

## 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 August, 2018

**Pending Cases:** The Commission accepted the permanent voluntary surrender of one license, summarily suspended two licenses, and stayed on certain conditions a previously imposed suspension of one license; entered into consent agreements to accept the permanent voluntary surrender of one license, permanently revoke one license, suspend five licenses and reprimand three licensees; ordered 14 hearings; and approved on certain conditions the issuance of four broker licenses on provisional status.

**Interstate Licensing Compacts:** Staff discussed with the Commission possible mechanisms for increasing real estate license portability, including the creation of an Interstate Licensing Compact among several states. Staff noted that technical assistance can be provided by the Council of State Governments National Center for Interstate Compacts, if there is enough interest among real estate licensing boards across the United States. The Commission granted staff the authority to explore with other real estate licensing boards their interest in asking the Council of State Governments to assist in creating an interstate licensing compact, and to seek possible sources of funding from those boards and other sources.

**Substance Abuse Program:** Staff discussed with the Commission the possibility of obtaining a substance abuse assessment from an outside provider to assist the Commission in making licensing decisions. The Commission directed staff to review the current guidelines concerning license applications, suggest possible changes relating to applicants with a history of substance abuse, and set out suggested criteria for who might be required to receive the assessment, who would be responsible for payment, and what the process would be for an applicant who declined an assessment.

**Proposed Constitutional Amendment Affecting Board Appointments:** The Commission discussed SL2018-117, which calls for a Constitutional amendment to provide that the legislative powers of the State government shall control the powers, duties, responsibilities, appointments, and terms of office of any board or commission prescribed by general law.

**Recognition:** Staff reported that the Commission received two 2018 awards from ARELLO (Association of Real Estate License Law Officials) – one for the annual Educators Conference and one for Senior Auditor/Investigator Spier Holloman, who was named the 2018 Investigator of the Year. The Commission commended Ms. Holloman, Ms. Hamlin and the Education and Licensing Division staff, as well as other staff who assisted in the Educators Conference.

**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: 23; total approved: 15.

**License Examination Results:** 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 |                               |
|                         | July 2018                             | August 2017 through July 2018 | July 2018                       | August 2017 through July 2018 |
| # Tested                | 491                                   | 7189                          | 47                              | 878                           |
| % Pass both sections    | 51%                                   | 59%                           | N/A                             | N/A                           |
| % Pass National section | 73%                                   | 80%                           | N/A                             | N/A                           |
| % Pass State section    | 55%                                   | 62%                           | 43%                             | 32%                           |

**Report on License Numbers:** The Commission was advised that as of August 1, 2018, the Commission has 101,455 brokers and firms, as follows:

Active Brokers 66,405  
 Active Provisional Brokers 8,443  
 Inactive Brokers 22,387  
 Inactive Provisional Brokers 6,086  
 Firms 12,432  
 Brokers-in-Charge 16,758  
 BIC-Eligible Brokers 2,322

**Next Commission Meeting:** The next Commission meeting will be held at 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, September 12, 2018, at Raleigh, North Carolina and is open to the public.