BYLAWS OF THE STILLWATER BOARD OF REALTORS[®], INCORPORATED

ARTICLE I - NAME

<u>Section 1.</u> Name. The name of this organization shall be the Stillwater Board of REALTORS[®], Incorporated, hereinafter referred to as the "Board."

<u>Section 2.</u> **REALTORS**[®]. Inclusion and retention of the Registered Collective Membership Mark REALTORS[®] in the name of the Board 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 Board 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.

<u>Section 2.</u> 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[®].

<u>Section 3.</u> 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.

<u>Section 5.</u> To unite those engaged in the real estate profession in this community with the Oklahoma 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 membership therein.

<u>Section 6.</u> 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

<u>Section 1.</u> The territorial jurisdiction of the Board as a Member of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS[®] is: All of Payne County west of Highway 108; all of Noble County; and all of Pawnee County not within the jurisdiction of the Metropolitan Tulsa Board of REALTORS[®].

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 Board agrees to protect and safeguard the property rights of the National Association in the terms.

ARTICLE IV - MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. There shall be six classes of members as follows:

(a) **REALTOR[®] Members.** REALTOR[®] Members. REALTOR[®] Members, whether primary or secondary shall be:

(1) Individuals who, as sole proprietors, partners, corporate officers, or branch office managers, 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 Oklahoma 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 1 (b) of Article IV.

(2) 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)

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

(3) Individuals who are engaged in the real estate profession other than as sole proprietors, partners, corporate officers, or branch office managers and are associated with a REALTOR[®] Member and meet the qualifications set out in Article V.

(4) 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 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 organizations name; and the right to hold elective office in the local board, state association and National Association.

(5) 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 principles 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.

(6) 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 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 or branch office manager 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 an 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.

(c) Affiliate Members. Affiliate Members shall be real estate owners and other individuals or firms who, while not engaged in the real estate profession as defined in paragraphs (a) or (b) of this Section, have interests requiring information concerning real estate and are in sympathy with the objectives of the Board. - Affiliate membership shall also be granted to individuals licensed or certified to engage in real estate practice who, if otherwise eligible, do not elect to hold REALTOR® membership in the Board, provided the applicant is engaged exclusively in a specialty of the real estate business other than a brokerage of real property.

(d) 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 Board, or for the public.

(e) 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.

<u>Section 2.</u> Any Member Board which shall neglect or refuse to maintain and enforce the Code of Ethics with respect to the business activities of its members may, after due notice and opportunity for hearing, be expelled by the Board of Directors from

membership in the National Association. Enforcement of the Code of Ethics also requires Member Boards to share with the state real estate licensing authority final decisions in instances where the public trust has been violated. The "public trust", as used in this context, refers to demonstrated misappropriation of client or customer funds or property, willful discrimination, or fraud resulting in substantial economic harm.

ARTICLE V - QUALIFICATION AND ELECTION

Section 1. Application.

(a) An application for 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 of 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 Board, the State and National Associations, and if elected a Member, will abide by the Constitutions and Bylaws and Rules and Regulations of the Board, 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 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 Board, 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 Board by any person in response to the invitation shall be conclusively deemed to be privileged and not form the basis of any action for 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 sole proprietor, partner, corporate officer, or branch office manager of a real estate firm shall supply evidence satisfactory to the Membership Committee that he is actively engaged in the real estate profession and maintains a current, valid real estate broker's or salesperson's license or is 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 (unless a secondary Member), *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 Board, 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 shall agree that if elected to membership, he will abide by such Constitution, Bylaws, Rules and Regulations, and Code of Ethics.

* NO RECORD OF OFFICIAL SANCTIONS INVOLVING UNPROFESSIONAL CONDUCT is intended to mean that the Board may only consider judgments within the past three (3) years of violations of (1) civil rights laws; (2) real estate license laws; (3) or other laws prohibiting unprofessional conduct against the applicant rendered by the courts or other lawful authorities; and (4) findings of violations of the REALTOR[®] Code of Ethics resulting in suspension or expulsion from any Member Board/Association in which applicant is or was a Member.

(b) Individuals who are actively engaged in the real estate profession other than as sole proprietors, partners, corporate officers, or branch office managers, 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 Board or a Designated REALTOR[®] Member of another Board (if a secondary Member) and must maintain a current, valid real estate broker's or salesperson'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 Board, 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, she/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 Board, State Association, and the National Association.

(c) The Board/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 any other 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 any other association or association MLS

6. Any misuse of the term REALTOR[®] or REALTORS[®] in the name of the applicant's firm. (Amended 06/2006)

"Provisional" membership may be granted in instances where ethics complaints or arbitration requests (or hearings) are pending in other associations or where the applicant for membership has unsatisfied discipline pending in another association (except for violations of the Code of Ethics; See Article V, Section 2 (a) NOTE 2) provided all other qualifications for membership have been satisfied. 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 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. If a member resigns from another association with an ethics complaint or arbitration request pending, the association may condition membership on the applicant's certification that he/she will submit to the pending ethics or arbitration proceeding (in accordance with the established procedures of the association to which the applicant has made application) and will abide by the decision of the hearing panel.

(d) The Board/Association will also consider the following in determining an applicant's qualifications for REALTOR[®] membership:

 All final findings of Code of Ethics violations and violations of other membership duties in any other 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 any other association or association MLS

Section 3. Election

The procedure for election to membership shall be as follows.

(a) The chief staff executive (or duly authorized designee) shall determine whether the applicant is applying for the appropriate class of membership. If the association has adopted provisional membership, applicants for REALTOR® membership may 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® and shall be subject to all of the same privileges and obligations of membership. Provisional membership is granted subject to final review of the application by the board of directors.

(b) 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. 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. The board of directors shall vote on the applicant's eligibility for membership. If the applicant receives a majority vote of the board of directors, he/she shall be declared elected to membership and shall be advised by written notice.

(c) The board of directors may not reject an application without providing the applicant with advance notice of the findings, 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 the application should be rejected, it shall record its reasons with the chief Association Executive (or duly authorized designee). If the board of directors believes that denial of membership to the applicant may become the basis of litigation and a claim of damage by the

applicant, it may specify that denial 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 rejection violates no rights of the applicant. (Adopted 1/98, Amended 1/05)

<u>Section 4.</u> New Member Code of Ethics Orientation. Applicants for REALTOR[®] membership and provisional REALTOR[®] members (where applicable) shall complete an orientation program on the Code of Ethics of not less than two hours and thirty minutes of instructional 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 year or less.

Failure to satisfy this requirement within 45 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.

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

Section 5. Continuing Member Code of Ethics Training.

Effective January 1, 2019, through December 31, 2021, 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 ethics training of not less than two (2) hours and thirty minutes (30) 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, the State Association of REALTOR[®], the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS[®], which meets the learning objectives and minimum criteria established by the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS[®] from time to time. REALTOR[®] members who have completed training as a requirement of membership in another association and REALTOR[®] members who have completed the New Member Code of Ethics Orientation during any two-year cycle shall not be required to complete additional ethics training until a new two-year cycle commences.

Failure to satisfy the required periodic ethics 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 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)

Section 6. Status Changes.

(a) A REALTOR[®] who changes the conditions under which she/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 she/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 Board of their change in status, their new membership application will terminate automatically unless otherwise so directed by the Board of Directors.

NOTE: The Board of Directors, at its discretion, may waive any qualification which the applicant has already fulfilled in accordance with the Board'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 in which the Member is notified of election by the Board of Directors 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 specified in this Article.

<u>Section 2.</u> Any Member of the Board may be reprimanded, fined, placed on probation, suspended or expelled by the Board of Directors for a violation of these Bylaws and Board Rules and Regulations not inconsistent with these Bylaws, after a hearing as

provided in the <u>Code of Ethics and Arbitration Manual</u> of the Board. Although Members other than REALTORS[®] are not subject to the Code of Ethics nor its enforcement by the Board, such Members are encouraged to abide by the principles established in the Code of Ethics of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS[®] and to 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 purposes of the local Board, the State Association, and the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS[®].

<u>Section 3.</u> Any REALTOR[®] Member of the Board 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 <u>Code of Ethics and Arbitration Manual</u> of the Board, 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 <u>Code of Ethics and Arbitration Manual</u> of the National Association.

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

<u>Section 5.</u> If a Member resigns from the Board 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 disposition of the complaint is final. In 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 to 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®. (Amended 1/00 and 11/11)

<u>Section 6.</u> REALTOR[®] Members. REALTOR[®] Members, whether primary or secondary, in good standing whose financial obligations to the Board are paid in full shall be entitled to vote and to hold elective office in the Board; may use the terms REALTOR[®] and REALTORS[®], which use shall be subject to the provisions of Article VIII; and have the primary responsibility to safeguard and promote the standards, interests, and welfare of the Board and the real estate profession.

(a) If a REALTOR[®] Member is a sole proprietor in a firm, a partner in a partnership or an officer in a 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, or management control is relinguished, whichever may apply. The membership of all other principals, partners, or corporation 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, or unless the REALTOR[®] who is suspended or expelled removes themself from any form or degree of management control of the firm for the term of the suspension or until readmission to membership, whichever may apply. Removal of an individual from any form or degree of management control must be certified to the Board by the Member who is being suspended or expelled and by the individual who is assuming management control, and the signatures of such certification must be notarized. In the event the suspended or expelled Member is so certified to have relinguished all form or degree of management control of the firm, the membership of other partners, corporate officers, or other individuals affiliated with the firm shall not be affected, and the firm, partnership or corporation may continue to use the terms REALTOR® and REALTORS® in connection with its business during the period of suspension or until the former Member is admitted to membership in the Board. The foregoing is not intended to preclude a suspended or expelled Member from functioning as an employee or independent contractor, providing no management control is exercised. Further, the membership of REALTORS[®] other than principals who are employed or

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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 unless connection of the disciplined Member with the firm, partnership, or corporation is severed, or management control is relinquished, or unless the REALTOR[®] Member (non-principal) elects to sever hers/his connection with the REALTOR[®] and affiliate with another REALTOR[®] Member in good standing in the Board, whichever may apply. **(b)** In any action taken against a REALTOR[®] Member for suspension or expulsion under Section 6(a) hereof, notice of such action shall be given to all REALTOR[®] Member, and they shall be advised that the provisions in Article VI, Section 6(a) shall apply.

<u>Section 7.</u> 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.

<u>Section 8.</u> Honorary Members. Honorary membership shall confer only the right to attend meetings and participate in discussions.

<u>Section 9.</u> Student Members. Student Members shall have rights and privileges and be subject to obligations prescribed by the Board of Directors.

<u>Section 10.</u> Certification by REALTOR[®]. Designated REALTOR[®] Members of the Board shall certify to the Board during the month of January, on a form provided by the Board, a complete listing of all 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 identify the Board to which dues have been remitted. These declarations shall be used for purposes of calculating dues under Article X, Section 3(a) of the Bylaws. Designated REALTOR[®] Members shall also notify the Board 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.

<u>Section 11. Sexual Harassment.</u> Any Member of the Board may be reprimanded, placed on probation, suspended or expelled for sexual harassment of a Board or MLS employee after an investigation in accordance with the established procedures of the Board. The decision of the appropriate disciplinary action to be taken shall be made by the investigatory team comprised of the President, President-Elect and/or Vice President, and one member of the Board of Directors selected by the highest-ranking officer not named in the complaint, upon consultation with counsel for the Board. If the complaint names the President, President-Elect or Vice President, 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. Disciplinary action may include any sanction authorized in the association's Code of Ethics and Arbitration Manual.

Note: Suggested procedures for processing complaints of sexual harassment are available from the National Association's Member Policy Department.

Section 12. 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/or Vice President 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 or Vice President, 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.

NOTE: Suggested procedures for processing complaints of harassment are available online at

http://www.REALTOR.org/mempolweb.nsf/pages/HarassmentProcedure?OpenDocume nt. (Amended 5/08)

ARTICLE VII - PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND ARBITRATION

<u>Section 1.</u> The responsibility of the Board and of Board Members relating to the enforcement of the Code of Ethics, the disciplining of Members, and the arbitration of disputes, and the organization and procedures incident thereto shall be governed by the <u>Code of Ethics and Arbitration Manual</u> of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS[®], as amended from time to time, which by this reference is 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 abide by the Constitution and Bylaws and the rules and regulations of the association, the Constitution and Bylaws of the State Association, the Constitution and Bylaws of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS[®], and to abide by 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 as further defined and in accordance with the procedures set forth in the Code of Ethics and Arbitration Manual of this association, as from time to time amended.

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

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

<u>Section 1.</u> 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 Board 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 association's Code of Ethics and Arbitration Manual. (Amended 06/2006)

<u>Section 2.</u> REALTOR[®] Members of the Board shall have the privilege of using the terms REALTOR[®] and REALTORS[®] in connection with their places of business within the state or a state contiguous thereto so long as they remain REALTOR[®] Members in good standing. No other class of Members shall have this privilege.

<u>Section 3.</u> A REALTOR[®] Member who is a principal of a real estate firm, partnership, or corporation may use the terms REALTOR[®]/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 a Board 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 corporate officer, or branch office manager holds REALTOR[®] membership, the term REALTOR[®] or REALTOR[®] membership and the firm, partner, corporate officer, or branch office manager holds a firm, partnership, the term REALTOR[®] or REALTOR[®] may not be used in any reference to those additional places of business. (Amended 1/01)

<u>Section 4.</u> Institute Affiliate Members shall not use the term REALTOR[®] or REALTORS[®] nor the imprint of the emblem seal of NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS[®].

ARTICLE IX - STATE AND NATIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Section 1. The Board shall be a Member of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS[®] and the Oklahoma Association of REALTORS[®]. By reason of the Board's membership, each REALTOR[®] Member of the Member Board shall be entitled to membership in the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS[®] and the Oklahoma Association of REALTORS[®] without further payment of dues. The Board shall continue as a Member of the State and National Associations, unless by a majority vote of all its REALTOR[®] Members 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.

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

<u>Section 3.</u> The Board adopts the Code of Ethics of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS[®] and agrees to enforce the Code among its REALTOR[®] Members. The Board and all of its members agree to abide by the Constitution, Bylaws, Rules and Regulations, and policies of the National Association and the Oklahoma Association of REALTORS[®].

ARTICLE X DUES AND ASSESSMENTS

<u>Section 1.</u> Application Fee. The Board of Directors may adopt an application fee for REALTOR[®] Membership in reasonable amounts, 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 Board upon final approval of the application.

Section 2. Transfer Fee. A \$25 transfer fee for any existing member transferring from one agency to another will be assessed for administrative cost. The Designated REALTOR[®] of the firm to which the member is transferring shall be responsible for submission of the transfer fee. (Note: This shall not be construed to mean that the Designated REALTOR[®] is required to pay the fee. The intention is that the Designated REALTOR[®] is the responsible party for seeing that payment is made in a timely fashion.) (amended 2/6/2008)

Section 3. 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 amount as established annually by the Board of Directors, plus an additional amount to be established annually by the Board of Directors times the number of real estate salespersons 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 Board in the state or a state contiguous thereto or Institute Affiliate Members of the Board. In calculating the dues payable to the Board by a Designated REALTOR[®] Member, nonmember licensees as defined in Section 2(a) (1) and (2) of this Article shall not be included in the computation of dues if the Designated REALTOR[®] has paid dues based on said nonmember licensees in another Board in the state or a state contiguous thereto, provided the Designated REALTOR[®] notifies the Board in writing of the identity of the Board to which dues have been remitted.

(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 soliciting and/or referring clients or customers to the REALTOR[®] or his firm on a substantially exclusive basis, provided that such licensee is not otherwise included in the computation of dues payable by the principal, partner, or corporate officer of the entity.

(b) The 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 dues of each Institute Affiliate Member shall be in such amount as established annually by the Board of Directors. Dues for Institute Affiliate Members may not exceed two and one-half times the amount established pursuant to Article II, Section 1(a) of the National Association's Bylaws for REALTOR®Members.

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

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

(f) Student Members. The dues of Student Member shall be in such amount as established annually by the Board of Directors.

<u>Section 4.</u> Dues Payable. The initial installment of dues for all Members shall be payable annually in advance on the first day of January. Members shall be notified in writing of any additional installments of dues, with the amount and due date clearly specified. Total dues shall be computed from the first day of the quarter, in which a Member is notified of election and shall be prorated for the remainder of the year.

(a) In the event a sales licensee or licensed or certified appraiser who holds REALTOR[®] membership is dropped for nonpayment of Board dues, and the individual remains with the Designated REALTOR's[®] firm, the dues obligation of the Designated REALTOR[®] (as set forth in Article X, Section 2(a) will be increased to reflect the addition of a non-member licensee. Dues shall be calculated from the first day of the current fiscal year and are payable within 30 days of the notice of termination.

<u>Section 5.</u> Nonpayment of Financial Obligations. If dues, fines, or other assessments, including amounts owed to the Board, are not paid by the end of business on the tenth day after the due date, a ten percent late fee will be added to the amount due. One (1) month after the due date, membership of the nonpaying Member shall automatically terminate unless within that time the amount due is paid. However, no action shall be taken to suspend or expel a Member for nonpayment of disputed amounts until the accuracy of the amount owed has been confirmed by the Board of Directors. A former Member who has had his 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 Board 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.

<u>Section 6.</u> Deposit. All moneys received by the Board for any purpose shall be deposited to the credit of the Board in a financial institution or institutions selected by resolution of the Board of Directors.

Section 7. Expenditures. The Board of Directors shall administer the day-to-day finances of the Board. Capital expenditures in excess of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) over the total cash on deposit may not be made unless authorized by a simple majority of at least 33 1/3% (quorum) of the Board Members eligible to vote (REALTOR[®] Members). The Board of Directors shall make no single expenditure in excess of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) unless approved by a vote of the REALTOR[®] Members. The Board of Directors' approval of the budget hall be deemed approval for the expenditures

therein. It shall be incumbent upon the Board of Directors to promulgate to the general membership the proposed budget at least thirty (30) days before final approval.

<u>Section 8.</u> Notice of Dues, Fees, Fines, Assessments, and Other Financial Obligations of Members. All dues, fees, fines, assessments, or other financial obligations to the Board or Board's Multiple Listing Service shall be noticed to the delinquent Board Member in writing setting forth the amount owed. Such notice shall be considered "due upon receipt" unless otherwise specified.

<u>Section 9.</u> 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 Board'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 Boards 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" REALTOR[®]'s 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

<u>Section 1.</u> Eligibility. Only REALTOR[®] Members shall be elected or appointed to serve as officers or directors.

<u>Section 2.</u> Board of Directors. The governing body of the Board shall be a Board of Directors consisting of the elected officers, the immediate Past-President during the year immediately following his/her term as President, and four (4) REALTOR[®] members of the Board hereinafter referred to as directors.

<u>Section 3.</u> Officers. The elected officers of the Board shall be a President, a Vice President, a Secretary and a Treasurer. The Secretary and Treasurer will be separate offices. All other officers shall be elected for terms of one year by a majority vote of the REALTOR[®] Members present and eligible to vote. (Amended 11/2007)

<u>Section 4.</u> 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. In the absence of paid staff, however, it shall be the particular duty of the Secretary to keep the records of the Board and to carry on all necessary correspondence with the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS[®] and the Oklahoma Association of REALTORS[®].

<u>Section 5.</u> Directors. Directors shall be elected for terms of two years by a majority vote of the REALTOR[®] Members present and eligible to vote.

Section 6. Election of Officers and Directors.

(a) At least two (2) months before the annual election, a Nominating Committee of three (3) 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. No more than two (2) members of the Board of Directors, not including the immediate Past-President, may be affiliated with any one (1) agency at the time of election. The report of the Nominating Committee shall be reviewed by the Board of Directors and, upon their approval, be mailed to each REALTOR[®] Member 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 a least ten percent (10%) of the REALTOR[®] Members eligible to vote. The petition shall be filed with the elected Secretary at least two (2) weeks before the election. The elected Secretary shall send notice (or instruct staff to send notice) of such additional nominations to all REALTOR[®] Members eligible to vote before the election.

(b) Election of Officers and Directors shall take place at the annual meeting. Election shall be by ballot. The ballot shall contain the names of all candidates and the offices for which they are nominated. (c) The President 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.

NOTE: PROXY FORM

The undersigned hereby appoints ______ as agent and proxy of the undersigned, to vote on all matters that may properly come before the SBOR members at its ______ meeting on (date) ______, and any adjournment thereof, with all such rights and powers as the undersigned would possess if personally present.

Date:_____ Signed:_____

Printed name: ______ Proxy assignor must be submitted in person at SBOR office Proxy holder is limited to 3 assignments Proxy must be submitted 5 days prior to election Amended

Section 7. Vacancies. Vacancies among the Officers and the Directors shall be filled by a simple majority vote of the Board of Directors until the next annual election.

<u>Section 8.</u> Removal of Officers and Directors. In the event that an Officer or Director is deemed to be incapable of fulfilling the duties for which elected, but will not resign from office voluntarily, the Officer or Director may be removed from office under the following procedure:

(a) A petition requiring the removal of an Officer or Director and signed by not less than one-third (1/3) of the voting membership (REALTOR[®] Members) or a majority of the Board of 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 to be 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 REALTOR[®] membership

of the Board 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 Board 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 (3/4) vote of the Members present, and voting shall be required for removal from office. (Note: A quorum consists of at least 33 1/3% of the REALTOR[®] Members.)

ARTICLE XII - MEETINGS

<u>Section 1.</u> Annual Meetings. The annual meeting of the Board shall be held not later than November of each year, the date, place and hour to be designated by the Board of Directors.

<u>Section 2.</u> Meetings of Directors. The board of directors shall designate a regular time and place of meetings. Absence from three (3) regular meetings without an excuse deemed valid by the board of directors shall be construed as resignation. A quorum for the transaction of business shall be a majority of the board of directors, except as may otherwise be required by state law. (Amended 05/2013)

<u>Section 3.</u> 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 33 1/3% of the Members eligible to vote (REALTOR[®] Members).

<u>Section 4.</u> Notice of Meetings. Written notice shall be given to every Member entitled to participate in the meeting at least one (1) week preceding all meetings. If a special meeting is called, it shall be accompanied by a statement of the purpose of the meeting.

<u>Section 5.</u> Quorum. A quorum for the transactions of business shall consist of those Members eligible to vote appearing at any duly called regular or special meeting as outlined in Article XII. A simple majority of the voting membership, duly assembled, shall be required for approval (Amended 04/2018).

ARTICLE XIII COMMITTEES

<u>Section 1. Standing Committees.</u> The President shall appoint from among the REALTOR[®] Members, subject to confirmation by the Board of Directors, the following standing committees (amended 9/17):

Professional Standards Legislative/Political Affairs Public Relations Program Education Finance Equal Opportunity in Housing Multiple Listing Advertising, Communication, Technology Building and Grounds Core Standards

*Oklahoma OAR handles all professional standards administration.

<u>Section 2.</u> Special Committees. The President shall appoint, subject to confirmation by the Board of Directors, special committees as deemed necessary.

<u>Section 3.</u> Organization. All committees shall be of such size and shall have duties, functions, and powers as assigned by the President of the Board of Directors except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws.

<u>Section 4.</u> President. The President shall be an ex-officio member of all standing committees and shall be notified of their meetings.

<u>Section 5.</u> Notification of Staff. The Board Executive Vice President (or other office staff as from time to time employed) shall be notified of all meetings for placement on the official Board calendar. Staff shall attend committee meetings when deemed appropriate.

ARTICLE XIV - FISCAL AND ELECTIVE YEAR

Section 1. The fiscal and elective year of the Board shall be January 1 to December 31.

ARTICLES XV - RULES OF ORDER

<u>Section 1.</u> Robert's Rules of Order, latest edition, shall be recognized as the authority governing the meetings of the Board, its Board of Directors, and committees, in all instances wherein its provisions do not conflict with these Bylaws.

ARTICLE XVI AMENDMENTS

<u>Section 1.</u> These Bylaws may be amended by the majority vote of the REALTOR[®] 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, except that the Board of Directors may, at any regular or special meeting of the Board of Directors at which a quorum is present, approve amendments to the Bylaws which are mandated by NAR policy.

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

<u>Section 3.</u> 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

<u>Section 1.</u> Upon the dissolution or winding up of affairs of this Board, the Board of Directors, after providing for the payment of all obligations, shall distribute any remaining assets to the Oklahoma Association of REALTORS[®] or, within its discretion, to any other non-profit tax exempt organization.

ARTICLE XVIII MULTIPLE LISTING

<u>Section 1.</u> Authority. The Board of REALTORS[®] shall maintain for the use of its Members a Multiple Listing Service which shall be subject to the Bylaws of the Board of REALTORS[®] and such Rules and Regulations as may be hereinafter adopted. (See STILLWATER BOARD OF REALTORS[®] MULTIPLE LISTING SERVICE RULES AND REGULATIONS, a separate governing document.)

Section 2. Purpose. A Multiple Listing Service is a means for the orderly correlation and dissemination of listing information so authorized Participants may better serve their clients and customers and the public. Authorized Participants (acting as subagents, buyers agents, or in other agency or nonagency capacities defined by law.) by which cooperation among participants is enhanced; by which information is accumulated and disseminated to enable authorized Participants to prepare appraisals, analysis, and other valuations or real property for bona fide clients and customers; by which Participants engaging in real estate appraisal contribute to common databases; and is a facility for the orderly correlation and dissemination of listing information so Participants may better serve their clients and the public. (Amended 11/24)

Section 3. Participation. Any REALTOR[®] of this or any other Board who is a principal, partner, corporate officer, or branch office manager acting on behalf of a principal, without further qualification, except as otherwise stipulated in these bylaws, shall be eligible to participate in Multiple Listing upon agreeing in writing to conform to the rules and regulations thereof and to pay the costs incidental thereto.* However, under no circumstances is any individual or firm, regardless of membership status, entitled to Multiple Listing Service "membership" or "participation" unless they hold a current, valid real estate broker's license.** Use of information developed by or published by a Board Multiple Listing Service is strictly limited to the activities authorized under a Participant's licensure(s) or certification and unauthorized uses are prohibited. Further, none of the foregoing is intended to convey "participation" or "membership" or any right of access to information developed by or published by a Board Multiple Listing Service by or published by a Board Multiple to convey "participation" or "membership" or any right of access to information developed by or published by a Board Multiple Listing Service where access to such information is prohibited by law. (Amended 11/08)

Mere possession of a broker's license is not sufficient to qualify for MLS participation. "Actively" means on a continual and ongoing basis during the operation of the participant's real estate business. The "actively" requirement is not intended to preclude MLS participation by a participant or potential participant that operates a real estate business on a part-time, seasonal, or similarly time-limited basis or that has its business interrupted by periods of relative inactivity occasioned by market conditions. Similarly, the requirement is not intended to deny MLS participation to a participant or potential participant who has not achieved a minimum number of transactions despite good faith efforts. Nor is it intended to permit an MLS to deny participation based on the level of service provided by the participant or potential participant as long as the level of service satisfies state law. (Adopted 11/08) (Amended 11/24)

The key is that the Participant or potential Participant cooperates with respect to properties of the type that are listed on the MLS in which participation is sought. Cooperation is the obligation to share information on listed property and to make property available to other brokers for showing to prospective purchasers and tenants when it is in the best interests of their client(s). This requirement does not permit an MLS to deny participation to a Participant or potential Participant that operates a "Virtual Office Website" (VOW) (including a VOW that the Participant uses to refer customers to other Participants) if the Participant or potential Participant actively endeavors to cooperate. An MLS may evaluate whether a Participant or potential Participant actively endeavors to

endeavors during the operation of its real estate business to cooperate only if the MLS has a reasonable basis to believe that the Participant or potential Participant is in fact not doing so. The membership requirement shall be applied in a nondiscriminatory manner to all Participants and potential Participants. (Amended 11/24)

<u>Section 4.</u> Supervision. The activity shall be operated under the supervision of the Multiple Listing Service Committee and AE, in accordance with the Rules & Regulations, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors. (Amended 2006)

Section 5. Appointment of Committee. The President shall appoint, subject to the confirmation of the Board of Directors, a Multiple Listing Service Committee to include all MLS participants who indicate their willingness to serve within the current calendar year by opting in within two weeks of receipt of notice given by the President. The President shall appoint, subject to the Board of Directors, up to five (5) non-participant REALTOR[®] Members. Other appointees to the Committee that are not MLS Participants shall serve one-year terms. The President shall designate the Chairman of the Committee, or the President may instruct the Committee to elect its Chairman from among the Participant Members of the Committee.

<u>Section 6.</u> Vacancies. Vacancies in unexpired terms shall be filled as in the case of original appointees.

<u>Section 7.</u> Attendance. Any Committee Member who fails to attend two regular or special meetings of the Committee, without excuse acceptable to the Chairman of the Committee, shall be deemed to have resigned from the Committee, and the vacancy shall be filled as herein provided for original appointees. (Amended 4/2011)

<u>Section 9.</u> Subscribers. Subscribers (or users) of the MLS include non-principal brokers, sales associates, and licensed and certified appraisers affiliated with Participants.