

Florida Department of Business Professional Regulation

Department of Business and Professional Regulation Florida Real Estate Commission Newsletter



November 2010

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Message From The Secretary, Charlie Liem

For several months now, I've continued what's become a DBPR tradition of meeting with those we serve to find ways of doing things better. I've been gaining insight into our processes. In fact, a lot of great possible law changes have arisen. I've listened to our businesses and professionals explain what works and what is burdensome for them.



One great change we've made to help the men and women who serve our country is making it easier for military spouses to obtain temporary licenses. We recently issued the first license under a new law that helps military spouses get licensed to work in Florida. Please be sure to tell those you know who may qualify. More information can be found [here](#).

We're also pleased to extend our services to some new industries—mold assessors and remediators and home inspectors. We created two new Web pages for these new groups to become familiar with the laws, regulations, licensure and other important information. To view the home inspectors page, click [here](#). To view the mold-related services page, click [here](#).

We look forward to continuing to provide you with the best customer service possible. You are the businesses and professionals who support Florida's economy.

Sincerely,

Charlie Liem
Secretary

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Message from the Chairperson, Richard DeNapoli

My name is Richard DeNapoli, and I am honored to serve as Chairperson of the Florida Real Estate Commission. I wish to publicly thank Commissioner Roger Enzor for the hard work and leadership he provided to this Commission during his term as Chairperson and to congratulate Commissioner Michael Guju for being elected as Vice Chairperson. Additionally, I want to recognize the dedication and enormous contribution that all the members of the Florida Real Estate Commission (FREC) provide to Florida's real estate industry.

According to FS 475.02 (1), four members of FREC must be licensed Florida real estate brokers, each of whom has held an active license for the five years preceding appointment; One member must be a licensed broker or a licensed sales associate who has held an active license for the two years preceding appointment; those present members falling into these categories are Mr. Roger Enzor (real estate broker and immediate past Chair); Mr. Ralph McCoig (real estate broker and past Chair); Ms. Darla Furst (real estate broker); Mr. Claude "Chip" Boring III (real estate broker), and Mr. Richard DeNapoli, (real estate broker, Attorney, present Chairperson). Two members of FREC must be persons who are not, and have

Florida Real Estate Commission

Governor
Charlie Crist

Secretary
Charlie Liem

COMMISSION MEMBERS

Real Estate Licensees

Richard DeNapoli
Chair, Hollywood

Roger P. Enzor
Pensacola

Claude "Chip" Boring, III
Sebring

Ralph McCoig
Rockledge

Darla Furst
Sarasota

Consumer Members

Michael Guju
Vice-Chair, Palm Harbor

John Ruffier
Orlando

BOARD STAFF

Thomas O'Bryant
Director

Juana Watkins
Deputy Director

James Harwood
Chief Attorney

Bradford Koshland
Bureau Chief, Enforcement

Upcoming Board Meetings

never been, real estate brokers or sales associates; those members are Mr. Michael Guju (Attorney and present Vice-Chair) and Mr. John Ruffier (Attorney). Together, these individuals represent over one-hundred years of combined service to and expertise of the real estate profession.

As Commissioners, we are charged with the responsibility and duty of implementing and enforcing Florida Statute 475, Florida Statute 455, Florida Administrative Code 61J2 and periodically enacting bylaws and other rulings that will be of a benefit to licensees as well as consumers. These tasks are accomplished during public meetings held on the third Tuesday and Wednesday of each month. We also seek to foster the education of brokers, broker associates, sales associates, and instructors concerning the ethical, legal, and business principles which should govern their conduct.

The public usually attends a FREC monthly meeting for one of five reasons. First, one may be an attorney, a friend, or a relative speaking on behalf of a Respondent or prospective Licensee. Second; one may be attending as part of a disciplinary requirement in which credit for attendance will be obtained provided all conditions as set forth in Florida Administrative Code 61J2 are satisfied. Third; one may be a Respondent in which a complaint against a Licensee was filed with the Division of Real Estate. An Investigative procedure was conducted and the results were reviewed by a Probable Cause Committee which recommended that the case be presented to the Florida Real Estate Commission. The Respondent will be provided an opportunity to present mitigation pertaining to his or her actions as stated in the administrative complaint. Fourth, one may be a prospective real estate broker or sales associate and the required Florida Department of Law Enforcement report or the Federal Bureau of Investigation report revealed illegal or unethical behavior. An opportunity to fully explain that activity and provide any mitigating circumstances is provided to the respective licensee. Lastly, one may be attending to gain a better understanding of the real estate profession and, if a real estate licensee, may receive continuing education credits for attendance.

As Commissioners, we understand the importance of protecting the public, realtors, and the real estate industry in Florida, and will continue to maintain and defend the integrity of Florida's real estate profession. By upholding the legislation and rulings of our state, FREC will ensure the integrity of the Florida real estate profession, the trust between our licensees and the public, and the future viability of our state as one of the largest areas for homeownership and economic development in America.

On behalf of all the Commissioners, it is indeed our honor and privilege to serve you to enhance Florida's real estate industry.

Cordially,

Richard DeNapoli
Chairperson, Florida Real Estate Commission

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Message from the Director, Thomas O'Bryant

We have recently been conducting Instructor Seminars throughout the state which has been a very exciting time. One of the sessions of these seminars deals with what is available on the DBPR website and how to find what you are looking for. Many licensees are surprised to find that the DBPR website has such a vast amount of information. Below you will find some links to the most commonly asked for information:

Meeting dates, minutes and agendas for FREC:
<http://www.myfloridalicense.com/dbpr/re/FRECMetings.html>

Disciplinary Activity Reports:
<http://www.myfloridalicense.com/dbpr/re/FRECDARs.html>

Filing of Complaints: <http://www.myfloridalicense.com/dbpr/re/complaint.html>

Frequently Asked Questions: <http://www.myfloridalicense.com/dbpr/re/faq.html>

Application/Forms Center: <https://www.myfloridalicense.com/intentions2.asp?chBoard=true&boardid=25&SID>

Instant Real Estate Public Records:
http://www.myfloridalicense.com/dbpr/sto/file_download/public-records-RE.html

Reporting Requirements for Criminal Convictions:
<http://www.myfloridalicense.com/dbpr/re/index.html>

I would encourage you look around the DBPR website! I think you will be amazed at this great resource. Happy clicking!

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Listed below is the remaining 2010 and upcoming 2011 schedule of meetings and workshops (subject to change as circumstances require) to be held by the Florida Real Estate Commission (FREC). All meetings are held at the Division of Real Estate Commission Chambers in Orlando unless stated otherwise.

December 14 & 15, 2010

January 25 & 26, 2011

February 15 & 16, 2011

March 15 & 16, 2011

April 26 & 27, 2011

May 17 & 18, 2011

June 21 & 22, 2011

July 19 & 20, 2011

August 30 & 31, 2011

September 20 & 21, 2011

October 18 & 19, 2011

November 15 & 16, 2011

December 13 & 14, 2011

All meeting dates and locations are subject to change. Please verify meeting information on the department's [Board Meeting Calendar](#).

Board Membership

For a list of available positions and information regarding requirements for board membership, please visit the department's [board opportunities](#) page.

Disciplinary Actions

Please refer to the Board's Web site for the most up-to-date information regarding disciplinary actions. This action may be found at

<http://www.myfloridalicense.com/dbpr/re/FRECDARs.html>

Although we make every effort to ensure information is correct, before making any specific decision based on this information, you may choose to request a copy of the administrative complaint and final order to ensure accuracy.

Contact the Department's Agency Clerk at brandy.nichols@dbpr.state.fl.us for this information.

Report Unlicensed Activity

Licensee Numbers

As of September 30, 2010 the Florida Real Estate Commission has the following license numbers:

Sales Associate

- Current - 197,675
- Probation - 26
- Suspended - 98

Broker Associate

- Current - 26,421
- Probation - 6
- Suspended - 13

Broker

- Current - 41,774
- Probation - 31
- Suspended - 21

RE Corporation

- Current - 21,934
- Probation - 1
- Suspended - 1

RE Partnerships

- Current - 81

RE Branch Office

- Current - 3,756

RE Additional Locations

- Current - 288

RE Instructor

- Current - 870
- Probation - 4

RE Schools

- Current - 359

RE Chief Administrator

- Current - 47

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e Newsroom



Check out DBPR's [eNewsroom](#), your source for important Department news and information. Here, you can watch public service announcements, read news releases, and subscribe to and flip through our publications.

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Visit us on the Web at www.MyFloridaLicense.com



To report unlicensed activity, please call the Department's Unlicensed Activity Hotline at 1.866.532.1440, Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. (Eastern Time) or e-mail the information to ULA@dbpr.state.fl.us.

Subscribe to DBPR Newsletters

You can now subscribe on line at www.MyFloridaLicense.com to receive your profession's newsletter as well as other Department publications via e-mail. Subscribing is very quick and easy.

1. Go to www.MyFloridaLicense.com
2. Select "Subscribe to Department Newsletters" located under The Bottom Line
3. Type in your name and e-mail
4. Choose which newsletters or publications you would like to receive via e-mail
5. Select "Subscribe"

When the newsletters you have subscribed to are available, you will receive an e-mail from the Department with a link to your newsletter.

Contact Information Updates

Please help us by notifying the department when your address, telephone number, and/or e-mail changes. If you fail to notify the department in writing of your correct mailing address of record, you could be charged with violating the law.

Official communications by the board or the department (such as renewal notices or legal action notices) will only be sent to your last known mailing address of record. Failure to update your mailing address of record is not only a violation of law, but it could affect the timely renewal of your license or result in the waiver of your legal rights in resolving any case brought against you by the department. Therefore, it is extremely important that your contact information is correct.

The department cannot change your mailing address of record without your written request. To update your mailing address of record, you can choose one of the following options:

1. Go to www.MyFloridaLicense.com, select "Renew/Maintain a License," select "Change My Address" in the left hand blue column, then follow the directions to change your address by entering your User ID and PIN (or if you are a first time user, create your Online Services Account and then change your address); or,

2. Send an e-mail to:
ChangeMyAddress@dbpr.state.fl.us,
requesting that your mailing address of record be changed and provide the correct address; or,
3. Send a fax to: (850) 921-6636,
requesting that your mailing address of record be changed and provide the correct address; or,
4. Speak with a DBPR Call Agent at (850) 487-1395, requesting that your mailing address of record be changed and provide the correct address - the Call Agent will require additional information from you during the call to verify your identity; or,
5. Send a written request to:
Department of Business and Professional Regulation, 1940 N. Monroe Street,
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0783.

When corresponding with the department, please include your full name and all department license numbers that you hold so we can apply the address of record change to all of your licenses.

If you have any questions regarding this requirement, or need assistance using the online services menu, please telephone the Customer Contact Center at 850.487.1395 or use our convenient [contact form](#) to submit any comments and/or questions you may have. In order to better serve you, please include as much information as possible about the nature of your request.

The Correct Zip Code Makes a Difference!

The Department's Bureau of Central Intake and Licensure, located within the Division of Service Operations, receives and processes your license applications. To ensure your application and required documentation is sent directly to the Bureau of Central Intake and Licensure section for processing, always use the correct zip code, "plus-4" on all correspondence you send to us. The "plus-4" refers to the unique four-digit code that identifies the divisions and offices within the Department.

The proper zip code, plus-4 for the Bureau of Central Intake and Licensure is 32399-0783.

Thanks for helping us serve you better