

BYLAWS OF THE COASTAL CAROLINAS ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®, INC.

ARTICLE I - NAME

Section 1. Name. The name of this organization shall be the COASTAL CAROLINAS ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®, INC. hereafter referred to as the "Association".

Section 2. REALTOR. Inclusion and retention of the Registered Collective Membership Mark REALTORS® in the name of the Association shall be governed by the Constitution and Bylaws of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® as from time to time amended.

ARTICLE II - OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Association are:

Section 1. 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.

Section 2. 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®.

Section 3. 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.

Section 4. To further the interests of home and other real property ownership.

Section 5. To unite those engaged in the real estate profession in this community with the SOUTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® and the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®, thereby furthering their own objectives throughout the state and nation and obtaining the benefits and privileges of the membership therein.

Section 6. To designate, for the benefit of the public, individuals authorized to use the terms REALTOR® and REALTORS® as licensed, prescribed, and controlled by the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®.

ARTICLE III - JURISDICTION

Section 1. The territorial jurisdiction of the Association as a member of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® shall include: All within the counties of Georgetown and Horry, South Carolina (amended 12/08).

Section 2. Territorial Jurisdiction is defined to mean:

(a) The right and duty to control the use of the terms REALTOR® and REALTORS®, subject to the conditions set forth in these Bylaws and those of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®, in return for which the Association agrees to protect and safeguard the property rights of the National Association in the terms.

ARTICLE IV - MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. There shall be seven (7) classes of Members as follows:

(a) **REALTOR® Members.** REALTOR® Members whether primary or secondary shall

be:

(1) Individuals who, as sole proprietors, partners or corporate officers, or broker-in-charge or his/her designee, are engaged actively in the real estate profession, including buying, selling, exchanging, renting or leasing, managing, appraising for others for compensation, counseling, building, developing or subdividing real estate, and who maintain or are associated with an established real estate office in the state of South Carolina or a state contiguous thereto. All persons who are partners in a partnership, or all officers in a corporation who are actively engaged in the real estate profession within the state or a state contiguous thereto shall qualify for REALTOR® Membership only, and each is required to hold REALTOR® Membership (except as provided in the following paragraph) in a Board of REALTORS® within the state or a state contiguous thereto unless otherwise qualified for Institute Affiliate Membership as described in Section 1b of Article IV. (Amended 8/05)

NOTE: REALTOR® Members may obtain membership in a "secondary" Board in another state.

In the case of a real estate firm, partnership, or corporation, whose business activity is substantially all commercial, only those principals actively engaged in the real estate business in connection with the same office or any other offices within the jurisdiction of the board in which one of the firm's principals holds REALTOR® membership, shall be required to hold REALTOR® membership unless otherwise qualified for Institute Affiliate Membership as described in Section 1 (b) of Article IV. (Amended 1/01)

(2) Individuals who are engaged in the real estate profession other than as sole proprietors, partners, corporate officers, or broker-in-charge or his/her designee and are associated with a REALTOR® Member and meet the qualifications set out in Article V.

(3) Franchise REALTOR® Membership. Corporate officers (who may be licensed or unlicensed) of a real estate brokerage franchise organization with at least one hundred fifty (150) franchisees located within the United States, its insular possessions and the commonwealth of Puerto Rico, elected to membership pursuant to the provisions in the NAR Constitution and Bylaws. Such individuals shall enjoy all of the rights, privileges and obligations of REALTOR® membership (including compliance with the Code of Ethics) except: obligations related to board mandated education, meeting attendance, or indoctrination classes or other similar requirements; the right to use the term REALTOR® in connection with their franchise organization's name; and the right to hold elective office in the local board, state association and National Association.

(4) Primary and secondary REALTOR® Members. An individual is a primary member if the Board pays state and National dues based on such Member. An individual is a secondary Member if state and National dues are remitted through another Board. One of the principals in a real estate firm must be a Designated REALTOR® member of the Board in order for licensees affiliated with the firm to select the Board as their "primary" Board.

(5) Designated REALTOR® Members. Each firm shall designate in writing one REALTOR® Member who shall be responsible for all duties and obligations of Membership including the obligation to mediate or arbitrate pursuant to Article 17 of the Code of Ethics and the payment of Board dues as established in Article X of the Bylaws. The "Designated REALTOR®" must be a sole proprietor, partner, corporate officer, broker-in-charge or his/her designee acting on behalf of the firm's principal(s) and must meet all other qualifications for REALTOR® Membership established in Article V, Section 2, of the Bylaws.

(b) Institute Affiliate Members. Institute Affiliate members shall be individuals who hold a professional designation awarded by a Institute, Society, or Council affiliated with the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® that addresses a specialty area other than residential brokerage or individuals who otherwise hold a class of membership in such Institute, Society or Council that confers the right to hold office. Any such individual, if otherwise eligible, may elect to hold REALTOR® membership, subject to payment of applicable dues for such membership. (Amended 1/02)

(c) Affiliate Member. Affiliate Members shall be real estate owners and other individuals or firms who, while not engaged in the real estate profession as defined in paragraph (a) or (b) of this section, have interests requiring information concerning real estate, and are in sympathy with the objectives of the Association.

(d) Public Service Members. Public Service Members shall be individuals who are interested in the real estate profession as employees of or affiliated with educational, public utility, governmental or other similar organizations, but are not engaged in the real estate profession on their own account or in association with an established real estate business.

(e) Honorary Members. Honorary Members shall be individuals not engaged in the real estate profession who have performed notable service for the real estate profession, for the Association, or for the public.

(f) Student Members. Student Members shall be individuals who are seeking an undergraduate or graduate degree with a specialization or major in real estate at institutions of higher learning and who have completed at least two years of college and at least one college level course in real estate, but are not engaged in the real estate profession on their own account or not associated with an established real estate office.

ARTICLE V - QUALIFICATION AND ELECTION

Section 1. Application. An application for membership and reinstatement of membership shall be made in such manner and form as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors and made available to anyone requesting it. The application form shall contain among the statements to be signed by the applicant: (1) that applicant agrees as a condition to membership to thoroughly familiarize himself with the Code of Ethics of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®, the Constitutions, Bylaws, and Rules and Regulations of the Association, the State and National Associations, and if elected a Member, will abide by the Constitutions and Bylaws and Rules and Regulations of the Association, State and National Associations, and if a REALTOR® Member will abide by the Code of Ethics of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® including the obligation to mediate or arbitrate controversies arising out of real estate transactions as specified by Article 17 of the Code of Ethics, and as further specified in the Code of Ethics and Arbitration Manual of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®, as from time to time amended, and (2) that applicant consents that the Association, through its Membership Committee or otherwise, may invite and receive information and comment about applicant from any member or other persons, and that applicant agrees that any information and comment furnished to the Association by any person in response to the invitation shall be conclusively deemed to be privileged and not form the basis of any action to slander, libel, or defamation of character. The applicant shall, with the form of application, have access to a copy of the Bylaws, Constitution, Rules and Regulations, and Code of Ethics referred to above.

Section 2. Qualification.

- (a) An applicant for REALTOR® Membership who is a principal of a real estate firm shall supply evidence satisfactory to the Board that he/she holds a valid real estate license and must be engaged with a real estate firm located within South Carolina or a contiguous state, is actively engaged in the real estate business and its recognized fields, (unless a secondary member), has no record of civil judgements*, agrees to complete a course of instruction covering the Bylaws and Rules and Regulations of the Association, the Bylaws of the State Association, and the Constitution and Bylaws and Code of Ethics of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®, and shall pass such reasonable and nondiscriminatory written examination thereon as may be required by the Committee, and must agree that if elected to membership, he/she will abide by such Constitution, Bylaws, Rules and Regulations, and Code of Ethics. An applicant, who has a record of criminal conviction within the past seven (7) years involving a crime that reasonably relates to the real estate business or puts clients, customers, or other real estate professionals at risk, must provide and the association must consider mitigating factors relating to that criminal history. An applicant and the real estate firm in which the applicant is principal must not be named as a debtor in any bankruptcy judgements or pending bankruptcy proceeding within three (3) years of the date of the application for membership. **

NOTE 1: Associations may NOT adopt membership qualifications more rigorous than specified in the Membership Qualifications Criteria for REALTOR® membership approved by the Board of Directors of the National Association of REALTORS®.

*An applicant must have no record of civil judgements imposed within the past seven (7) years involving judgements of civil rights laws, real estate license laws, or other laws prohibiting unprofessional conduct rendered by the courts or other lawful authorities.

****If the applicant or the applicant's real estate firm is named as a debtor in such bankruptcy proceeding, membership may not be denied unless the Board establishes that its interests and those of its members and the public could not be adequately protected by requiring that the applicant pay cash in advance for association dues and MLS fees for up to one (1) year from the date that membership is approved. In the event that an existing member initiates bankruptcy proceedings, the member may be placed on a "cash basis" from the date that bankruptcy is initiated until one (1) year from the date that the member has been discharged from bankruptcy.**

(b) Individuals who are actively engaged in the real estate profession other than as principals, in order to qualify for REALTOR® Membership, shall at the time of application, be associated either as an employee or as an independent contractor with a Designated REALTOR® Member of the Association or Designated REALTOR® Member of another Association (if a secondary member) and must maintain a current, valid real estate broker's, salesperson's, or property manager's license or be licensed or certified by an appropriate state regulatory agency to engage in the appraisal of real property, shall complete a course of instruction covering the Bylaws and Rules and Regulations of the Association, the Bylaws of the State Association, and the Constitution and Bylaws and Code of Ethics of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® and shall pass such reasonable and nondiscriminatory written examinations thereon as may be required by the committee and shall agree in writing that if elected to membership he will abide by the Code of Ethics of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®, and by the Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules and Regulations of the local Association, the State Association, and the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION. (amended 8/05, 08/17)

(c) The association will also consider the following in determining an applicant's qualifications for REALTOR® membership:

- 1. All final findings of Code of Ethics violations and violations of other membership duties in this or any other REALTOR® association within the past three (3) years**
- 2. Pending ethics complaints (or hearings)**
- 3. Unsatisfied discipline pending**
- 4. Pending arbitration requests (or hearings)**
- 5. Unpaid arbitration awards or unpaid financial obligations to this or any other REALTOR® association or REALTOR® association MLS**
- 6. Any misuse of the term REALTOR® or REALTORS® in the name of the applicant's firm**

Associations may reconsider the membership status of such individuals when all pending ethics and arbitration matters (and related discipline) have been resolved or, if such matters are not resolved, within six (6) months from the date that provisional membership is approved. Provisional members shall be considered REALTORS® and shall be subject to all of the same privileges and obligations of REALTOR® membership (Amended 11/09)

(d) An applicant for reinstatement of REALTOR® Membership who is a principal of a real estate firm shall supply evidence satisfactory to the Board that he maintains a current, valid real estate broker's, salesperson's, or property manager's license or be licensed or certified by an appropriate state regulatory agency to engage in the appraisal of real property, has a place of business within the state or a state contiguous thereto, has no record of recent or pending bankruptcy, has no record of official sanctions involving unprofessional conduct, agrees to complete a course of instruction covering the Bylaws and Rules and Regulations of the Association, the Bylaws of the State Association, and the Constitution, Bylaws, and Code of Ethics of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®, and shall pass such reasonable and nondiscriminatory written examinations thereon as may be required by the Committee unless he has previously completed this course in its latest edition, and shall agree that if elected to membership, will abide by the Constitution, Bylaws, Rules and Regulations, and Code of Ethics.

(e) Individuals who are engaged in the real estate profession other than as principals, in order to qualify for reinstatement of REALTOR® Membership, shall at the time of application be associated either as an employee or as an independent contractor with a REALTOR® Member of this Association and must maintain a current, valid real estate broker's, salesperson's, or property manager's license or be licensed or certified by an appropriate state regulatory agency to engage in the appraisal of real property, shall complete a course of instruction covering the Bylaws and Rules and Regulations of the Association, the Bylaws of the State Association, and the Constitution, Bylaws and the Code of Ethics of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®, and shall pass such reasonable and nondiscriminatory written examinations thereon as may be required by the Committee, unless he has previously completed this course in its latest edition, and shall agree in writing that if elected to membership, he will abide by the Code of Ethics of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF

REALTORS®, and by the Constitution, Bylaws, Rules and Regulations of the local Association, the State Association and the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®.

Section 3. Election

The procedure for election to membership shall be as follows.

- (a) Applicants for REALTOR® (and REALTOR-ASSOCIATE®, where applicable) membership shall be granted provisional membership immediately upon submission of a completed application form and remittance of applicable association dues and any application fee. Provisional members shall be considered REALTORS® (or REALTOR-ASSOCIATES®) and shall be subject to all of the same privileges and obligations of membership. Provisional membership is granted subject to subsequent review of the application by the board of directors. If the board of directors determines that the individual does not meet all of the qualifications for membership as established in the association's Bylaws, or, if the individual does not satisfy all of the requirements of membership (for example, completion of a mandatory orientation program) within 30 days from the association's receipt of their application, membership may, at the discretion of the board of directors, be terminated.
- (b) Dues shall be computed from the first day of the current quarter and shall be non-refundable unless the association's board of directors terminates the individual's membership in accordance with Subsection (a) above. In such instances, dues shall be returned to the individual less a prorated amount to cover the number of days that the individual received association services and any application fee.
- (c) The board of directors may not terminate any provisional membership without providing the provisional member with advance notice, an opportunity to appear before the board of directors, to call witnesses on his/her behalf, to be represented by counsel, and to make such statements as he/she deems relevant. The board of directors may also have counsel present. The board of directors shall require that written minutes be made of any hearing before it or may electronically or mechanically record the proceedings.
- (d) If the board of directors determines that provisional membership should be terminated, it shall record its reasons with the chief staff executive. If the board of directors believes that termination of provisional membership may become the basis of litigation and a claim of damage by a provisional member, it may specify that termination shall become effective upon entry in a suit by the association for a declaratory judgment by a court of competent jurisdiction of a final judgment declaring that the termination violates no rights of the individual. (Adopted 1/98, Amended 1/05)(CCAR adopted 3/13)

NOTE: Orientation programs must meet the learning objectives and minimum criteria established from time to time by the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®. (Adopted 1/01)

Section 4. New Member Code or Ethics, Fair Housing and Onboarding Express (Orientation)

Applicants for REALTOR® membership shall complete an orientation program on the Code of Ethics of not less than 2 hours and 30 min. of instructional time, effective Jan. 1, 2001.

Applicants for REALTOR® membership and provisional REALTOR® members (where applicable) shall complete Fair Housing training of not less than two (2) hours of instructional time. This requirement will be satisfied upon presentation of documentation that the member has completed a course of instruction conducted by this or another REALTOR® association, the State Association of REALTORS®, the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®, or the Institutes, Societies, and Councils, which meets the learning objectives and minimum criteria established by the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® from time to time. Fair Housing training approved by a state licensing authority for an existing Fair Housing requirement to gain or maintain licensure shall also fulfill this requirement, provided it also meets the learning objectives and minimum criteria established by the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® from time to time. This requirement does not apply to applicants for REALTOR® membership or provisional members who have completed comparable orientation in another association, provided that REALTOR® membership has been continuous, or that any break in membership is for one (1) year or less.

Failure to satisfy this requirement within 60 days of the date of application (or, alternatively, the date that provisional membership was granted), will result in denial of the membership application or termination of provisional membership.

Applicants for REALTOR® membership shall complete the New Member Onboarding Express training effective January 1, 2026.

To ensure compliance, please note the following:

- Only one reschedule of the training will be granted, with notification to the Broker-in-Charge (BIC).
- Failure to complete the training will result in a \$250 fine for the BIC and suspension of the individual agent's membership until the training has been attended.

Section 5. Continuing Member Code of Ethics Training and Fair Housing Training.

Effective January 1, 2019, through December 31, 2021, and for successive three-year periods thereafter, each REALTOR® and REALTOR-ASSOCIATE® member of the association shall be required to complete ethics training of not less than two hours and thirty minutes of instructional time.

This requirement will be satisfied upon presentation of documentation that the member has completed a course of instruction conducted by this or another association, or NAR, which meets the learning objectives and minimum criteria established by NAR from time to time.

Members who have completed training as a requirement of membership in another association and members who have completed the New Member Code of Ethics Orientation during any three year cycle shall not be required to complete additional ethics training until a new three year cycle commences.

Failure to satisfy this requirement shall be considered a violation of a membership duty. Failure to meet the requirement in any three year cycle will result in suspension of membership for the first two months (January and February) of the year following the end of any three year cycle or until the requirement is met, whichever occurs sooner.

On March 1 of that year, the membership of a member who is still suspended as of that date will be automatically terminated. *(Adopted 1/01, Amended 11/08, Amended 11/2016)*

Effective January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2027 and for successive three year periods thereafter, each REALTOR® member of the association (with the exception of REALTOR® members granted REALTOR® Emeritus status by the National Association) shall be required to complete Fair Housing training of not less than two (2) hours of instructional time. This requirement will be satisfied upon presentation of documentation that the member has completed a course of instruction conducted by this or another REALTOR® association, the State Association of REALTORS®, the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®, or the Institutes, Societies, and Councils, which meets the learning objectives and minimum criteria established by the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® from time to time. Fair Housing training approved by a state licensing authority for an existing Fair Housing requirement to maintain licensure shall also fulfill this requirement, provided it also meets the learning objectives and minimum criteria established by the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® from time to time. REALTOR® members who have completed Fair Housing training as a requirement of membership in another association shall not be required to complete additional Fair Housing training until a new three year cycle commences.

Failure to satisfy the required periodic Fair Housing training shall be considered a violation of a membership duty. Failure to meet the requirement in any three year cycle will result in suspension of membership for the first two months (January and February) of the year following the end of any three year cycle or until the requirement is met, whichever occurs sooner. On March 1 of that year, the membership of a member who is still suspended as of that date will be automatically terminated. *(Adopted 05/23)*

Section 5. Status Changes.

(a) A REALTOR® who changes the conditions under which he holds membership shall be required to provide written notification to the Board within thirty (30) days. A REALTOR® (non-principal) who becomes a principal in the firm with which he has been licensed or, alternatively, becomes a principal in a new firm which will be comprised of REALTOR® principals, may be required to satisfy any previously unsatisfied membership requirements applicable to REALTOR® (principal) Members but shall, during the period of transition from one status of membership to another, be subject to all of the privileges and obligations of a REALTOR® (principal). If the REALTOR® (non-principal) does not satisfy the requirements established in these Bylaws for the category of membership to which they have transferred within thirty (30) days of the date they advised the Association of their change in status, their new membership application will terminate automatically unless otherwise so directed by the Board of Directors.

A REALTOR® who is transferring their license from one firm comprised of REALTOR® principals to another firm comprised of REALTOR® principals shall be subject to all of the privileges and obligations of membership during the period of transition. If the transfer is not completed within thirty (30) days of the date the board is advised of the disaffiliation with the current firm, membership will terminate automatically unless otherwise so directed by the Board of Directors.

NOTE: The Board of Directors, at its discretion, may waive any qualification that the applicant has already fulfilled in accordance with the Association's Bylaws.

(b) Any application fee related to a change in membership status shall be reduced by an amount equal to any application fee previously paid by the applicant.

(c) Dues shall be prorated from the first day of the quarter and shall be based on the new membership status for the remainder of the year.

ARTICLE VI - PRIVILEGES AND OBLIGATIONS

Section 1. The privileges and obligations of members, in addition to those otherwise provided in these Bylaws, shall be as specified in this Article.

Section 2. Any Member of the Association may be reprimanded, fined, placed on probation, suspended, or expelled by the Board of Directors for a violation of these Bylaws and Association Rules and Regulations, not inconsistent with these Bylaws, after a hearing as provided in the Code of Ethics and Arbitration Manual of the Association. Although Members other than REALTORS® are neither subject to the Code of Ethics nor its enforcement by the Association, such Members are encouraged to abide by the principles established in the Code of Ethics of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® and conduct their business and professional practices accordingly. Further, Members other than REALTORS® may, upon recommendation of the Membership Committee, or upon recommendation by a hearing panel of the Professional Standards Committee, be subject to discipline as described above, for any conduct which in the opinion of the Board of Directors, applied on a nondiscriminatory basis, reflects adversely on the terms REALTOR® or REALTORS® and the real estate industry, or for conduct that is inconsistent with or adverse to the objectives and purpose of the Local Association, the State Association, and the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®.

Section 3. Any REALTOR® of the Association may be disciplined by the Board of Directors for violations of the Code of Ethics or other duties of membership, after a hearing as described in the Code of Ethics and Arbitration Manual of the Association, provided that the discipline imposed is consistent with the discipline authorized by the Professional Standards Committee of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® as set forth in the Code of Ethics and Arbitration Manual of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

Section 4. Resignations of Members shall become effective when received in writing by the Board of Directors, provided, however, that if the Member submitting the resignation is indebted to the Association for dues, fees, fines, or other assessments of the Association or any of its services, departments, divisions, or subsidiaries, the Association may condition the right of the resigning Member to reapply for membership upon payment in full of all such monies owed.

Section 5. If a member resigns from the Association or otherwise causes membership to terminate with an ethics complaint pending, the complaint shall be processed until the decision of the association with respect to disposition of the complaint is final by this association (if respondent does not hold membership in any other association) or by any other association in which the respondent continues to hold membership. If an ethics respondent resigns or otherwise causes membership in all Boards to terminate before an ethics complaint is filed alleging unethical conduct occurred while the respondent was a REALTOR®, the complaint, once filed, shall be processed until the decision of the association with respect to the disposition of the complaint is final. In a any instance where an ethics hearing is held subsequent to an ethic respondent's resignation or membership termination, any discipline ratified by the Board of Directors shall be held in abeyance until such time as the respondent rejoins an association of REALTORS®.

(a) If a member resigns or otherwise causes membership to terminate, the duty to submit to arbitration (or mediation if required by the association) continues in effect even after membership lapses or is terminated, provided that the dispute arose while the former member was a REALTOR®.

Section 6. REALTOR® Members

(a) REALTOR® Members, whether primary or secondary, in good standing are entitled to vote and to hold elective office in the Association, and

(b) REALTOR® Members may use the term REALTOR® and REALTORS®, which use shall be subject to the provisions of Article VIII

For the purposes of this section, the term "good standing" means the member satisfies the "Obligations of REALTOR® Members", is current with all financial and disciplinary obligations to the association and MLS, has completed any new member requirements, and complies with NAR's trademark rules.

(c) REALTOR® Members have the responsibility to safeguard and promote the standard, interests, and welfare of the Association and the real estate profession.

(c) If a REALTOR® Member is a principal in a firm, partnership, or corporation and is suspended or expelled, the firm, partnership, or corporation shall not use the terms REALTOR® or REALTORS® in connection with its business during the period of suspension, or until readmission to REALTOR® Membership, or unless connection with the firm, partnership, or corporation, is severed, whichever may apply. The membership of all other principals, partners or corporate officers shall suspend or terminate during the period of suspension of the disciplined member, or until readmission of the disciplined Member, or unless connection of the disciplined Member with the firm, partnership, or corporation is severed, whichever may apply. Further, the membership of REALTORS® other than principals who are employed by or affiliated as independent contractors with the disciplined Member shall suspend or terminate during the period of suspension of the disciplined Member or until readmission of the disciplined Member, or until connection of the disciplined Member with the firm, partnership, or corporation is severed, or unless the REALTOR® Member (non-principal) elects to sever his connection with the REALTOR® and affiliate with another REALTOR® Member in good standing in the Association, whichever may apply. If a REALTOR® Member who is other than a principal in a firm, partnership, or corporation is suspended or expelled, the use of the terms REALTOR® or REALTORS® by the firm, partnership, or corporation shall not be affected.

(d) In any action taken against a REALTOR® Member for suspension or expulsion under Section 6d hereof, notice of such action shall be given to all REALTORS® employed by or affiliated as independent contractors with such REALTOR® Member and they shall be advised that the provisions in Article VI, Section 6d shall apply.

Section 7. Institute Affiliate Members. Institute Affiliate Members shall have rights and privileges and be subject to obligations prescribed by the Board of Directors consistent with the Constitution and Bylaws of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®.

NOTE: Local associations establish the rights and privileges to be conferred on Institute Affiliate members except that no Institute Affiliate Member may be granted the right to use the term REALTOR →, REALTOR-ASSOCIATE®, or the REALTOR® logo; to serve as President of the

local association; or to be a Participant in the local association's Multiple Listing Service.
(Amended 1/02)

Section 8. Affiliate Members. Affiliate Members shall have rights and privileges and be subject to obligations prescribed by the Board of Directors.

Section 9. Public Service Members. Public Service Members shall have rights and privileges and be subject to obligations as prescribed by the Board of Directors.

Section 10. Honorary Members. Honorary Members shall confer only the right to attend meetings and participate in discussions.

Section 11. Student Members. Student Members shall have rights and privileges and shall be subject to such obligations prescribed by the Board of Directors.

Section 12. Certification by REALTOR®. "Designated" REALTOR® Members of the Association shall certify to the Association during the months of March and September, on a form provided by the Association, a complete listing of individuals licensed or certified in the REALTOR's® office(s) and shall designate a primary Board for each individual who holds membership. Designated REALTORS® shall also identify any non-member licensees in the REALTOR's® office(s) and if Designated REALTOR® dues have been paid to another Board based on said non-member licensees, the Designated REALTOR® shall be used for purposes of calculating dues under Article X, Section 2(a) of the Bylaws. "Designated" REALTOR® Members shall also notify the Association of any additional individual(s) licensed or certified with the firm(s) within thirty (30) days of the date of affiliation or severance of the individual.

NOTE: Any education requirement must comply with Interpretation No. 37 of Article I, Section 2, Bylaws, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®.

Section 13. Harassment. Any member of the Association may be reprimanded, placed on probation, suspended or expelled for harassment of an Association or MLS employee or Association Officer or Director after an investigation in accordance with the procedures of the Association. As used in this Section, harassment means any verbal or physical conduct including threatening or obscene language, unwelcome sexual advances, stalking, actions including strikes, shoves, kicks, or other similar physical contact, or threats to do the same, or any other conduct with the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work performance by creating a hostile, intimidating or offensive work environment. The decision of the appropriate disciplinary action to be taken shall be made by the investigatory team comprised of the President, and President-elect and one member of the Board of Directors selected by the highest ranking officer not named in the complaint, upon consultation with legal counsel for the Association. Disciplinary action may include any sanction authorized in the association's Code of Ethics and Arbitration Manual. If the complaint names the President, President-Elect, they may not participate in the proceedings and shall be replaced by the Immediate Past President or alternatively, by another member of the Board of Directors selected by the highest ranking officer not named in the complaint. (Amended 5/08)

ARTICLE VII - PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

Section 1. The responsibility of the Association and of Association Members relating to the enforcement of the Code of Ethics, the disciplining of Members, the mediation and arbitration of disputes, and the organization and procedures incident thereto, shall be governed by the Code of Ethics and Arbitration Manual of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®, as amended from time to time, which is by this reference incorporated into these Bylaws, provided, however, that any provision deemed inconsistent with state law shall be deleted or amended to comply with state law.

Section 2. It shall be the duty and responsibility of every REALTOR® Member of this Association to safeguard and promote the standards, interests, and welfare of the association and the real estate profession, and to protect against conduct that may cause a lack of public confidence in the real estate profession or in REALTORS®. REALTOR® members also must abide by the governing documents and policies of the association, the State Association, and the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®, as well as the Code of Ethics of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®, including the duty to mediate and arbitrate controversies arising out of real estate transactions as specified by Article 17 of the Code of Ethics, and in accordance with the procedures set forth in the Code of Ethics and Arbitration Manual.

Every REALTOR® member shall maintain a high level of integrity and adhere to the association's membership criteria. Any violent act or threat of violence to person or property, hateful conduct, or acts of moral turpitude impacting the public shall not be tolerated and may be cause for disciplinary action, up to and including termination of membership.

Section 3. The responsibility of the Association and Association members relating to the enforcement of the Code of Ethics, the disciplining of members, the mediation and arbitration of disputes, and the organization and procedures incident thereto, shall be consistent with the cooperative professional standards enforcement agreement entered into by the Association, which by this reference is made a part of these Bylaws.

ARTICLE VIII - USE OF THE TERMS REALTOR® AND REALTORS®

Section 1. Use of the terms REALTOR® and REALTORS® by Members shall, at all times, be subject to the provisions of the Constitution and Bylaws of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® and to the Rules and Regulations prescribed by its Board of Directors. The Association shall have the authority to control, jointly and in full cooperation with the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®, use of the terms within its jurisdiction. Any misuse of the terms by members is a violation of a membership duty and may subject members to disciplinary action by the Board of Directors after a hearing as provided for in the associations' Code of Ethics and Arbitration Manual. (Amended 06/06)

Section 2. REALTOR® Members of the Association shall have the privilege of using the terms REALTOR® and REALTORS® in connection with their places of business within South Carolina or a state contiguous thereto so long as they remain REALTOR® Members in good standing. No other class of Members shall have this privilege.

Section 3. A REALTOR® Member who is a principal of a real estate firm, partnership, or corporation may use the terms REALTOR® and REALTORS® only if all the principals of such firm, partnership, or corporation who are actively engaged in the real estate profession within the state or a state contiguous thereto are REALTOR® Members of the Association or Institute Affiliate Members as described in Section 1(b) of Article IV.

(a) In the case of a REALTOR® member who is a principal of a real estate firm, partnership, or corporation whose business activity is substantially all commercial, the right to use the term REALTOR® or REALTORS® shall be limited to office locations in which a principal, partner, corporate officer, or branch office manager of the firm, partnership, or corporation holds REALTOR® membership. If a firm, partnership, or corporation operates additional places of business in which no principal, partner, corporate officer, or branch office manager holds REALTOR membership, the term REALTOR® or REALTORS® may not be used in any reference to those additional places of business. (Amended 1/01)

Section 4. Institute Affiliate Members shall not use the terms REALTOR® or REALTORS®, nor the imprint of the emblem seal of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®.

ARTICLE IX - STATE AND NATIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Section 1. The Association shall be a Member of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® and the SOUTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®. By reason of the Association's Membership, each REALTOR® Member of the Member Association shall be entitled to membership in the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® and the SOUTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® without further payment of dues. The Association shall continue as a Member of the State and National Associations, unless by a majority vote of all of its REALTOR® Members, a decision is made to withdraw, in which case the State and National Associations shall be notified at least one month in advance of the date designated for the termination of such membership.

Section 2. The Association recognizes the exclusive property rights of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® in the terms REALTOR® and REALTORS®. The Association shall discontinue use of the terms in any form in its name, upon ceasing to be a Member of the National Association, or upon its determination by the Board of Directors of the National Association that it has violated the conditions imposed upon the terms.

Section 3. The Association adopts the Code of Ethics of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® and agrees to enforce the Code among its REALTOR Members. The Association and all of its Members agree to abide by the Constitution, Bylaws, Rules and Regulations, and policies of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION and the SOUTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®.

ARTICLE X - DUES AND ASSESSMENTS

Section 1. Application Fee. The Board of Directors may adopt an application fee for REALTOR® Membership in a reasonable amount, not exceeding three times the amount of the annual dues for REALTOR® Membership, which shall be required to accompany each application for REALTOR® Membership and which shall become the property of the Association upon final approval of the application. This application fee shall also be required to accompany each application for reinstatement of membership except for members who have dropped at year's end and who apply for reinstatement within 12 months. (Amended 1/02)

Section 2. Dues. The annual dues of Members shall be as follows:

(a) **REALTOR® Members:** The annual dues of each Designated REALTOR® Member shall be in such an amount as established annually by the Board of Directors, plus an additional amount to be established by the Board of Directors times the number of real estate salespersons, property managers, and licensed or certified appraisers who (1) are employed by or affiliated as independent contractors, or who are otherwise directly or indirectly licensed with such REALTOR® Member, and (2) are not REALTOR® Members of any Association in the state or a state contiguous thereto or Institute Affiliate Members of the Association. In calculating the dues payable to the Association by a Designated REALTOR® Member, non-member licensees as defined in Section (1) and (2) of this Article shall not be included in the computation of dues if the DR has paid dues on said nonmember licensees in another Association in the state or a state contiguous thereto, provided the Designated REALTOR® notifies the Association in writing of the identity of the Association to which dues have been remitted. In the case of a Designated REALTOR® Member in a firm, partnership, or corporation whose business activity is substantially all commercial, any assessments for non-member licensees shall be limited to licensees affiliated with the Designated REALTOR® (as defined in (1) and (2) of this paragraph) in the office where the Designated REALTOR® holds membership, and any other offices of the firm located within the jurisdiction of this Association. (Amended 1/01)

(1) For the purpose of this Section, a REALTOR® Member of a Member Board shall be held to be any Member who has a place or places of business within the state or a state contiguous thereto and who, as a principal, partner, corporate officer, or branch office manager of a real estate firm, partnership, or corporation, is actively engaged in the real estate profession as defined in Article III, Section 1, of the Constitution of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®. An individual shall be deemed to be licensed with a REALTOR® if the license of the individual is held by the REALTOR®, or by any broker who is licensed with the REALTOR®, or by any entity in which the REALTOR® has a direct or indirect ownership interest and which is engaged in other aspects of the real estate business (except as provided for in Section 2(a) (1) hereof) provided that such licensee is not otherwise included in the computation of dues payable by the principal, partner, or corporate officer or branch office manager of the entity.

A REALTOR® with a direct or indirect ownership interest in an entity engaged exclusively in soliciting and/or referring clients and customers to the REALTOR® for consideration on a substantially exclusive basis shall annually file with the association on a form approved by the association a list of the licensees affiliated with the entity are solely engaged in referring clients and customers and are not engaged in listing, selling, leasing, managing, counseling or appraising real property. The individuals disclosed on such form shall not be deemed to be licensed with the REALTOR® filing the form for purposes of this Section and shall not be included in calculating of the annual dues of the Designated REALTOR®.

The exemption for any licensee included on the certification form shall automatically be revoked upon the individual being engaged in real estate licensed activities (listing, selling, leasing, renting, managing, counseling, or appraising real property) other than referrals, and dues for the current fiscal year shall be payable.

Membership dues shall be prorated for any licensee included on a certification form submitted to the association who during the same calendar year applies for REALTOR® membership in the association. Membership dues shall not be prorated if the licensee held REALTOR® membership during the preceding calendar year. (Amended 11/09)

(b) REALTOR® Members. The annual dues of each REALTOR® Member other than the Designated REALTOR® shall be in such amount as established annually by the Board of Directors.

(c) Institute Affiliate Members. The annual dues of each Institute Affiliate Member shall be in such amount as established in Article II of the Bylaws of the National Association of REALTORS®.

Note: The Institutes, Societies and Councils of the National Association shall be responsible for collecting and remitting dues to the National Association for Institute Affiliate members (\$105.00). The National Association shall credit \$35.00 to the account of a local association for each Institute Affiliate Member whose office address is within the assigned territorial jurisdiction of that association, provided, however, if the office location is also within the territorial jurisdiction of a Commercial Overlay Board (COB), the \$35.00 amount will be credited to the COB, unless the Institute Affiliate Member directs that the dues be distributed to the other board. The National Association shall also credit \$35.00 to the account of state associations for each Institute Affiliate Member whose office address is located with the territorial jurisdiction of the state association. Local and state associations may not establish any additional entrance, initiation fees or dues for the Institute Affiliate members, but may provide service packages to which Institute Affiliate Members may voluntarily subscribe. (Amended 11/2013)

(d) Affiliate Members. The annual dues of each Affiliate Member shall be in such amount as established annually by the Board of Directors.

(e) Public Service Members. The annual dues of each Public Service Member shall be in such amount established annually by the Board of Directors.

(f) Honorary Members. Dues payable, if any, shall be at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

(g) Student Members. Dues payable, if any, shall be at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

Section 3. Dues Payable. Dues for all members shall be payable annually in advance of the first day of January. Dues for new members shall be computed from the first day of the current quarter of application and granting of provisional membership. No refund of the dues paid to the Coastal Carolinas Association of REALTORS® shall be made except for overpayment. In the case of a hardship, special consideration by the Board of Directors may be given for local dues only. (Amended 1/05; 8/17)

Section 4. Notice of Dues, Fee, Fines, Assessments or Other Financial Obligations of Members. All dues, fees, fines, assessments, or other financial obligations to the Association shall be sent to the Association Members, as well as to any delinquent Association Members, in writing, to include email, setting forth the amount owed and due date.

Section 5. Nonpayment of Financial Obligations: If dues, fees, fines or other assessments including amounts owed to the Association are not paid by the due date, an automatic 10% penalty will be assessed and FINAL NOTICE for payment will be sent to each individual and/or Broker/Office. If dues, fees, fines or other assessments are not paid within 15 days of the due date, the Association will terminate the member in the case of delinquent dues, suspend technology services in the case of delinquent MLS fees or other technology services, or inactivate display keys in the case of delinquent key leases. Reinstatement of membership and activation of MLS, Keys and other technology services will require a \$100 re-activation assessment. Second occurrence of re-activation will require a \$200 re-activation fee. Brokers will be assessed the Non-Realtor® dues portion for each non-renewing agent in the office.

However, no action shall be taken to suspend or expel a Member for Nonpayment of disputed amounts until accuracy of the amount owed has been confirmed by the Board of Directors. A former Member who has had his/her Membership terminated for nonpayment of dues, fees, fines or other assessments duly levied in accordance with the provisions of these Bylaws or the provisions of other Rules and Regulations of the Association or any of its services, departments, divisions, or subsidiaries may apply

for reinstatement in the manner prescribed for new applicants for Membership, after making payment in full of all accounts due as of the date of termination. (Amended 06/11)

Section 6. Deposit. All money received by the Association for any purpose shall be deposited to the credit of the Association in a financial institution or institution selected by resolution of the Board of Directors.

Section 7. Expenditures. The Board of Directors shall administer the finances of the Association and shall not exceed \$200,000 without authorization by vote of a majority of all REALTOR® Members in attendance at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

Section 8. Honorary Dues. The dues of REALTOR® Members who are REALTOR® Emeriti (as recognized by the National Association), Past Presidents and past treasurers of the National Association or recipients of the Distinguished Service Award shall be as determined by the Board of Directors. (Amended 11/2013)

NOTE: A Member Association's dues obligation to the National Association is reduced by an amount equal to the amount which the Association is assessed for a REALTOR® Member, times the number of REALTOR® Emeriti (as recognized by the National Association), Past Presidents and past treasurers of the National Association, and recipients of the Distinguished Service Award of the National Association who are REALTOR® Members of the Association. The dues obligation of such individuals to the local Association should be reduced to reflect the reduction in the Association's dues obligation to the National Association. The Association may, at its option, choose to have no dues requirement for such individuals except as may be required to meet the Association's obligation to the State Association with respect to such individuals. Member Associations should determine whether the dues payable by the Association to the State Association are reduced with respect to such individuals. It should be noted that this does not affect a "designated" REALTORS® dues obligation to the Association with respect to those licensees employed by or affiliated with the "designated" REALTOR® who are not Members of the local Association. (Amended 11/2013)

ARTICLE XI - OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

Section 1. Officers. The elected officers of the Association shall be: a President, a President-Elect, a Secretary, and a Treasurer. They shall be elected for a term of one (1) year.

Section 2. 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. It shall be the particular duty of the Secretary or Chief Executive to keep the records of the Association and to carry on all necessary correspondence with the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® and the SOUTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®.

Section 3. Board of Directors. The governing body of the Association shall be a Board of Directors consisting of the elected Officers, the immediate past President of the Association, five (5) At-Large-Members of the Association, one (1) NAR Director (as allocated by NAR), one (1) SCR Region 2 Vice President and one (1) Affiliate representative. At-Large directors and Affiliate representative shall be elected to serve for terms of three (3) years, except that at organization, one-third of the elected Directors and Affiliate shall be elected for terms of one, two, and three years, respectively, or for lesser terms as may be necessary to complete the first fiscal year. NAR Director and SCR Region VP representative will serve one-year renewable terms as voted by Board of Directors. Any Past President of the Association (including Boards or Associations merged into the CCAR) who has also been a Past S.C. State President, will automatically be Ex-Officio Member of the Board of Directors and will remain so as long as membership is active. Therefore, as many Directors shall be elected each year as are required to fill vacancies. (New structure to phase in over 2014 and 2015, not to eliminate any Directors current positions.)

(a) Term Limits. No at-large director shall serve for more than two (2) consecutive three (3)-year terms. (Adopted 2013)

Section 4. Election of Officers and Directors.

(a) At least two (2) months before the annual election, a Nominating Committee of seven (7) REALTOR® Members shall be appointed by the President with the approval of the Board of

Directors. The Nominating Committee shall select one candidate for each office and one candidate for each place to be filled on the Board of directors. The report of the Nominating Committee shall be mailed or where permitted by state law, electronically transmitted to each Member eligible to vote at least three (3) weeks preceding the election. Additional candidates for the offices to be filled may be placed in nomination by petition signed by at least 20% of the REALTOR® members eligible to vote. The petition shall be filed (by close of business via personal delivery) with the Chief Staff Executive at least two (2) weeks before the election. The Chief Staff Executive shall send notice of such additional nominations to all Members eligible to vote before the election.

(b) The election of Officers and Directors shall take place at the annual meeting. Election shall be by voice vote. If petition candidates are on the ballot, then election will be by ballot and all votes shall be cast in person. The ballots shall contain the names of all candidates and the offices for which they are nominated.

(c) The President, with the approval of the Board of Directors, shall appoint an election committee of three (3) REALTOR® Members to conduct the election. In case of a tie vote, the issue shall be determined by lot.

Section 5. Vacancies. In the event, in the opinion of the Board of Directors, the President is incapacitated and unable to perform the duties of President, the President-Elect shall be his successor and will act for the President until such time as the President is fully capable of performing the duties of President. Vacancies among the other officers and the Board of Directors shall be filled by simple majority vote of the Board of Directors until the next election.

Section 6. Removal of Officers. In the event that an Officer or Director is deemed to be incapable of fulfilling the duties of which elected, but will not resign from office voluntarily, the Officer or Director may be removed from office under the following procedures.

(a) A petition requiring the removal of an Officer or Director and signed by not less than one-third of the voting membership or a majority of all Directors shall be filed with the President, or if the President is the subject of the petition, with the next-ranking officer, and shall specifically set forth the reasons the individual is deemed disqualified from further service.

(b) Upon receipt of the petition, and not less than twenty (20) days or more than forty-five (45) days thereafter, a special meeting of the voting membership of the Association shall be held, and the sole business of the meeting shall be to consider the charge against the Officer or Director, and to render a decision on such petition.

(c) The special meeting shall be noticed to all voting Members at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting, and shall be conducted by the President of the Association unless the President's continued service in office is being considered at the meeting. In such case, the next ranking officer will conduct the meeting of the hearing by the Members. Provided a quorum is present, a three-fourths vote of Members present and voting shall be required for removal from office.

Section 7. Chief Staff Executive. There shall be a Chief Staff Executive, appointed by the Board of Directors, who shall be the chief administrative officer of the Board. The Chief Staff Executive shall have the authority to hire, supervise, evaluate and terminate other staff, if any, and shall perform such other duties as prescribed by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE XII - MEETINGS

Section 1. Annual Meeting. The annual meeting of the Association shall be held during August, September or October of each year, the date, place and hour to be designated by the Board of Directors.

Section 2. Meeting of Directors. The Board of Directors shall designate a regular time and place of meetings, no less than 6 times per year. Absence from three (3) regular meetings without an excuse deemed valid by the Board of Directors may be construed as resignation wherefrom. Special meetings of the Board of Directors shall require one (1) week written notice and shall be accompanied by a statement of the purpose of the meeting.

Section 3. Other Meetings. Meetings of the Members may be held at other times as the President or the Board of Directors may determine, or upon the written request of at least ten percent (10%) of the Members eligible to vote.

Section 4. Notice of Meetings. One (1) week written notice shall be given to every member entitled to participate in any special meeting called, and it shall be accompanied by a statement of the purpose of the meeting.

Section 5. Quorum. Membership Meetings, a quorum for the transaction of business shall consist of those members present of the Members eligible to vote. Board of Directors meetings a quorum for the transaction of business shall consist of 2/3 of the Directors eligible to vote.

Section 6. Electronic Transaction of Business. To the fullest extent permitted by law, the Board of Directors or membership may conduct business by electronic means.

Section 7. Chairing of Meetings. In the event the President is unable to attend or chair a meeting of the Association, the President-Elect shall act in his stead at such meetings.

ARTICLE XIII - COMMITTEES

Section 1. Standing Committees. With input from the CEO, the President shall appoint Chair and President Elect shall appoint Vice Chair from among the REALTOR® Members, subject to confirmation by the Board of Directors, the following standing committees or advisory groups: Bylaws, Commercial Investment Division, Finance, Grievance, Legislative, , Nomination, Professional Education, Professional Standards, and REALTOR® Assistance Fund Trust.

Section 2. Special Committees. The President shall appoint, subject to confirmation by the Board of Directors, special ad-hoc committees/task force/work groups/PAG's and/or Multiple Listing Service advisory committees as deemed necessary.

Section 3. Organization. All Committees shall be of such size and shall have duties, functions, and powers as may be assigned by the President or the Board of Directors except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws. Statement of Policy on Committees

Section 4. President. The President shall be an ex-officio member of all standing committees, except the Nominating, Grievance, and Professional Standards Committees, and shall be notified of their meetings.

Section 5. Action without Meeting. Any committee may act by unanimous consent in writing without a meeting. The consent shall be evidenced by one or more written approvals, each of which sets forth the action taken and bears the signature of one or more of the members of the committee. (Adopted 1/05)

Section 6. Attendance by Telephone. Members of a committee may participate in any meeting through the use of a conference telephone or similar communications equipment by means of which all persons participating in the meeting can hear each other. Such participation shall be at the discretion of the president and shall constitute presence at the meeting. (Adopted 1/05)

ARTICLE XIV - FISCAL AND ELECTIVE YEAR

Section 1. The fiscal year of the Association shall be the calendar year.

Section 2. The elective year of the Association shall begin the day following the official closing of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® Annual Meeting and end the last day of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® Annual Meeting.

ARTICLE XV - RULES OF ORDER

Section 1. Robert's Rules of Order. Latest edition, shall be recognized as the authority governing the meetings of the Association, its Board of Directors and Committees, in all instances wherein its provisions do not conflict with these Bylaws.

ARTICLE XVI - AMENDMENTS

Section 1.

(a) These Bylaws may be amended by majority vote of the Members present and qualified to vote at any meeting at which a quorum is present, provided the substance of such proposed amendment or amendments shall be plainly stated in the call for the meeting.

(d) When Bylaws amendments are mandated by NAR policy, these Bylaws may be automatically amended to reflect the mandate as of the effective date of the mandatory policy authorized by the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®. The Board shall provide notice of that change in a regular or special membership communication.

Section 2. Notice of all meetings at which amendments are to be considered shall be emailed to every Member eligible to vote at least one (1) week prior to the meeting.

Section 3. Amendments to these Bylaws affecting the admission or qualification of REALTOR® and Institute Affiliate Members, the use of the terms REALTOR® and REALTORS®, or any alteration in the territorial jurisdiction of the Board shall become effective upon their approval as authorized by the Board of Directors of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®.

ARTICLE XVII - DISSOLUTION

Section 1. Upon the dissolution of this Board, the Board of Directors, after providing for the payment of all obligations, shall distribute any remaining assets to the SOUTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® or, within its discretion, to any other non-profit tax-exempt organization.

Article XVIII – REALTOR® Assistance Fund Trust

Section 1. Authority. The Coastal Carolinas Association of REALTORS® shall maintain the REALTORS® Assistance Fund Trust (RAFT).

Section 2. Purpose. The purpose of this RAFT is to solicit and accept contributions to assist CCAR REALTORS®, REALTOR® affiliates, and their immediate families who have specific financial needs resulting from a health-related issue that normally cannot be met by another source.

Section 3. Governing Body.

(a) The Governing Body of the RAFT shall be composed of a Board of Trustees of seven members appointed by the CCAR President. Input will be in the form of written minutes and motions. The President and Chief Executive Officer of Coastal Carolinas Association of REALTORS® will serve as ex officio members.

(b) The Board of Trustees shall have supervision and control over the affairs of the RAFT and shall establish and carry out all policies and activities of the RAFT. The Board of Trustees shall be empowered to set basic policies with respect to expenditures to be made from the RAFT and to direct disbursements for specific issues. The Board of Trustees shall determine the procedures for distribution of funds for issues that the RAFT shall support and the amount of all expenditures and disbursements by the Board of Trustees within the limits available to them.

(c) The initial Trustees shall be appointed to serve as follows: three for a three-year term, two for a two-year term, and two for a one-year term. Thereafter, Trustees shall serve three-year terms. Trustees may be reappointed; there are no term limits.

(d) Vacancies shall be filled by appointment of the current CCAR president for the appropriate term of the seat that has been vacated.

Section 4. Funding Sources.

(a) Funding sources may include but are not limited to the following: (1) Mark Sloan Memorial Cancer Golf Tournament (with proceeds going to the suggested Mark Sloan sub-fund of RAFT to benefit those impacted by cancer); (2) Direct donations of cash, property, or other assets; (3) Gifts and transfers from general CCAR funds; (4) Interest proceeds from Real Estate, lender, or other escrow funds; (5) Event fundraisers; or any other means as may be approved by the CCAR Board of Directors. The RAFT Board of Trustees may also establish a means of collecting and holding hotel, travel, and credit card reward points for the purpose of using said points to provide housing and travel for approved applicants.

(b) Contributions. All members of the Coastal Carolinas Association of REALTORS® are eligible to contribute to RAFT, and RAFT is authorized to solicit and accept contributions from any member whom contributions may be lawfully solicited and accepted. The RAFT may refuse any contribution, with or without reason, and CCAR will set forth in writing to any requesting contributor that the contribution has not been accepted. The RAFT will take reasonable steps to ensure that contributions designated for a specific purpose will go toward that purpose. However, all distributions are determined at the sole discretion of the Board of Trustees. General guidelines, subject to modification by the Board of Trustees upon confirmation by the CCAR Board of Directors are as set forth in this document.

APPENDIX 1

Membership Policy Statements Approved by the Board of Directors

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®

(The following statements are informational and not part of the Bylaws)

Statements of Membership Policy Related to Implementation of Board of Choice

That, effective upon approval by the Board of Directors, the following statements of membership policy and amendments to the Model Board Bylaws to implement the board of choice proposal be adopted.

1. The primary board of affiliation elected by a REALTOR® must be in the state where the REALTOR® is licensed and maintains his/her principal place of business. Licensees affiliated with a REALTOR® firm may choose as their “primary” board any board in the state where the firm maintains a “Designated” REALTOR®.
2. Membership shall be available in a secondary board on terms and conditions no more stringent than the requirements established in the board’s Bylaws for REALTOR® and (REALTOR– ASSOCIATE® where applicable) membership. The privileges of membership shall be the same including the right to vote and hold office. Membership will be granted to individuals who hold REALTOR® or REALTOR – ASSOCIATE® membership in their primary board without any requirement that the Designated REALTOR® they are licensed or affiliated with hold membership in the secondary board. However, MLS services will only be available if the Designated REALTOR® participates in the MLS. Board dues shall not include a national allocation since NAR dues have been paid through the member’s primary board. A state allocation may only be included if the member’s primary board is located in a different state.
3. REALTORS® shall be entitled to purchase services from boards other than their

primary board without the necessity of holding membership in those boards. Service fees will be determined by the individual boards. However, the board may require that a REALTOR® (principal) be licensed in the state as a condition of MLS participation. (Adopted 2/94; Amended 11/96)

Concerning Board of Choice Across State Lines

That the membership choices currently provided under Board of Choice be expanded across state lines as follows:

Members may join a primary board across contiguous state lines. State association membership would be in the state where primary board membership is held. To become effective July 1, 1996, with optional local board adoption sooner. (Adopted 11/95)

Portability of Membership Records (Files)

In order to facilitate timely processing of applications for membership and to assist associations in determining an applicant's qualifications for REALTOR-or REALTOR-ASSOCIATE- membership, associations shall, based on a request from another association, share information about current or former members. Minimum "core" member information shall include:

1. **Previous applications for membership**

All final findings of Code of Ethics violations and violations of other membership duties within the past three (3) years (when available), pending complaints alleging violations of the Code of Ethics or alleging violations of other membership duties, incomplete or (pending) disciplinary measures, pending arbitration requests (or hearings), unpaid arbitrations awards or unpaid financial obligations to the association or its MLS.

An association may, at its discretion, consider information received from other association when determining whether an applicant satisfies the association's membership requirements as established in the association's bylaws (not to exceed NAR's Membership Qualification Criteria). (Adopted 2/96)

Clarification of the Term "Principal"

The term "principal" as used in the NAR Constitution and Bylaws and in other relevant policies, includes licensed or certified individuals who are sole proprietors, partners in a partnership, officers or majority shareholders of a corporation, or office managers (including branch office managers) acting on behalf of principals of a real estate firm. (Adopted 11/96)

Secondary Membership in a Board/Association

When a member has joined a primary association and paid local, state, and national dues, secondary membership may be held in a local association in another state (provided the applicant meets all of the qualifications for membership) without holding membership in that state association, or alternatively, secondary membership may be held directly in the state association without holding membership in a local association in that state. (Adopted 11/96)

Membership Requirements Related to Multiple Office Locations

When considering an applicant for REALTOR- membership who is a principal in a real estate firm, associations have an obligation to determine that all of the principals of the real estate firm who are actively engaged in the real estate business in the state are either applying for or already hold REALTOR- membership (or Institute Affiliate membership, if applicable) in a board or association. (Adopted 11/96)

If an association (local, state, national) is notified by another association that a REALTOR- member has an office location elsewhere in the state that is not functioning as a "REALTOR- office" (i.e., licensees

affiliated with the office are not members or are not accounted for under the DR dues formula) the association where the REALTOR- holds primary membership shall be responsible, in cooperation with the state and national associations, for ensuring compliance with applicable membership policies (i.e., that said licensees hold membership in the REALTOR-'s primary association – or some other association in the state where the firm maintains a designated REATLOR- presence – or that dues have been paid to an association based on non-member licensees affiliated with the office. (Adopted 11/96)