December 2022 Volume 18 Issue 12 Monthly Newsletter of the Georgia Real Estate Commission

GREC RENews

2023 Calendar

Happy Holidays from the Georgia Real Estate Commission!

Link to the Georgia Real Estate License Laws, Rules, and Regulations

Link to GREC
Disciplinary
Actions
View Current
Suspensions and
Revocations

Link to Proposed Rule Changes

Georgia Real Estate Infobase
Click Here



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The Georgia Real Estate Commission Education Advisory Committee

The Education Advisory Committee (EAC) is a committee of individuals appointed by the Georgia Real Estate Commission to assist the Commission in addressing education and brokerage issues from a practical perspective. Members volunteer their time, expertise, and experience to provide input and ideas regarding education programs, resources, issues affecting real estate licensees, and otherwise assist the Commission on current education projects.

The Education Advisory Committee Members include Real Estate Brokers and School Directors of both large and smaller Firms representing a broad range of industry classifications including:

- Residential
- Commercial
- Property Management
- Community Association Management CAM
- Local Boards and Associations such as the Georgia Association of Realtors®
- Georgia Real Estate Educators Association GREEA
- Course Providers and Developers, Resident and Online
- Institutional Schools
- Real Estate Schools and Administrators

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Two Opportunities at the Georgia Real Estate Commission <u>Investigator Position</u> <u>Information Specialist Position</u>

December 2022 Meeting - Commission Actions Taken Cases Sent to the Attorney General for Review and Disposition by Consent Order 0 or by Hearing Cease & Desist Orders Issued 2 6 Citations Issued Letter of Findings Issued 1 Consent Orders Entered Into 0 Final Orders of Revocation of Licensure Cases Closed for Insufficient Evidence or No Apparent Violation Licensing Cases - Applicant has a Criminal Conviction - License Issued 15 Licensing Cases - Applicant has a Criminal Conviction - License Denied 1

Click here to review a legend of the disciplinary actions the Commission may impose.

Online Courses from GREC approved for:

- ✓ License Law
- ✓ Continuing Ed
- ✓ Instructor CE
- ✓ 3 9 Hours CE
- Being a Broker and Staying Out of Trouble
- 2. Avoiding Trust Account Trouble
- 3. Practicing Real Estate & Staying Out of Trouble

Click Here to Enroll \$10 Each

To sign up to receive the GREC RENewsletter Click Here

Submit a Comment or suggestion Click Here

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GREC EAC...

Some members have been in the industry for years, while others are asked to join based on a new need for their industry expertise to be part of the discussion. The Education Advisory Committee assists the Georgia Real Estate Commission by reviewing materials, drafting suggested wording and programs, and offering advice on their implementation. Discussion includes the quality of Broker supervision, and the proper role of Licensees and how best to protect the public interest. The field experience of the members is valuable to the success of many programs.

This committee usually meets twice per year, and at each meeting the Real Estate Commissioner and the Deputy Commissioner update the EAC on recent trends regarding licensing issues and Commission projects. From statistics of actual cases and violations, licensing statistics, application issues, and various administrative subjects, the EAC can offer assistance in developing guidelines for education programs designed to address those specific issues.

The EAC purpose is not to encourage more regulation and realizes that more regulation is not necessarily the best solution. Instead, in conjunction with the Commission, the Committee tries to create solutions within the scope of the existing License Law, Rules and Regulations that are designed to guide the brokerage industry to further protect the public while trying to minimize regulation.

As illustration, a modification to an existing Rule or Regulation of the Georgia License Law may clarify the understanding for Licensees so less violations occur. An example of this is the definition of "media." Members that are Brokers actively managing Licensees are versed in many forms of advertising media. These Brokers provide critical insight into the practical application of any Rule change, as well as its drafting. This insight helps the Real Estate Commission amend or construct better regulations if needed.

Another example of the EAC involvement is the development of the required License Law subjects that are now a mandatory requirement in order to renew a license. This list of requirements was developed as the result of numerous discussions regarding the most common License Law violations as seen by the Georgia Real Estate Commission Investigative Division

The Georgia Real Estate Commission provides many resources for all Licensees, all accessible from the GREC website at www.grec.state.ga.us. Members of EAC were instrumental in promoting and developing the Infobase, which is available to all Licensees from the GREC website and at InfoBase-Main-Georgia (state.ga.us). Other EAC members include those that create and instruct brokerage courses, Trust Account workshops, produce the GREC RENewsletter, and other education resources, and programs for the Commission.

A clear focus of the EAC is to assist the Commission is to assure quality educations programs are available and focused on the current trends and needs of the industry based upon the experience and involvement of the members of the EAC. EAC members that are Instructors provide the Commission valuable feedback from students, and the EAC can assist in determining how best to get the word out and educate Licensees for existing and new programs and new regulations.

The Commission relies on the Education Advisory Committee as a voice of the industry to assist them in regulating Licensees and the protecting the public.



Focus on Terminology: "The Commission"

The purpose of the Real Estate Commission to protect the public from intentional or unintentional harmful acts of persons acting as real estate licensees by assuring that licensees meet basic levels of competency. Second, it attempts to create a regulatory environment for the real estate industry that is fair and reasonable while allowing the licensee to attain economic success. The Governor selects and appoints members of the Real Estate Commission to serve five-year terms. Each member serves that term and can continue to serve until the Governor names a successor. The law requires the Governor to appoint five persons who have significant experience as real estate licensees, and one person who has a recognized interest in consumer affairs and is not a real estate licensee.