## State Real Estate Commission January 13, 2021

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#### COMMISSION MEMBERS:

7 Joseph J. McGettigan, Chair, Industry Member Armand N. Ferrara Jr., Vice Chair, Industry Member 9 Joseph Tarantino, Secretary Industry Member 10 Jeffrey J. Johnson, Industry Member 11 Jennifer Thomson, Esquire, Attorney General Designee 12 Edward L. Seebeck, Cemetery Member 13 Gaetano P. Piccirilli, Esquire, Public Member 14 Anne M. Rubin, Industry Member 15 K. Kalonji Johnson, Commissioner, Bureau of

Professional and Occupational Affairs

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### COMMISSION PERSONNEL:

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Juan A. Ruiz, Esquire, Commission Counsel Timothy A. Fritsch, Esquire, Commission Prosecution Liaison

Ray Michalowski, Esquire, Senior Commission Prosecutor Angela B. Lucci, Esquire, Commission Prosecutor Alice Glasser, Esquire, Commission Prosecutor Todd P. Kriner, Esquire, Commission Prosecutor

Carolyn DeLaurentis, Deputy Chief Counsel, Prosecution Division

Tiffany A. Raker, Esquire, Commission Prosecutor
Krista Linsenbach, Commission Administrator
Theodore Stauffer, Executive Secretary, Bureau of
Professional and Occupational Affairs
Marc Farrell, Deputy Policy Director, Department of
State

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#### ALSO PRESENT:

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Christopher G. Raad, President, Pennsylvania
Association of Realtors

Page Baragaliak Education Director Boolton

Dawn Parasolick, Education Director, Realtors Association of Metropolitan Pittsburgh/Realtors Educational Institute

Jen Smeltz, Republican Executive Director, Senate Consumer Protection & Professional Licensure Committee

Jerry J. Livingston, Democratic Executive Director, Senate Consumer Protection & Professional Licensure Committee

# State Real Estate Commission January 13, 2021

ALSO PRESENT: (cont.)

Lauren McMillan, Compliance Administrator, The CE Shop Lisa Aaron, Professional Standards and Education Director, Pennsylvania Association of Realtors Michael McGee, CAE, Chief Executive Officer, Pennsylvania Association of Realtors Nicole Sidle, Majority Committee Executive Director, House Professional Licensure Committee

Preston Moore, Treasurer, Pennsylvania Association of Realtors

Shannon Snell, Research Analyst, Democratic House Professional Licensure Committee

Wayne C. Crawford, Esquire, Public Policy Manager, Pennsylvania Association of Realtors

4 \* \* \* 1 2 State Real Estate Commission January 13, 2021 3 \* \* \* 4 5 [Pursuant to Section 708(a)(5) of the Sunshine Act, at 9:00 a.m. the Commission entered into Executive 6 Session with Juan A. Ruiz, Esquire, Commission Counsel, for the purpose of conducting quasi-judicial 8 deliberations on matters currently pending before the 10 commission that are listed on the agenda. 11 commission returned to open session at 10:30 a.m.] \* \* \* 12 13 The regularly scheduled meeting of the State Real 14 Estate Commission was held on Wednesday, January 13, 15 2021. Joseph J. McGettigan, Chairman, Industry Member, officially called the meeting to order at 16 17 10:32 a.m. \* \* \* 18 19 [Theodore Stauffer, Executive Secretary, Bureau of 20 Professional and Occupational Affairs, noted the meeting was being recorded, and those who remained on 21 22 the line were giving their consent to being recorded.] 2.3 2.4 Roll Call 25 [Roll Call of Commission Members]

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   Pledge of Allegiance]
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   [Chairman McGettigan recited the Pledge of
4
   Allegiance.
                               * * *
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   [Chairman McGettigan thanked Anne Rubin for all of her
   work on the Rules and Regulations Committee.]
8
   Approval of minutes of the November 17, 2020 meeting
10
   CHAIR MCGETTIGAN:
11
                  Could I have a motion to approve the
12
                  draft minutes from the November 17
13
                  meeting?
14
   MR. TARANTINO:
15
                  So moved.
16
   MR. JOHNSON:
17
                  Second.
   CHAIR MCGETTIGAN:
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19
                  Discussion? All in favor, say aye.
20
   [The motion carried unanimously.]
                               * * *
21
22
   Report of Prosecutorial Division
23
   [Alice Glasser, Esquire, Commission Prosecutor,
24
   presented the Consent Agreement for Case No. 20-56-
25
   007286.1
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6 \* \* \* 1 2 [Angela B. Lucci, Esquire, Commission Prosecutor, 3 presented the Consent Agreement for Case Nos. 19-56-001359 & 20-56-008739.1 4 \* \* \* 5 6 [Timothy A. Fritsch, Esquire, Commission Prosecution Liaison, presented the Consent Agreement for Case Nos. 19-56-011911 & 20-56-003027.1 9 10 [Timothy A. Fritsch, Esquire, Commission Prosecution 11 Liaison, presented the Consent Agreement for Case Nos. 17-56-08837 & 19-56-010521, for which Ms. Rubin is 12 13 recused. \* \* \* 14 15 Appointment - Carolyn A. DeLaurentis, Esquire, Deputy 16 Chief Counsel, Prosecution Division Presentation 17 [Carolyn A. DeLaurentis, Esquire, Deputy Chief 18 Counsel, Prosecution Division, provided highlights of the prosecution division's work during the past year. 19 20 She commended staff for all of their hard work to make telework successful. She noted all decisions were 21 22 made thoughtfully and with the safety of all in mind. 23 Ms. DeLaurentis stated the Commission prosecutors

Ms. DeLaurentis stated the Commission prosecutors made every effort to monitor the restrictions, waivers, policies, and new procedures specific to the

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practice in each profession regarding challenges imposed on licensees by the COVID-19 pandemic.

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Ms. DeLaurentis noted the Pennsylvania Licensing System (PALS) to be a lifeline. She stated the Bureau of Enforcement and Investigation (BEI) worked closely with prosecution to continue investigations and figure out the best methods during statewide shutdowns and stay-at-home orders. She also noted the Professional Compliance Office continued opening cases and processing files, and legal assistants have been working a hybrid schedule to ensure mailings and filings are completed.

Ms. DeLaurentis commented that the Commission,
Commission staff, and counsel all have adapted to
virtual Commission meetings and prosecution will
continue to work with everyone to ensure efficient and
effective presentation and resolution of cases. She
mentioned 2020 was a year filled with challenges, but
the prosecution division led by the incredible senior
staff rose to the challenge and will continue to do
so.

Ms. DeLaurentis informed the Commission that 1,337 files were opened in 2020 and 1,147 in 2019 with 1,290 cases closed in 2020 for the State Real Estate Commission. She noted 1,122 open files as of January

1 | 1, 2021. She thanked Timothy Smith for his assistance 2 | providing information for 2020.

Ms. DeLaurentis addressed enforcement actions with 125 total cases that resulted in discipline in 2020. She reported 310 warning letters, 49 fines, 23 citation fines, 20 suspensions 6 automatic suspensions, 5 reprimands, 9 voluntary surrenders, and 19 probations in 2020.

Chairman McGettigan mentioned hearing from consumers and other licensees who filed complaints but do not receive anything regarding the status or whether any action was taken.

Ms. DeLaurentis explained that complainants are notified every time a final action is taken on a case unless they requested to remain anonymous.

Ms. DeLaurentis discussed 2020 overall prosecution as a whole. She noted 44 immediate temporary suspensions last year and 67 in 2019. She mentioned 192 of the 1,223 opened COVID-19 cases are for the State Real Estate Commission in 2020. She reported the total number of open cases as of January 1 is 12,250 and the total number of files opened overall in 2020 is 13,394, which is down from 2019 at 16,295.]

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   Report of Commission Counsel
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   MR. RUIZ:
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                  Is there a motion to approve the Consent
                  Agreement at Case No. 20-56-007286?
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   MR. JOHNSON:
                  I'll make that motion.
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7
   CHAIR MCGETTIGAN:
                  We have a motion. Do we have a second?
9
   MR. FERRARA:
10
                  Second.
11
   CHAIR MCGETTIGAN:
                  All in favor?
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   [The motion carried unanimously. The Respondent's
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14
   name is Sherri Heller.]
                               * * *
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16
   MR. RUIZ:
17
                  Is there a motion to deny the Consent
                  Agreements at Case Nos. 19-56-001359 &
18
19
                  20-56-008739 for being too lenient?
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   MR. FERRARA:
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                  So moved.
22
   MR. JOHNSON:
23
                  Second.
2.4
   CHAIR MCGETTIGAN:
25
                  All in favor?
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1
   [The motion carried unanimously.]
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3
   MR. RUIZ:
4
                  Is there a motion to deny the Consent
5
                  Agreements at Case No. 19-56-011911 &
6
                  20-56-003027 as being too lenient?
7
   MR. SEEBECK:
                  So moved.
9
   CHAIR MCGETTIGAN:
10
                  Do we have a second?
11
   MR. JOHNSON:
12
                  Second.
13
   CHAIR MCGETTIGAN:
14
                  Discussion? All in favor?
15
   [The motion carried unanimously.]
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   MR. RUIZ:
18
                  Is there a motion to approve the Consent
19
                  Agreement at Case No. 17-56-08837 & 19-
20
                  56-010521, noting for the record that
21
                  Anne Rubin has been recused from all
                  deliberations on this matter?
22
2.3
   MR. FERRARA:
24
                  So moved.
25
   MR. JOHNSON:
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11 Second. 1 2 CHAIR MCGETTIGAN: 3 Discussion? All in favor? Against? 4 [The motion carried. Anne Rubin was recused from 5 deliberations and voting on the motion. 6 Respondent's name is Susan C. Helm.] \* \* \* 7 8 Report of Commission Counsel - Proposed Adjudications and Orders 10 MR. RUIZ: 11 David Michael Fink at Case No. 17-56-12 04719 has been tabled and will be put on 1.3 the agenda for next month for 14 discussion. \* \* \* 15 16 MR. RUIZ: 17 Is there a motion to order commission counsel to draft final Adjudications and 18 19 Orders in the cases of Robin A. Fiester 2.0 at Case No. 20-56-010552 and Clarence 2.1 Church III at Case No. 19-56-016119 consistent with the discussions in 2.2 2.3 executive session? 2.4 MS. RUBIN: 25 So moved.

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1
   CHAIR MCGETTIGAN:
2
                  Do I have a second?
3
   MR. JOHNSON:
 4
                  Second.
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   CHAIR MCGETTIGAN:
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                  Any discussion? All in favor? Against?
   [The motion carried unanimously.]
   Report of Commission Counsel - Motions
10
   MR. RUIZ:
11
                  Is there a motion to grant the Motion to
12
                  Enter Default in the case of Jeanette
13
                  Beverly Wakefield at Case No. 19-56-
14
                  009470, noting that Gaetano Piccirilli
                  is recused from all deliberations in
15
16
                  this matter?
   CHAIR MCGETTIGAN:
17
                  Do I have a motion?
18
19
   MR. JOHNSON:
20
                  So moved.
21
   MR. FERRARA:
22
                  Second.
2.3
   CHAIR MCGETTIGAN:
24
                  Any discussion? All in favor? Against?
25
   [The motion carried. Gaetano Piccirilli was recused
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13
   from deliberations and voting on the motion.]
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2
3
   MR. RUIZ:
 4
                  Is there a motion to grant the Motion to
5
                  Enter Default in the cases of Richard M.
 6
                  Sauders Jr. at Case No. 20-56-005282 and
                  Richard A. Mueller and the Condominium
                  Property Management Corporation at Case
9
                  No. 19-56-005030 & 20-56-009646?
10
   MR. SEEBECK:
11
                  So moved.
12
   MS. RUBIN:
                  Second.
13
   CHAIR MCGETTIGAN:
14
                  Discussion? All in favor? Against?
15
   [The motion carried unanimously.]
16
                               * * *
17
   MR. RUIZ:
18
19
                  Is there a motion to grant the Motion to
2.0
                  Enter Default in the case of Dean Marsh
2.1
                  t/d/b/a Marsh & Associates at Case No.
2.2
                  19-56-011833, noting for the record that
2.3
                  Armand Ferrara is recused from all
24
                  deliberations on this matter?
25
   CHAIR MCGETTIGAN:
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14 Do I have a motion? 1 2 MS. RUBIN: 3 So moved. 4 MR. TARANTINO: 5 Second. 6 CHAIR MCGETTIGAN: Discussion? All in favor? Against? [The motion carried. Armand Ferrara was recused from all deliberations and voting on the motion.] 10 11 Report of Commission Chair - No Report \* \* \* 12 13 Report of Commissioner - No Report 14 [K. Kalonji Johnson, Commissioner, Bureau of 15 Professional and Occupational Affairs, wished everyone 16 a Happy New Year.] 17 Report of Commission Administrator 18 19 [Krista Linsenbach, Commission Administrator, 20 announced the promotional property renewals wrapped up 21 on December 31. 2.2 Ms. Linsenbach reported individuals and companies 23 can now go to their account on the Pennsylvania 24 Licensing System (PALS) and file an online 25 reactivation application. She also noted the

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   availability of online change of employer applications
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   as well for salespeople and associate brokers.
        Ms. Linsenbach announced PSI Services LLC rolled
3
   out their online exams on December 15.]
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                              * * *
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   Report of Committees - Education/Examination
   MR. RUBIN:
                  We reviewed many CE courses on the
9
                  agenda items.
10
                       Could I get a motion to approve
11
                  Nos. 14, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, and 21?
12
   MR. JOHNSON:
                  So moved.
13
14
   MR. PICCIRILLI:
15
                  Second.
16
   MS. RUBIN:
17
                  Any discussion or questions about any of
18
                  these? All in favor? Opposed?
19
   [The motion carried unanimously.]
                              * * *
20
21
   MR. RUBIN:
                  Item No. 15, Building Extraordinary
22
2.3
                  Customer Service. The committee is
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                  recommending we do not approve this
25
                  course. I am asking for a motion.
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1
   MR. TARANTINO:
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                  So moved.
3
   MR. JOHNSON:
 4
                  Second.
5
   CHAIR MCGETTIGAN:
6
                  Any discussion? All in favor? Against?
   [The motion carried unanimously.]
                               * * *
9
   MR. RUBIN:
10
                  I'd like to make a motion for items 22
11
                  and 23, that we request a waiver for the
                  broker exam at 22 and sales education at
12
13
                  23, to approve both.
   MR. SEEBECK:
14
15
                  Second.
16
   CHAIR MCGETTIGAN:
17
                  All in favor? Against?
18
   [The motion carried unanimously.]
                               * * *
19
20
   Enforcement (Application Reviews)
   MR. TARANTINO:
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22
                  I'd like to make a motion that we
23
                  approve the Application of Jemirah
24
                  Thompson and put her license on
25
                  probation until all her fines are paid.
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17 MR. FERRARA: 1 2 Second. 3 CHAIR MCGETTIGAN: 4 All in favor? Against? 5 [The motion carried unanimously.] \* \* \* 6 Introduction of Guests [Chairman McGettigan requested the introduction of quests.] 10 11 Public Session 12 [Christopher G. Raad, President, Pennsylvania Association of Realtors, stated PAR supports the 13 14 commission in continuing to allow real estate and 15 broker license candidates who have obtained degrees in 16 real estate or law to be deemed to have met the 17 educational requirements needed for their license. Не 18 noted PAR recommended making no changes to the 19 existing regulatory language. 2.0 Mr. Raad addressed social media activity regarding licensees and illegal activities, where 21 22 individuals are requesting PAR revoke licenses, which 23 is not within the purview of PAR. He stated PAR will 24 be directing callers who wish to file complaints about 25 agents' alleged activities to the bureau.

Mr. Raad encouraged the commission to keep an open communication with PAR and requested PAR be kept apprised of any efforts to update the state's real estate regulations to ensure they work together for the needs of the state's licensed professionals and the changing industry while protecting consumers.

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Mr. Raad addressed continued frustration with the lack of response from the bureau's office. He stated PAR continues to receive calls from angry members concerning PALS who have waited months after completing applications. He reported staff waiting weeks for a response from the bureau, and the sheer number of calls and emails from members signals they are not seeing sufficient responses to licensing issues. He encouraged the commission and bureau to address the issues to better help all real estate professionals and consumers.

Chairman McGettigan mentioned being aware of cases that were not due to PALS that diminishes the ability to process things. He urged PAR to ask some of their members to send the paperwork or a copy to PAR to see whether it is valid or not.

Ms. Rubin congratulated Mr. Raad on the presidency and welcomed the partnership with PAR.

Dawn Parasolick, Education Director, Realtors

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1 | Association of Metropolitan Pittsburgh/Realtors

- 2 Educational Institute, stated the board of appraisers
- 3 has allowed virtual education through the end of 2021
- 4 to be considered equal for qualifying education and
- 5 | continuing education for live instructor-led courses.
- 6 | She requested the commission consider allowing people
- 7 to be separated by distance and still consider it a
- 8 live instructor-led course.
- 9 Ms. Rubin noted the education committee discussed
- 10 and recognized this as an important way of education,
- 11 and the commission is working on what needs to happen
- 12 in order to let that stay in place during the
- 13 pandemic.]
- 14
- 15 Adjournment
- 16 CHAIR MCGETTIGAN:
- Motion to adjourn?
- 18 MR. JOHNSON:
- 19 I'll make that motion.
- 20 CHAIR MCGETTIGAN:
- 21 Second?
- 22 MR. SEEBECK:
- 23 Second.
- 24 CHAIR MCGETTIGAN:
- 25 All in favor?

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   [The motion carried unanimously.]
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   [There being no further business, the State Real
   Estate Commission Meeting adjourned at 11:22 a.m.]
                               * * *
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6
                          CERTIFICATE
8
        I hereby certify that the foregoing summary
10
   minutes of the State Real Estate Commission meeting,
11
   was reduced to writing by me or under my supervision,
12
   and that the minutes accurately summarize the
13
   substance of the State Real Estate Commission meeting.
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18
                               Minute Clerk
19
                               Sargent's Court Reporting
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                                  Service, Inc.
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1 2		STATE REAL ESTATE COMMISSION REFERENCE INDEX	
23456789011234567890123456789012333333333333333333333333333333333333		January 13, 2021	
	TIME	AGENDA	
	9:00 10:30	Executive Session Return to Open Session	
	10:32	Official Call to Order	
	10:32	Roll Call	
	10:33	Pledge of Allegiance	
	10:34	Approval of Minutes	
	10:35	Report of Prosecutorial Division	
	10:45	Appointment - Carolyn A. DeLaurentis, Esquire, Deputy Chief Counsel, Prosecution Division Presentation	
	10:57	Report of Commission Counsel	
	11:04	Report of Commission Chair	
	11:05	Report of Commission Administrator	
	11:07	Report of Committees	
	11:09	Introduction of Guests	
	11:10	Public Session	
38 39	11:22	Adjournment	
40 41 42			
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