

## Commission Meeting News

Key reports, issues, and decisions of interest to licensees and/or the public are reported here from the most recent Commission meetings:

### Commission Meeting of October, 2017

**Pending Cases:** The Commission, following hearings, permanently revoked two licenses and suspended one license; entered into consent agreements to suspend five licenses and reprimand 8 licensees; ordered 10 hearings; voted to extend the time within which one licensee must satisfy the conditions of a Consent Order previously entered into with the Commission; reconsidered and rescinded its previous decision to order a hearing against one licensee and instead closed the case without action; approved the issuance of three broker licenses on provisional status on certain conditions; denied the issuance of one broker license on provisional status; and approved reinstatement of one broker license on provisional status on certain conditions.

**Preliminary Discussion of Topics for 2018-19 General Update and BIC Update Course:** The Commission reviewed a variety of possible topics for the *2018-19 General Update* and *BIC Update Course* and suggested the following topics be added to the list for further consideration and decision by December 2017: changes in the new standard form residential offer to purchase and contract, right of way issues, tax reform, if any, and 1031 exchanges, follow-up on the cyber fraud section of this year's courses, and a discussion of the respective roles of the Commission and the North Carolina Association of REALTORS®.

**Report on National Radon Conference:** The Commission received a report from Education and Licensing Division Director Corean Hamlin of her participation at the National Radon Conference in a panel discussion on collaborative efforts between real estate licensing boards and State agencies tasked with oversight of issues related to radon. Ms. Hamlin noted that North Carolina's partnership with the North Carolina Radiation Protection Section of the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services to produce educational materials for all licensed brokers was very positively received and sets North Carolina above the other states in radon education efforts.

**Petition for a Rulemaking Hearing:** Following review and consideration of the Petition for a Rulemaking Hearing of Glenn Wallace, the Commission voted to grant the Petition without endorsement of its merits.

**License Applications Involving Character Issues:** Applications for licenses from persons who have character issues such as prior criminal convictions or disciplinary action by another licensing board are separately reviewed by the Commission. Decisions are made based upon criminal background checks, information supplied by the applicant, and in-person interviews. Total candidates reviewed: 24; total approved: 14.

**September License Examination Results:** The Commission reviewed and discussed the *License Examination Results Summaries* setting out the passing rates for the license examination for the October 2016 – September 2017 period. A summary of key data relating to persons taking the examination for the first time is provided below:

	Individuals Tested for the First Time			
	Took prelicense course		Hold license from another state	
	September 2017	October 2016 through September 2017	September 2017	October 2016 through September 2017
# Tested	433	6628	82	805
% Pass both sections	58%	59%	N/A	N/A
% Pass National section	80%	81%	N/A	N/A
% Pass State section	61%	62%	33%	30%

**Continuing Education:** The Commission approved two new Update Course instructor applications, two new Update Course sponsors, five new elective courses, and 36 previously approved elective courses to be offered by other sponsors. As of October 1, 2017, there were 152 approved sponsors.

**Emerging Trends:** The Commission discussed the Indian and Tennessee response to broker listings on Zillow, Bitcoin in real estate transactions, the U.S. Justice Department’s placement of Americans with Disability Act (ADA) website compliance rulemaking on the “inactive” actions list, and electronic loan closings using eNotaries.

**Report on License Numbers:** The Commission was advised that as of October 1, 2017, the Commission has 100,322 brokers and firms, as follows:

- Active Brokers 63,547
- Active Provisional Brokers 8,269
- Inactive Brokers 24,620
- Inactive Provisional Brokers 5,606
- Firms 11,908
- Brokers-in-Charge 16,496
- BIC-Eligible Brokers 2,013

**Next Commission Meeting:** The next Commission meeting will be held at 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, November 15, 2017, at Raleigh, North Carolina and is open to the public.