflict of Interest Policy

Purpose- A director, officer, or member (collectively, a "Member") of the Board of Directors or any Committee ("collectively, a "Committee") of the Monmouth Ocean Regional REALTORS® ("MORR") who is an "Interested Person" shall recuse them from discussing or voting on any question or matter in which he or she have a personal pecuniary interest that might be affected by the disposition of the question or matter.

#### For purposes of this Policy:

- Any director, officer or member of any Committee of MORR, who has a direct or indirect financial interest in a matter being considered is considered an Interested Person.
- A person has a financial interest if the person has, directly or indirectly, through business, investment or family ownership or investment, an interest in any entity (whether a corporation, partnership, limited liability company or other legal entity) or as an individual, that provides or seeks to provide goods, products or services to MORR or otherwise has or seeks to engage in a transaction or contractual arrangement with MORR (collectively a "Transaction").

#### **Voluntary Recusing**

Nothing contained in this Policy shall preclude a Member from voluntarily recusing themselves from the discussion or vote on a transaction and/or issue where the Member believes that he or she has or may have a conflict of interest. Nothing contained in this policy shall mandate that a member state a reason for recusing themselves.

#### **Duty to Disclose**

An Interested Person shall fully disclose their financial interest in any Transaction under consideration to the other members involved in decision making activities.

If a person involved in a decision-making activity believes another member may be an Interested party, said member has a duty to site such belief to the Chair.

### Determining Whether a Conflict of Interest Exists.

After disclosure of the financial interest and all material facts, and after any discussion with the Interested Person, he or she shall leave the meeting and the remaining members shall discuss and vote upon whether a conflict of interest exists.

#### Procedures for Addressing a Conflict of Interest.

- 1. An Interested Person may make a presentation at the meeting, but after the presentation, he or she shall leave the meeting during the discussion of and the vote on the transaction involving the conflict of interest.
- 2. The Chair shall, if appropriate, appoint a disinterested person or committee to investigate alternatives to the proposed Transaction.

- 3. After exercising due diligence, the Board of Directors or Committee shall determine whether MORR can obtain with reasonable efforts a more advantageous Transaction from a person or entity that would not give rise to a conflict of interest.
- 4. If a more advantageous Transaction is not reasonably possible under circumstances not producing a conflict of interest, the Committee shall determine by a majority vote of the disinterested members whether the Transaction is in the best interest of MORR, and whether it is fair and reasonable. In conformity with the above determination, it shall make its decision as to whether to enter into the Transaction.

#### <u>Violations of the Conflicts of Interest Policy</u>.

- If a Committee has reasonable cause to believe a Member has failed to disclose actual or possible conflicts of interest, it shall inform the Member of the basis for such belief and afford the Member an opportunity to explain the alleged failure to disclose.
- If, after hearing the Member's response and after making further investigation as warranted by the circumstances, the Committee determines the Member has failed to disclose an actual or possible conflict of interest, it shall so advise the President of MORR who may bring the matter to the Board of Directors for appropriate disciplinary and/or corrective action.
- The Board of Directors may exercise any/all remedies at its disposal including (but not limited to) suspension/expulsion, Code of Ethics Professional Standards action and/or civil relief from a court of jurisdiction of/from the Member.

## Monmouth Ocean Regional REALTORS® Officers of the ASSOCIATION

The elected Officers of the ASSOCIATION shall be a President, Senior Vice President, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, and a Treasurer/Secretary. He or she shall be elected for a term of one year which period shall be from January 1 to December 31, not to exceed two consecutive terms for that elected position. Eligibility requires the member to have served at least one year as a Director and/or Officer.

Effective January 1, 2023, Officers shall not serve as a Chair of Vice Chair of a standing committee.

Duties of Officers. The duties of the Officers shall be such as their titles, by general usage, would indicate and such as may be assigned to them by the Board of Directors:

- (a) The President shall be the principal officer of the Monmouth Ocean Regional REALTORS\* and shall preside at its meetings, and between the sessions of which the President shall represent the ASSOCIATION and act in its name, subject only to its declared policies. The President shall appoint all committee Chairs & Co-Chairs, including the assignment of Liaison Officers to each Committee of the ASSOCIATION; shall be an ex-officio member of all Committees, except the Nominating Committee; and shall perform all other duties usual to such office. The President shall meet the qualification of at least having served as (1) a Director; (2) Committee Chair; (3) one year as a member of the Multiple Listing Service Committee or Budget and Finance Committee. The President is a member of the New Jersey REALTOR's Board of Directors, and as such, has the power to vote in all Directors' meetings of that Board. The president shall also appoint any additional Directors to the New Jersey REALTOR's Board of Directors, based on our membership count. The newly elected, incoming president shall select the National ASSOCIATION of REALTORS\* Directors for the upcoming year. (Rev. 9/2011)
- (b) The Senior Vice President shall have the same qualifications as the President and shall perform the duties of the President in the event of the President's temporary absence or disability and shall perform such other duties as may be delegated to the Senior Vice President by the Board of Directors or the President. The Senior Vice President shall be one of the members of the New Jersey State ASSOCIATION's Board of Directors and shall attend all State ASSOCIATION functions as a representative of the ASSOCIATION. (Rev. 9/2011)
- (c) The First (1<sup>st</sup>) Vice President may have overall supervision of the work of the various Committees of the ASSOCIATION and act as representative of the President in such matters as may be assigned to the First Vice President by the President.
- (d) The Treasurer/Secretary shall be the custodian of all funds and securities of

the ASSOCIATION and shall deposit the funds and securities in depositories carrying Federal Deposit Insurance, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors. The Treasurer/Secretary shall also make a record of all meetings of the Board of Directors, Executive/Personnel Committee and of the Annual Meeting and shall keep all the said records at the ASSOCIATION office and perform such duties customary to that office. The Treasurer/Secretary shall have a standing position on the Bylaws and Budget & Finance Committees.

## Monmouth Ocean Regional REALTORS® Executive/Personnel Committee

Executive/Personnel Committee shall consist of eight (8) members: The President as Chairperson and all Officers of the ASSOCIATION, MLS Chairperson, the Governor and two (2) immediate Past Presidents. The purpose of the Executive/Personnel Committee is to:

- a) Provide guidance, assistance and support to the President.
- b) Provide guidance, assistance and support to the Chief Executive Officer.
- c) To work collaboratively in providing leadership to the ASSOCIATION.
- d) To periodically evaluate the strategic plan and strategic objectives of the ASSOCIATION.
- e) To assist the Chief Executive Officer in staffing related issues.
- f) Participate in the hiring, evaluation and contract renewal of the Chief Executive Officer.
- g) Other duties as prescribed in the Bylaws and the Policies and Procedures of the ASSOCIATION.

### Monmouth Ocean Regional REALTORS® Board of Directors

The governing body of the ASSOCIATION shall be the Board of Directors consisting of Officers and Members collectively known as Directors. Composition of the Board of Directors is prescribed in the Bylaws of the ASSOCIATION.

As the governing body of the ASSOCIATION, the Board of Directors is responsible for

- i) Ensuring the organization's long-term financial stability and integrity.
- ii) Establishing the strategic plan of the ASSOCIATION.
- iii) Making strategic decisions on behalf of the ASSOCIATION.
- iv) Employing a Chief Executive Officer to provide strategic insight and managerial responsibilities for the ASSOCIATION.
- v) Other duties as prescribed in the bylaws and the Policies and procedures of the ASSOCIATION.

#### Commitments- Directors commit to:

- i) Serve a minimum of 6-10 hours per month in this voluntary, unpaid, position.
- ii) Attend regular board meetings and actively participate in decision-making.
- iii) Support the Board's decisions even when an opinion conflicts with the decision.
- iv) Support the ASSOCIATION by attending meetings and other functions.
- v) Advocate for the ASSOCIATION and promote the organization's professional image.
- vi) Contribute by sharing areas of expertise as well as recruiting new Members, advertisers, exhibitors, speakers, etc.
- vii) Submit all expense reimbursement requests within 30 days of the expenditure on the approved form and accompanied by original receipts.
- viii) Agree with and pledge to abide by the Bylaws and the Policies and Procedures of the ASSOCIATION.

#### Professionalism- Directors commit to:

- i) Uphold the NAR Code of Ethics.
- ii) Keep all ASSOCIATION business confidential.
- iii) Work in the best interest of the whole organization and all its members.
- iv) Notify the President and/or Chief Executive Officer of conflict of interest(s) prior to deliberation and vote.
- v) Fulfill the duties of care and loyalty to the organization.
- vi) Ensure legal and ethical integrity and assure ASSOCIATION accountability to its Members.
- vii) Read and become informed about the ASSOCIATION's Strategic Plan, and governing documents.
- viii)Read and understand financial statements and otherwise assist the Board in fulfilling its fiduciary responsibility.
- ix) Work to develop new leadership and recommend Members for Committee positions.

### Terms of Office

i) All terms and vacancies are as prescribed in the Bylaws of the ASSOCIATION.

#### **Attendance Guidelines**

- i) Absence Policy It is the policy of the ASSOCIATION that any Director who misses two (2) regularly scheduled meetings of the Board of Directors shall be notified by the President and/or Secretary/Treasurer of such absences. Any Director who misses 3 regularly scheduled meetings in a calendar year is deemed to have voluntarily resigned unless the Director has appealed to and been granted by the Executive Personnel Committee an excused absence which shall not be counted in the enforcement of this policy.
- ii) An absence is defined as not being present after the first 15-minutes following the meeting being called to order or leaving the meeting prior to the (a) posted end time of the meeting or (b) the conclusion of the meeting, whichever is earlier.

#### **Board Liaisons to Committees**

- i) Are appointed by the President as needed and at the President's sole discretion.
- ii) Are current Members of the Board of Directors.
- iii) Attend Committee meetings.
- iv) Convey Board of Directors' directives to the Committee.
- v) The liaison does not lead or vote at Committee meetings.

# Monmouth Ocean Regional REALTORS® Committee Policy

Committees are formal working components of the ASSOCIATION's governance structure. The intent of the ASSOCIATION's Committees is:

- To evaluate specific areas of the ASSOCIATION in context of the Value Proposition, Purpose and Strategic Plan of the ASSOCIATION.
- To assist the President and the CEO in planning operational activities such as events, education, policy changes, etc.
- Where charged, to apply standards of conduct to the members and participants of the ASSOCIATION and/or ASSOCIATION services in conjunction with the Policies, Rules and Regulations of the ASSOCIATION.
- Make recommendations to the Board of Directors.

#### Authority

- The Chair or Vice Chair of the Committee may only bring actions to the Board of Directors that have been voted on by the committee and forwarded to the Board of Directors. Committee Chairs or Vice Chairs may not bring actions to the Board of Directors that have not been approved by the Committee.
- The Chief Executive Officer is granted the authority to act on behalf of the Board of Directors in regard to event scheduling and expenditures as specified in the annual budget of the ASSOCIATION.
- Committees do not have authority to enter into contracts, commit the ASSOCIATION or any property owned by the ASSOCIATION to any event or activity, or speak for the ASSOCIATION unless such action has been approved by the Board of Directors.
- Further, Committees do not have authority to direct ASSOCIATION staff to fulfill committee responsibilities. The Chief Executive Officer may appoint staff liaisons to assist committees and provide guidance, strategic understanding and administrative oversight.
- The Chief Executive Officer or appointed staff shall be present at all committee meetings.

#### Committee Terminology

- Ad Hoc formed for specific or immediate needs.
- Task Force appointed for a specific purpose and disbanded upon completion.
- Shared Committees made up of Members of various organizations. Expands the input and resources for the Committee.
- Standing Committees: The following Committees are identified in the Bylaws as Standing Committees:
  - Affiliates
  - Associates
  - Budget and Finance
  - Bylaws
  - Circle of Excellence Verification
  - Commercial, Industrial, Investment

- Cultural Diversity/Equal Opportunity Housing
- Education
- Grievance
- Legislative/Political Affairs
- Managers
- Mediation
- Multiple Listing Service\*
- Nominating
- Professional Standards
- Public Relations
- o RPAC
- Young Professionals Network
- Special Committees The President may appoint, subject to confirmation by the Board of Directors, such special Committees, as the President may deem necessary.
- Task Forces- the President may appoint as the President may deem necessary.
- Sub-Committees and Task Forces of a Committee- The Committee Chair may appoint a subcommittee or task force of their committee as he or she deems necessary.
- \*The MLS Chair, Vice Chair and committee members are appointed by the President and approved by the Board of Directors.

#### Selection, Composition, and Term

- The President shall appoint from among the REALTOR® members, subject to confirmation by the Board of Directors, committee Chairs and Vice Chairs.
- With exception of the MLS Committee, the Chairs and Vice Chairs will then select the members of their committees. The MLS Committee is appointed by the President subject to Board of Director confirmation.
- The Chairperson holds ultimate responsibility for the Committee's performance.
- If an Officer is appointed, such shall not chair the Committee, but shall participate in all
  meetings, communicate with the President, and report Committee actions to the Board of
  Directors.
- The Chief Executive Officer may appoint a staff liaison participate on committees.
- Committee Chairs, Vice Chairs and members are appointed for a 1-year term.
- Committee Chairs may only serve two (2) consecutive terms as Chair.
- Committee Vice Chairs may only serve two (2) consecutive terms as Vice Chair.
- Committee members may serve unlimited terms as a member of a committee.
- Absence from 3 regular committee meetings shall be construed as a resignation from the committee.

#### Removal of Committee Chairs, Vice Chairs and Committee Members

In the event that a Chair and/or Vice Chair is deemed by the President to be incapable of fulfilling the duties for which elected, but will not resign voluntarily, the Chair and/or Vice Chair may be removed under the following procedure:

- 1. During executive session of a regularly scheduled or duly called special meeting of the Board of Directors, the President shall notify the Board of Directors that it is their belief that the Chair and/or Vice Chair is unfit to continue their term and present verbal testimony and/or physical evidence supporting the belief.
- 2. The Chair or Vice Chair will be afforded the opportunity to speak on behalf of him or herself.
- 3. After hearing any such testimony, the Chair or Vice Chair shall be excused from executive session and the Board of Directors shall deliberate.
- 4. At the conclusion of deliberation, the President shall end executive session and reconvene the meeting of the Board of Directors. At such time, the President shall reintroduce the motion, and allow discussion.
- 5. At the end of discussion, a roll call vote shall be taken, and the results entered into official minutes of the Board of Directors. The Chair or Vice Chair shall be notified by the President of the decision reached which is final and not appealable.

In the event that a Committee Chair and Committee Vice Chair mutually agree that a committee member is incapable of fulfilling the duties for which elected, but not willing to resign voluntarily, the committee member may be removed from the committee under the following procedure:

- 1. The Committee Chair notifies the President of his or her intent on removing the member
- 2. The President convenes a meeting of the following people:
  - The President
  - At least two other Officers of the Association
  - The Committee Chair and Committee Vice Chair
  - The member
- 3. During the meeting, Committee Chair and/or Vice Chair shall present testimony and/or evidence as to the reason for seeking removal.
- 4. The member will be afforded opportunity to speak on behalf of him or herself.
- 5. The President shall excuse the Chair, Vice Chair and Member.
- 6. The President and at least two Officers will deliberate and reach a conclusion.
- 7. The President shall notify the Committee Chair, Vice Chair and member of the decision reached, which is final and not appealable.

#### General Guidelines for Committee Chairs and Vice Chairs

- a) Committee Chairs and Vice Chairs are expected to work as a collaborative team for the benefit of the association.
- b) Accept responsibility for the performance of the Committee. The success or failure of a committee rests squarely on the Chairperson's shoulders. Chairpersons should communicate regularly with both the President and the Chief Executive Officer.
- c) Encourage opportunities for interaction between Members within the Committee.
- d) Discourage and not participate in external / side conversations outside of the committee.

- e) Practice the "One Voice" approach to governance.
- f) Provide an opportunity for Members to get to know one another.
- g) Recruit Members that represent diverse geographic, cultural and philosophical perspectives.
- h) In selecting Members, clearly define the Committee's purpose and the Chairperson's expectations of Committee Members.
- Regular meetings are scheduled on standing dates by association staff. Schedule other meetings well in advance and only change meeting dates for emergency reasons.
   Remember, committees are more than just one person and changes effect everybody involved.
- j) Carefully establish with the Staff Liaison an agenda, ensuring there is sufficient time to discuss all items, and email the agenda to Committee Members, the President, and the Staff Liaison in advance.
- k) Circulate relevant documents for items to be discussed or decided upon to Members three-to-five days in advance of meetings.
- Begin and end meetings on time.
- m) Ensure that discussion on agenda items is on topic, productive, and professional. Ask questions, explore, and seek feedback and participation from all Members.
- n) Try to build consensus. Anyone who voices a problem should also offer a potential solution.
- o) Hold a counted vote on significant decisions and record how Members vote in the minutes. Actions by the Board of Directors require a written request from the committee as recorded by vote in the minutes of the committee meeting.
- p) Don't be afraid of openminded discussion. Such discussion can generate new ideas and perspectives.
- q) Distribute task items as evenly as possible and assign tasks and deadlines for completion.
- r) Confidentiality within the Committee and with the work they are doing is expected and of high importance.
- s) Keep minutes at each meeting and submit those minutes to the Secretary/Treasurer and the Staff Liaison within three days following the Committee meeting.
- t) Have Members approve minutes at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the committee.
- u) Follow up with Members on assignments or task items between meetings. Send a quick "to-do list" summary via email the day after the meeting.
- v) Evaluate your committee from time to time by asking Members about their experience on the Committee.
- w) Create a file or notebook to pass on to the next chair, including a list of activities from the previous year, goals, and a proposed budget for the coming year.
- x) Keep attendance. Each Committee Chair will be asked to certify attendance of members at the end of the year.

## Monmouth Ocean Regional REALTORS® Financial Integrity Policy

It shall be the goal of the ASSOCIATION to provide checks, balances and safeguards of all accounting processes, procedures, banking, savings, reserves, and any other processes involved in the financial operations of the ASSOCIATION. The Budget and Finance Committee shall meet as needed to oversee the financial health of the ASSOCIATION and ensure that all processes are being followed.

#### Banking

The ASSOCIATION, under the direction of the Chief Executive Officer will maintain a minimum of two bank accounts, one of which shall be an interest-bearing account. Such accounts shall be reconciled and reported under GAAP standards.

#### Reserves

As a matter of policy, the ASSOCIATION does not operate with the intent of generating profit. Rather, the association operates on an ongoing basis to provide for both financial stability and ongoing service to members. Therefore:

- a) As a matter of financial integrity, the ASSOCIATION should strive to maintain an amount equal to the adopted annual budget in RESERVES. The Chief Executive Officer and the Secretary/Treasurer shall monitor the RESERVES on a regular basis.
- b) Liquid Reserve is defined as those assets of the ASSOCIATION that are currently available as cash or can be liquidated and converted into cash within a three (3) month period.
- c) Controlled Reserve is defined as those assets of the association that can be converted into cash between three (3) three –thirteen (13) months.
   Cumulatively, Liquid Reserves and Controlled Reserves shall be known as RESERVES.
- d) The ASSOCIATION shall strive to have six (6) month's Liquid Reserves on hand prior to investing in Controlled Reserves.
- e) The Chief Executive Officer shall direct and monitor the depository maintenance of the RESERVES.
- f) The Chief Executive Officer and Secretary/Treasurer shall prepare at least annually a report of the RESERVE position of the ASSOCIATION for the Board of Directors.
- g) Insufficient RESERVES: If Liquid Reserves drop below an amount equal to one-half (1/2) the annual adopted budget, the Chief Executive Officer and Secretary/Treasurer shall report such insufficiency to the Executive/Personnel Committee and/or Board of Directors at the next scheduled meeting. Such report shall contain:
  - i) Synopsis of actual RESERVE positions.
  - ii) Monthly cash flow projection for the annual budgeted cycle.
  - iii) List of alternative suggestions.

- iv) Recommendation for action.
- h) Abundant RESERVES: If RESERVES reach an amount greater than one and one-half (1 ½) the annual adopted budget which includes Liquid Reserves at an amount equal or greater than six (6) months, the Chief Executive Officer and Secretary/Treasurer shall report such abundance to the Executive/Personnel Committee and/or Board of Directors at the next scheduled meeting. Such report shall contain:
  - i) Synopsis of actual RESERVES.
  - ii) Monthly cash flow projection for the remainder of the annual budgeted cycle.
  - iii) Recommendation on actions to be taken during the next annual budgeting cycle.

#### Contracts

The Chief Executive Officer (or President, in the absence of a CEO), is granted the authority, with prior Board of Directors' approval, to sign contracts. Contracts of which funding is provided in the adopted budget are deemed to have Board of Director approval.

#### **Check Writing Process**

The Chief Executive Officer (or Treasurer/Secretary in absence of a CEO) is authorized to render payments by three (3) means- (a) credit card, (b) bill pay by CFO services and (c) live check. The following for each means of payment apply:

- i. Credit Card
  - a) A Chief Executive Officer is authorized to obtain a credit card specifically for utilization of ASSOCIATION purchases. If such credit card must be secured by the Chief Executive Officer, the President and Chief Executive Officer shall memorialize the agreement in a written Credit Card Agreement.
  - b) The Chief Executive Officer shall use due diligence to secure such credit card.
  - c) Transactions on the credit card are to be submitted to the CFO Services and statements are to be reconciled by the CFO services of the ASSOCIATION.
- ii. Bill Pay by CFO Services
  - a) The Chief Executive Officer may utilize third party bill payment in conjunction CFO Services. Such payment system shall be in the design as specified with the CFO services.
  - b) All bills submitted to the Bill Pay system shall be (a) prepared by the Director of Operations, or (CEO in the absence of a Director of Operations), (b) reviewed by the CEO (or President in the absence of a CEO) and authorized for submission to the CFO Service, (c) fully processed and paid by the CFO service and (d) maintained in accordance with the Document Retention Policy of the ASSOCIATION and made available upon request by the accounting firm conducting the annual review or audit.
- iii. Live Checks-

- a) Efforts should be made to avoid the writing of live checks by the ASSOCIATION. These should, when practical, be limited to reimbursements, deposits, withdrawal of cash from banking institutes or other like items.
- b) In the event that live checks are written by the ASSOCIATION, each should contain a (a) payment request form authorized by the Chief Executive Officer (or President in the absence of a CEO), (b) an invoice, receipt or documentation justifying the expenditure and (c) two (2) signatures on the check.

#### Payroll-

Payroll shall be processed by a third-party vendor in conjunction with CFO services.

### Reimbursements

- i. All expenses to be reimbursed must be submitted within 30 days of the expense or activity associated with the expense.
- ii. All requests for reimbursement must include:
  - (1) Copy of original receipt or signed affidavit of expense if the receipt is lost or destroyed
  - (2) Completed Payment Request Form
  - (3) Signature of Chief Executive Officer or designated staff member authorizing expense
- iv. Member travel and or entertainment expenses (i.e., hotel, airfare, parking, cab fare, meals, tips, and mileage) will be reimbursed to the level authorized by the annual adopted budget. It is a member's responsibility to understand the policy and to gain understanding of what expenses are authorized for reimbursement prior to incurring any expense. Staff travel and/or entertainment expenses are directed by the Chief Executive Officer in accordance with the annual adopted budget and the employee manual.
- v. All requests for reimbursement should be submitted on the provided form. In order to be reimbursed, you must attend your committee meeting and provide a full report to the Board of Directors and attest that this has been completed on the form provided.

### Membership Dues

- Dues, application, and late fees are approved by the Board of Directors with the adoption of the annual budget. The membership dues cycle is January 1-December 31 each year.
- ii. Incentives, tiered structures, and/or payment plans may be offered by MORR with the approval and guidance of the Chief Executive Officer.
- iii. Dues billing is done once a year under direction of the Chief Executive Officer and may begin on or about October 15 each year.
- iv. Membership dues are due by December 1<sup>st</sup>.
- v. Notification of dues will be communicated no less than three (3) times between the start of billing and December 1<sup>st</sup> each year. MORR is not responsible for notifications that have not been received due to inaccurate email addresses,

# blocked addresses, or otherwise misdirected communications. It is the Member's responsibility to ensure that annual dues are received by December 1st every year.

vi.Membership Dues Formulation Shall be as follows:

- a) All Primary and Secondary REALTORS®, Appraisers and Affiliates dues shall be \$175.00 annually.
- b) All members shall receive an Association Performance Discount of \$50.00 for annual payments rendered before December 1st each year.
- vii. Suspension of unpaid Membership accounts will occur on or about January 10<sup>th</sup> at the direction of the Chief Executive Officer. Suspension will inactivate Local, State and National REALTOR® memberships as well as all MLS and MLS related services, education services, other services and benefits of membership.
- viii. Any unpaid account will be terminated on or about the first (1<sup>st</sup>) Monday of each February.
- ix. A reactivation fee will be applied to any terminated account that gets reactivated within one year of termination date.
- x. Reactivation of any account after one year of termination date will be processed as a new member according to NAR Policy.
- xi. Early cancellation
  - a) No refund of membership dues will be made.
  - b) Cancellation must be done in writing via email or print delivered in person or by certified mail to a MORR Association office.
- xii. New member local dues prorations are as follows:
  - a) New member in January, February, March- no proration of local dues.
  - b) New member in April-October- proration based on month joining
  - c) New member in November & December- remaining years dues waived, collection of next year's dues in full.

#### MLS FEES

- MLS fees, application, reactivation, cancellation, and Supra fees are approved by the Board of Directors as part of the annual budget. The MLS cycle is July 1 through June 30 each year.
- ii. MLS billing is done once a year under direction of the Chief Executive Officer and may begin on or about May 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. The MLS bill is due by June 1<sup>st</sup> of each year.
- iii. Notification of MLS billing will be communicated no less than three (3) times between the start of MLS billing and June 1<sup>st</sup> each year. MORR is not responsible for notifications that have not been received due to inaccurate email addresses, blocked addresses, or otherwise misdirected communications. It is the Member's responsibility to ensure that annual MLS dues are received by June 1<sup>st</sup> every year.
- iv. MLS Fee Formulation
  - a) All Primary and Secondary Members shall pay \$300.00 annually for MLS service.
  - b) All non-association members shall pay \$450.00 annually for MLS service.

- c) All participants and subscribers shall receive an early payment discount of \$50.00 for annual payments rendered prior to June 1 each year.
- d) A non-payment, reinstatement fee shall be added on August 5<sup>th</sup> each year.
- e) No application fee shall be charged for MLS service.
- v. Suspension of unpaid MLS services will occur on or about July 10<sup>th</sup> of each year at the direction of the Chief Executive Officer. Suspension will inactivate all MLS and MLS related services.
- vi. Early cancellation:
  - a) No refund of membership dues or MLS fees will be made
  - b) Cancellation must be done in writing via email or print delivered in person or by certified mail to a MORR Association office.
- vii. New MLS subscription proration are as follows:
  - a) New participant or subscriber in July, August, September- no proration of MLS fees.
  - b) New participant or subscriber in October-May- proration based on month joining.
  - c) New participant or subscriber in June-remaining year proration waived, collection of next full years fees due in full.

#### **Revenue Collection**

- i. Preferred payment is either check or credit card.
- vi. Dues, registrations for classes, or payment for other events may be paid via web payment.
- vii. All registrations for any event, class, or store purchase shall be paid at time of registration or purchase.
- viii. There will be no corporate, company or Broker (DR) charge accounts at the ASSOCIATION.
- ix. Any payments for events or advertising requiring a payment plan will also incur a service charge of up to \$50.00 as determined by the Chief Executive Officer.
- x. All NSF checks will be subject to a \$50.00 handling fee.
- xi. Members or participants that have any outstanding Account Balance of 60 days or more from the due date may, at the discretion of the Chief Executive Officer, have all association benefits and/or services suspended until payment is rendered. Members or participants with any outstanding Account balance are required to render payment prior to renewal of annual membership and/or annual MLS subscription.

### **Audits & Reviews**

- i. The Board of Directors will determine dates and times of audits and/or reviews and will budget accordingly.
- ii. The Chief Executive Officer will facilitate the annual audit and/or review assuring all information is forwarded to the accounting firm as needed.
- iii. The Executive/Personnel Committee will review the findings of the annual audit and the Secretary/Treasurer shall present such to the Board of Directors.

### Budget

- The Chief Executive Officer prepares the budget in consultation with the current and incoming Secretary/Treasurer, stake holders and the Budget and Finance Committee.
- ii. The budget is to be completed and approved prior to the October Board of Directors meeting.
- iii. The Board of Directors is to approve an annual budget in October of each year.
- iv. The budget is a guideline for expenditures and should be used in conjunction with the Strategic plan to guide the ASSOCIATION's activities. The Chief Executive Officer (or Treasurer/Secretary in the absence of a CEO) is responsible for administrating the budget.
- v. The Board of Directors may make changes to the budget at any time.

# Monmouth Ocean Regional REALTORS® Document Retention Policy

This policy is intended to provide guidance for the retention of documentation at the ASSOCIATION.

The following records, if in existence, are to be retained permanently:

- Articles of Incorporation
- Bylaws
- Capital stock and bond records
- Contracts and agreements (government construction, partnership, employment, labor, etc.)
- Financial Auditors Report
- Annual Financial statements
- General ledger
- General cash receipts, cash disbursement, and purchase journals
- IRS Approval Letter
- Legal correspondence
- Minutes
- Plan and trust agreements
- Sales and Use Tax Returns
- Corporate and Non-Corporate, Federal, State and Local Tax Filings

The following records are to be retained for seven years:

- Bank debt deduction
- Worthless securities

The following records are to be retained for six years:

- Employee payroll records (W-2, W-4, annual earnings records, etc.)
- Insurance accident reports
- Insurance fire reports
- Insurance group disability reports
- Insurance policies
- Insurance safety records
- Mortgage and note agreements
- Patents
- Subsidiary ledgers (accounts receivables, accounts payable, etc.)

The following records are to be retained for four years:

- Bank deposit slips, reconciliations, and statements
- Bills of lading
- Checks Cancelled
- Contracts Purchase and sales

- Credit memos
- Depreciation records
- Employee expense records
- Financial statements-interim
- Freight bills
- Internal reports (works orders, sales reports, production reports)
- Inventory list
- Invoices Sales and cash register receipts, merchandise purchases
- Invoices Purchases
- Payroll journal
- Payroll tax returns
- Personnel files
- Settled insurance claims
- Timecards

The following records are to be retained for two years:

Budgets

#### Tax Records

- There is no limit for returns filed fraudulently or substantially underreport income.
- The length tax returns are required to be kept includes the period during which a return can be amended to claim a credit or refund, or that the IRS can assess more tax.

## Monmouth Ocean Regional REALTORS® Human Resource and Administration Policy

This policy is intended to provide guidelines for Human Resource Management for the ASSOCIATION.

Safe, secure and confidential Human Resource Management is an imperative function of the ASSOCIATION. ANY AND ALL DISCUSSIONS related to the employment of ASSOCIATION Staff must be limited to the proper environment and to those specific staff or members who are directly involved in HUMAN RESOURCE activity.

### **Employee Manual**

The Chief Executive Officer shall maintain, periodically review and update as necessary an Employee Manual for the ASSOCIATION that is held as a supporting document to this policy. Certain employees, at the direction of the CEO with guidance from the Executive/Personnel Committee may be hired to work under a specified Employee Agreement

#### ASSOCIATION Staff

- All ASSOCIATION staff work at the leisure of the Chief Executive Officer. The CEO may
  consult with the Executive Personnel Committee for guidance and decision-making
  activities related to the needs of the association.
- The CEO is granted authority by the ASSOCIATION to involve the Executive Personnel Committee in staffing related decisions (including, but not limited to discipline) in the least invasive manner ordered by:
  - President
  - President and Governor
  - Entire Executive Personnel Committee
- In consultation with the Executive/Personnel Committee, the CEO shall set all levels of compensation including pay and benefits.
- The CEO shall treat staff with respect, professionalism, and courtesy.
- Staff members should be continually evaluated throughout the year by the CEO. The CEO should be actively engaged with the staff and provide feedback, suggestions for improvements, guidance, education, and ways for staff members to grow.
- Staff members should always be encouraged to provide the best possible service, help to the Membership, and represent the ASSOCIATION to the Membership in a positive manner.
- The CEO shall maintain an employee file on each employee of the ASSOCIATION.

#### **Human Resource Budget**

 The Executive Personnel Committee, with the CEO shall set an overall Human Resources Budget based on the needs of the ASSOCIATION in accomplishing its strategic plan. As a goal (but not a mandate) the budget should range between 40%-50% of the total ASSOCIATION budget including:

- Salaries
- o Bonuses
- Taxes
- o Insurance
- o Retirement

## Monmouth Ocean Regional REALTORS® Chief Staff Executive Policy

#### Chief Executive Officer Title

In any/all bylaws, policy, agreements, publications, references or other displays, the terms AE, ASSOCIATION Executive, CEO, Chief Executive Officer, CSE, Chief Staff Executive or any combination thereof are acceptable substitutions and shall be known to refer to the position of Chief Executive Officer.

#### Chief Executive Officer Hiring

- The Board of Directors may employ a Chief Executive Officer (CEO) in accordance with the Bylaws of the ASSOCIATION.
- All duties and powers of the CEO shall be outlined in an Employment Agreement (AGREEMENT).
- The initial hiring of a CEO will be conducted by the Board of Directors.
  - The Board of Directors shall review the current duties and powers of the CEO and make appropriate changes, if any, to the CEO Job Description.
  - The Board of Directors shall benchmark the CEO compensation range in all areas by utilizing tools and/or services available through the National ASSOCIATION of REALTORS® (NAR), New Jersey REALTORS® (NJR), The American Society of ASSOCIATION Executives® (ASAE) and/or a similar, professional organization or consultant. Compensation items to be determined are those negotiable items in the employment agreement such as salary, bonus, retirement, benefits, vacation, PTO, etc. Where possible, the Board of Directors at a minimum shall consider:
    - Total size of the ASSOCIATION and ASSOCIATION MLS as of the most recent July 31.
    - Total budget of the ASSOCIATION and all related entities under the control of the CEO.
    - Total number of staff of the ASSOCIATION and all related entities under the control of the CEO.
    - ASSOCIATION as a Non-profit IRS classification, real estate industry, trade ASSOCIATION located in the New York-Newark-Jersey City, NY-NJ-PA Metropolitan Statistical Area.
  - The Board of Directors shall provide an agreed compensation range to the Executive/Personnel Committee prior to the commencement of the CEO search solicitation of candidates.
- The Executive/Personnel Committee shall conduct the search for a CEO::
  - The Executive/Personnel Committee shall adopt a best practice model from NAR,
     NJR, ASAE or similar organization.
  - With prior approval from the Board, the Executive/Personnel Committee may hire a consulting service to assist with a managed search.
  - The President, with approval of the Executive/Personnel Committee may appoint additional Association Members as participants in the search process. Such appointments are limited in scope to work on the search process for a CEO and are not to be deemed full members of the Executive/Personnel Committee.

- The Executive/Personnel Committee is responsible for:
  - Creating job postings through NAR, NJR, ASAE, and/or other job posting sites as deemed necessary.
  - Implementing the steps of the best practice model.
  - Interviewing candidates.
  - Choosing the best qualified candidate for consideration.
  - Maintaining a list of secondary candidates and
  - Conducting background checks.
  - Communicating to the Board of Directors and with potential candidates through the process.
- The President shall conduct negotiations with the candidate through the hiring service/consultant.
- Upon the conclusion of successful negotiations, the President will notify the Executive/Personnel Committee which in turn will present the candidate to the Board of Directors seeking a majority vote to hire the CEO.
- If the negotiations are unsuccessful, the Executive Personnel Committee may seek approval from the Board of Directors in order to change one or more compensation terms in order to conclude a successful negotiation.
- A majority vote of the Board of Directors will grant authority to the President to execute the CEO Employment Agreement. If the Board of Directors does not hire the candidate, the Executive/Personnel Committee will repeat the process by choosing the next best qualified candidate or by reinstituting the search process from the beginning.

#### Chief Executive Officer Employment Agreement

While not limited to the following items, the AGREEMENT shall include the following:

- Employment Term of no less than one (1) and no more than five (5) years in duration.
- Duties and Responsibilities
- Compensation
- Cost of living adjustment
- Requirement to inactivate any active Real Estate License
- Evaluation
- Expense reimbursement
- Confidentiality
- Indemnification
- Amendment
- Termination
- Mediation

#### Chief Executive Officer Vacancy

In the event that the position of CEO is vacant by means of termination, resignation, or incapacitation the President has the ability to employ an Interim CEO. The President shall initiate the hiring process of a new CEO in accordance with the Bylaws and this policy.

#### Chief Executive Officer Evaluation Process

Core Standards of the National ASSOCIATION of REALTORS® requires the evaluation of the Chief Staff Executive each year. The following is the ASSOCIATION's guidelines for such evaluation which is deemed to meet the NAR requirement:

- In November of every year, the Executive Personnel Committee will evaluate and assess the performance of the CEO.
- The standard of evaluation shall be commensurate with the job description outlined in the AGREEMENT and measured by the standards of having met or not having met the objectives. Additionally, the President may include a narrative as part of the evaluation.
- The Executive Personnel Committee shall contribute to the evaluation.
- The President shall deliver the evaluation to the CEO by the end of November each year.
- If the CEO disagrees with the review, the CEO may:
  - a) Ask the President to change or adjust the language.
  - b) Provide written rebuttal which will be included as part of the permanent record.
  - c) Appeal the review to the Board of Directors which will render a decision.
  - d) Any/all combination(s) of such.
- A copy of the annual evaluation shall remain as part of the CEO's personnel file.

#### **CEO Employment Agreement Renewal**

# The CEO is a hired employee of the ASSOCIATION and therefore afforded rights of protection including confidential matters of employment agreement.

- No later than three (3) months prior to the end of the term of the AGREEMENT, the Governor, President and CEO shall:
  - Engage in benchmarking all areas of compensation by utilizing tools and/or services provided by NAR, NJR, ASAE and/or other like sources of data to determine an appropriate industry compensation range.
  - Evaluate in whole the AGREEMENT and mutually generate a list of changes, if any, to be made to the AGREEMENT. This includes all terms to the AGREEMENT, including compensation.
  - If the CEO, Governor and President agree to all terms in the AGREEMENT, the
    President will update and renew the AGREEMENT with the CEO. The President shall
    inform the Board of Directors that, "The CEO Employment Agreement has been
    renewed for \_\_\_\_ years." at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of
    Directors.
- If the CEO, Governor and President are not able to come to an agreement on a renewed contract, the President or the CEO may ask the Executive/Personnel Committee to aide in the negotiation in order to reach a negotiated AGREEMENT. If the CEO and the majority of the Executive/Personnel Committee agree to all terms in the AGREEMENT, the President will renew the AGREEMENT with the CEO. The President shall inform the Board of Directors that, "The CEO Employment Agreement has been renewed for \_\_\_\_\_ years." at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors.

•	For the purposes of negotiation, the Executive Personnel Committee is authorized to extend the term of the agreement in writing in 30-day increments until all negotiations are concluded. If a renewed agreement cannot be reached, the termination/renewal provisions of the AGREEMENT become effective.

# Monmouth Ocean Regional REALTORS® Electronic Voting Policy / Live/Hybrid Meeting Policy

#### As a matter of policy:

- A live meeting is a meeting where all members of the body are present at the designated place and time with no electronic participation.
- A Hybrid meeting is a live meeting in real time held by combination of live attendance and attendance by electronic means.
- The scheduled presiding Chair of any Committee or of the Board of Directors shall determine the type of meeting being held and shall publish such in the Agenda of the meeting.

#### Attendance

To participate in, be counted present and/or to vote at any hybrid meeting of the association:

- Members must be present, with a live video feed and with audio capability.
- Members may not be in public spaces or in a place that allows non-members to see or hear any activities of the meeting.
- Members shall always be seen during the meeting.

### **Electronic Voting**

Eligible members may vote electronically at any meeting of the Association where electronic, or hybrid attendance is utilized. In such case, the Chief Executive Officer shall clearly define the method of the vote.

The Chief Executive Officer shall designate appropriate electronic voting devices and/or services.

#### **Email Voting**

The Board of Directors and Committees of the ASSOCIATION are authorized to conduct an email vote provided that the President or the Senior Vice President acting as Chair of the Board of Directors or the Committee Chair or Vice Chair acting as Chair of a committee:

- Direct the CEO or Staff Liaison to initiate the vote.
- Clearly state the action item being voted on in the email.
- Clearly provide the direction of YES (in favor of), NO (not in favor of) or ABSTAIN (if registering attendance but abstaining from the vote) in the email.
- Clearly identify the timeframe of the electronic votes which will be no less than 24 hours and no more than 96 hours.
- Record the vote and provide the results to the Secretary/Treasurer for memorialization in the official minutes of the Board of Directors or notify the record keeper of the committee to memorialize in the minutes of the committee.

## Monmouth Ocean Regional REALTORS® Social Media Policy

Social media includes, but is not limited to websites, blogs, social networking sites, discussion groups, and listservs.

Social media is a powerful and effective communication and engagement tool, and the ASSOCIATION encourages ASSOCIATION leaders to utilize social media to help raise awareness of the ASSOCIATION's work and issues of interest to REALTORS® and consumers. These Social Media Guidelines for ASSOCIATION Leaders ("Guidelines") are intended to enable ASSOCIATION leaders to maintain their ability to express themselves personally on social media, while also ensuring that the reputation and work of the ASSOCIATION is protected. In furtherance of these objectives, ASSOCIATION leaders should follow these Guidelines:

- All ASSOCIATION leaders are encouraged to use social media to promote the ASSOCIATION's mission, policy positions, advocacy efforts, and other ASSOCIATION news.
- It is always acceptable to repost or share any ASSOCIATION published communications and established policy positions.
- Always be professional, respectful, and ethical when engaging in social media and avoid making statements or posting photographs that could reasonably harm the ASSOCIATION.
- In the capacity of an ASSOCIATION leader, avoid making statements contrary to NAR's
  public positions on federal issues, NJR's public positions on state issues, and the
  ASSOCIATION's public positions on local issues, including but not limited to contrary
  statements about appointees, political parties, elected officials or candidates, and
  legislative or regulatory matters.
- When reasonably necessary or useful, include the disclaimer that "Views expressed here are personal and do not necessarily represent the official views of Monmouth Ocean Regional REALTORS®.
- Do not disclose any confidential information.
- Do not call for a boycott of a product, service, or company.
- Avoid any connection to the ASSOCIATION when making personal statements of endorsement or opposition to political candidates, elected officials, particular products, services, or companies.
- Avoid and/or remove statements or content that create undue opposition or controversy.
- Avoid making statements or posting photographs that are inappropriate including, but not limited to discriminatory remarks, demeaning or defamatory comments, contain profanity, offensive material, and comments that might constitute harassment.
- Respect third-party intellectual property, and always use NAR's trademarks in accordance with NAR's Membership Marks Manual. REALTOR® means member of the National Association of REALTORS® and must not be used generically as a synonym for the occupation of "real estate agent" or "broker".

ASSOCIATION leaders who do not adhere to these Guidelines or who otherwise act inappropriately when engaging in social media, may be contacted by the ASSOCIATION's CEO or ASSOCIATION President to resolve the situation, which may include withdrawing, correcting, or revising the communication at issue.

Social media presence is a significant factor for the ASSOCIATION's appointment process to positions, committees, sub-committees, task forces, and endorsements to positions at partner organizations such as NJR, NAR, WCR, etc. Social media presence may also be a factor when applying for local and state government positions.

As used in these Guidelines, "ASSOCIATION leaders" includes elected and appointed officers, directors, committee chairs and vice chairs, and other members appointed to positions of leadership.

### Monmouth Ocean Regional REALTORS® Emeritus REALTOR® Policy

Monmouth Ocean Regional REALTORS® places a high level of value on its membership and its members individual dedication to the industry and the association. The policy of the Association is to recognize the following as Emeritus REALTOR® and REALTOR Associate® members of the Association:

- 1. Those members who have been awarded Emeritus REALTOR® Status from the National Association of REALTORS® shall be automatically awarded Emeritus REALTOR® or Emeritus REALTOR Associate® status at Monmouth Ocean Regional REALTORS®.
- 2. Those members who meet the following criteria shall be awarded Emeritus REALTOR® or Emeritus REALTOR® Associates of Monmouth Ocean Regional REALTORS®
  - a. A REALTOR® or REALTOR Associate member of the association who
    - i. has held membership in the National Association of REALTOR® for a cumulative period of forty (40) years -and-
    - ii. has held membership in Monmouth Ocean Regional REALTORS® for a cumulative period of ten (10) years -and-
    - iii. has served on a committee or as a Director of Monmouth Ocean Regional REALTORS®, New Jersey REALTORS® or the National Association of REALTORS® for at least one (1) year of service -and-
    - iv. has requested such status from the Association prior to the dues billing year -and-
    - v. has been verified by the Chief Executive Officer of the Association prior to the billing year.

Those members of Monmouth Ocean Regional REALTORS® who are awarded Emeritus REALTOR® or Emeritus REALTOR Associate® status shall be entitled to:

- 1. Use of the term Emeritus REALTOR® or Emeritus REALTOR® Associate
- 2. Waiver of local association annual dues.

# Monmouth Ocean Regional REALTORS® Volunteer Appointment Policy

From time to time, Monmouth Ocean Regional REALTORS® has the privilege of recommending appointments to various positions with Partner organizations. Examples of these include positions with the National Association of REALTORS®, New Jersey REALTORS®, Women's Council of REALTORS® and others.

Appointments to these positions shall be made by the President of the Association and reported to the Board of Directors.

In the event that the President deems that such appointee should be removed for any reason, the President, at the President's sole discretion, shall make such removal and replacement and immediately report such to the Board of Directors.

## Monmouth Ocean Regional REALTORS® Charitable Contribution Policy

In conjunction with the Strategic Plan of the Association, Monmouth Ocean Regional REALTORS® makes charitable contributions to charitable organizations organized under chapter 501(c)3 or the Internal Revenue Code and/or other charitable entities formed under New Jersey statute. This policy is intended to provide guidelines for the selection and distribution of those charitable contributions.

- Annually, the Chief Executive Officer, in preparation of the annual budget, shall include charitable line items and amounts for consideration by the Budget and Finance Committee and the Board of Directors. Those contributions shall be:
  - a. Charitable contributions for:
    - i. The REALTOR® Relief Foundation of the National Association of REALTORS®.
    - ii. The New Jersey REALTORS® Education Foundation.
    - iii. The New Jersey REALTORS® Housing Opportunity Foundation.
    - iv. Other REALTOR® related partners.
    - v. An organization to be chosen solely by the staff of the association.
  - b. Charitable contributions for community related non-profit organizations as directed by the Board of Directors:
    - Each Director shall be responsible for an equal portion (allocation) of the "Board of Directors Charitable Contributions" established annually in the adopted budget.
    - ii. Annually, each Director shall select a non-profit organization that serves Monmouth or Ocean County, New Jersey to designate their allocation for
    - iii. Each Director shall be responsible for coordinating with the staff of the association as well as the non-profit organization for the distribution of the allocation and any additional activities such as photographic or video documentation, event participation, new releases, etc.
    - iv. Directors, at their sole discretion, may choose to join other Directors to pool their mutual allocations, thus increasing the amount of contribution to any specific non-profit.
    - v. Directors may split their allocations 50/50 between multiple non-profit organizations and may not carry over allocations from year-to-year.
  - c. Charitable contributions for community related non-profit organizations as directed by committees of the Association:

When a committee of the Association intends on raising funds through an Association event for a non-profit organization, the Committee Chair and/or Vice Chair shall:

- i. Shall verify any non-profit organization being considered is a valid 501(c)3 organization or duly formed New Jersey Non-profit organization.
- ii. Conduct a meeting of the Committee.
- iii. Interview all non-profit organizations being considered for the specified contribution.
- iv. Vote at a Committee level to support the non-profit organization.
- v. Conduct the fundraising operation and deposit all funds raised with staff who will in turn process the funds in accordance with the policies and practices of the association. Members and/or attendees may also make direct contributions to the non-profit organization apart from association operations.
- vi. Be responsible for coordinating with the staff of the association as well as the non-profit organization, for the distribution of the funds and any additional activities such as photographic or video documentation, event participation, new releases, etc.
- 2. From time to time, the Board of Directors may make a charitable contribution in honor of or in remembrance of a member. However, at no time shall charitable contributions be made directly to any member (or family member of a member) of the association. Charitable contributions shall only be made to verified nonprofit organizations.
- 3. Nothing in this policy prohibits the Board of Directors from acting independent of this policy in making an additional Charitable Contribution, as long as such distribution is the result of an action taken in accordance with the operating rules of the Association.