# AAR Risk Management Committee 2013 Business Plan

FROM: Risk Management Committee (RMC)

Chairman: Armando Contla

Vice Chairman: Tahona Epperson

RMC Liaison: Scott Drucker

DATE: October 15, 2013

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## **CURRENT TOP PRIORITIES**

Scheduled RMC Meetings: November 6th

- Continue Grievance Committee and Professional Standards support
  - o Maintain and enhance Ethics hearing and Arbitration hearing process
  - o Professional Standards Newsletter
- Enhance dispute resolution services
  - o Administer the Buyer/Seller Dispute Resolution System (DRS) and Mediation program.
  - o Mediator/Ombudsmen Training October 24, 2013
- Forms
  - o 2008 Residential Lease Agreement revision
  - o Buyer Contingency Addendum revision
  - o Purchase Contract for New Home w/ Lot revision
  - o Residential SPDS revision
  - o Assumption Carryback Addendum revision
- Legal Hotline Support
  - o Continue promotion efforts
- Regulatory Issues
  - o Continue to work with ADRE
  - o NEW Regulatory Agency Workgroup
  - o NEW Hotline Workgroup
- Risk management education and information
  - o AZR articles
  - o Broker/Manager Risk Management Update

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

No recommendations at this time.

## **GROUPS FORMED**

- Grievance Committee
- Professional Standards Committee
- Professional Standards Policy & Training workgroup
- Landlord/Tenant Advisory workgroup
- Property Management Ancillary forms workgroup
- Purchase Contract for New Home w/ Lot revision workgroup
- Buyer Contingency Addendum revision workgroup

- Residential SPDS revision workgroup
- Assumption Carryback form revision
- Regulatory Agency workgroup
- Hotline Workgroup

The following are programs, products, services and activities (PPSA's) with Risk Management Committee oversight.

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# **PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS**

<u>Professional Standards Administration</u> is the processing of ethics complaints and arbitration requests. This program involves:

- Grievance Committee (GVC): Process complaints/monthly meetings
- Professional Standards Committee (PSC): Schedule and staff hearings
- Professional Standards Policy and Training Workgroup: Reviews policies and implements training

#### Measurable Goals:

Measurable objectives	Status
GVC: Prompt review of complaints	<ul> <li>2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Filings</li> <li>Ethics = 24 (11 Forwarded)</li> <li>Arbitrations = 4 (1 Forwarded)</li> </ul>
PSC: Complete ethics cases promptly	<ul> <li>2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Ethics</li> <li>Filed= 24</li> <li>Held = 8</li> </ul>
PSC: Complete arbitrations promptly	<ul> <li>2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Arbitrations</li> <li>Filed = 4</li> <li>Held = 1</li> </ul>
Update PS policy adaptations as necessary	<ul> <li>PS Training &amp; Policy workgroup recommendations presented and approved at August 7 meeting.</li> </ul>

<u>Mediation Program</u> This program involves facilitating mediations to resolve ethics complaints and arbitration requests.

Measurable objectives	Status
Facilitate mediation requests on a timely basis	<ul> <li>2nd Quarter Mediation</li> <li>Filed = 11</li> <li>Held = 7</li> <li>Successful = 6</li> </ul>
Receive positive feedback from mediation evaluations	On-going
Maintain list of qualified mediators	• 20 mediators for 2013
Update mediation policies and procedures as necessary	•

<u>Ombudsman Program</u> This program involves taking complaint calls/emails and facilitating Ombudsman contact to attempt resolution.

Measurable Goals: (to come from Tammy)

Measurable objectives	Status
Facilitate ombudsman requests on a timely basis	<ul> <li>2nd Quarter Ombudsmen requests</li> <li>Filed = 6</li> <li>In process = 0</li> <li>Successful = 5</li> </ul>
Receive positive feedback from ombudsman evaluations	On-going
Maintain list of qualified ombudsmen	• 24 Ombudsmen for 2013
Update PS policy adaptations as necessary	Meeting held on January 9 <sup>th</sup> to draft Ombudsmen call policies

# Professional Standards, Mediation, and Ombudsman Education and Training

This program includes training for members of Grievance and Professional Standards Committees and AAR Mediators and Ombudsmen.

#### Measurable Goals:

Measurable objectives	Status
Offer PS Training for GVC and PS  Committee	PS Workshop held on  Western Language 22rd
Committee	Wednesday, January 23 <sup>rd</sup>
Offer Mediator training	• To be held October 24th
Offer Ombudsman training	<ul> <li>To be held October 24<sup>th</sup></li> </ul>
Offer hearing panel chair training	<ul> <li>To be held November 14<sup>th</sup></li> </ul>
Publish PS, Mediation and Ombudsman	<ul> <li>Newsletter sent September</li> </ul>
information	<b>2013</b>
PS outreach to members	On-going

<u>Dispute Resolution System (DRS)</u> This program provides alternative dispute resolution options (mediation or arbitration) for buyers and sellers to resolve disputes or claims arising out of the AAR purchase contract.

Measurable Goals: (to come from Tammy)

Measurable objectives	Status
Offer an effective DRS program	On-going
Recruit effective DRS providers	<ul> <li>23 Mediators currently</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Ensure compliance of DRS providers with program's directives</li> </ul>	On-going
Receive positive feedback from DRS evaluations	On-going

# **RISK MANAGEMENT**

# Forms Development This program involves:

**Drafting** - Draft new forms as needed and revise current forms **Education** - Forms information updates on website, emails and other communication vehicles.

## Measurable Goals:

Measurable objectives	Status
Workgroups formed as necessary	<ul> <li>Landlord/Tenant Advisory         workgroup</li> <li>Property Management Ancillary         forms workgroup</li> <li>Buyer Contingency Addendum         revision workgroup</li> <li>Assumption Carryback workgroup</li> <li>SPDS workgroup</li> <li>Purchase Contract for New Home         with Lot revision workgroup</li> </ul>
Forms drafted or revised for introduction in     February as necessary	Motions for ExCom approval     01/18/13     New Buyer Pre-closing     Walkthrough form.     Revised Application for Occupancy     Revised Vacant Land/Lot Purchase     Contract     Revised Vacant Land/Lot BINSR     Revised Loan Status Updated     Revised Pre-qualification form
Forms are drafted or revised for introduction in <b>August</b> as necessary	<ul> <li>Motions for ExCom approval 06/14/13:         New Property Management Notices:</li> <li>Notice to Tenant of Management Termination</li> <li>Statement of Disposition of Deposits and Accounting</li> <li>Notice of 2 Day Access</li> <li>Notice of Abandonment</li> <li>Notice of Nonrenewal of Lease Agreement</li> </ul>
Deliver timely forms information/education	<ul> <li>Articles posted on AARonline.com, AAR Blog and AZR magazine</li> <li>Update to Lease Owner Advisory 09/13/13</li> </ul>

<u>Legal Hotline</u> This program allows designated brokers/managers to call in to the Hotline attorneys for answers to real estate-related legal questions, and includes:

- Program maintenance and monitoring
- Review of letters of opinion/articles for publication

Measurable objectives	Status
Promote Hotline usage	On-going
Hotline to prepare ten Q&As on current issues/current "hot topics" six times per year	On-going

for the Arizona REALTOR® Digest and AAR website	
Hotline to maintain statistics on number and types of calls in cooperation with AAR staff	On-going
Hotline attorney to attend AAR Risk     Management Committee or Workgroup     meetings as requested	On-going
Hotline attorney to review new or revised AAR forms and notify AAR of any legal concerns or recommendations	<ul><li>February forms reviewed</li><li>Reviewed August forms</li></ul>
Hotline attorney to consult with AAR     General Counsel on legal issues as requested	•
Evaluate Hotline program by surveying members	• Survey sent to members November 2012
Form Hotline Workgroup to evaluate program	Workgroup formed, will meet in the Fall

# <u>Industry Issues</u> This program involves addressing current industry issues.

#### **Measurable Goals:**

Measurable objectives	Status
<ul> <li>Develop system to maintain claims statistics to identify liability trends</li> </ul>	•
<ul> <li>Foster alliances with defense attorneys and E&amp;O carriers and mediators</li> </ul>	•

## <u>Legal & Industry Publications</u> This program includes:

- Risk Management articles for AAR publications, ASREB Journal and other publications
- Articles on emerging legal issues for AAR publications, ASREB Journal and other publications
- Arizona Real Estate: A Professional's Guide to Law and Practice
- Broker/Manager Risk Management Update
- Buyer Advisory
- Short Sale Seller Advisory
- Legal information and risk management information on website
- Risk Management Brochures

Measurable objectives	Status
Distribution of time sensitive legal and risk	Articles published on:
management information and articles	Stigmatized Property case – January 2013 AZR
	• Regulation Z – February 2013 AZR
	• Fannie Mae – February 2013
	Buyer Walkthrough form – February 2013
	• Fair Housing – April 2013
	<ul> <li>Property Management forms</li> <li>FAQs – August 2013</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>ADRE Bulletin clarification –</li> </ul>
	August 2013

Deliver a Broker/Manager Risk Management Update quarterly	<ul> <li>Hawk v. PC Village HOA – September 2013</li> <li>Issue sent December 2012</li> <li>Issue sent March 2013</li> <li>Issue sent June 2013</li> <li>Issue sent September 2013</li> </ul>
Maintain and update Buyer Advisory as necessary	On-going
<ul> <li>Maintain and update Short Sale Seller Advisory as necessary</li> </ul>	On-going
Maintain and update legal, risk management, fair housing, and international real estate content on AAR website as necessary	On-going
Update written publications as necessary	On-going
Promote use of Legal & Industry Publications	On-going
Form workgroup to consider more effective dissemination of risk management information	•

## Legal and Legislative Outreach and Education This program includes:

- Speaking/teaching at local associations and member firms on legal issues and new legislation.
- Program participant in legal components of Winter Conference, Broker University, Partners Conference, Leadership Conference, educational outreach and other association programs.

#### Measurable Goals:

Measurable objectives	Status
Participation in legal and legislative programs	<ul> <li>25 completed in the 2nd Quarter</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>5 completed in the 3rd Quarter to</li> </ul>
	<mark>date</mark>

## <u>Legislative Support</u> This program includes:

- Provide input on industry issues
- Assist AAR lobbyist in drafting legislation
- Promote laws that reduce member liability
- Testify at the legislature as needed on legislative issues
- Inform members of legislative issues and changes in conjunction with the Legislative and Political Affairs Committee.

## Measurable Goals:

Measurable objectives	Status
Successful outcome in legislation supported and successful defeat of legislation opposed	On-going

## **REGULATORY ISSUES** This plan includes:

- Communicate with ADRE and other administrative agencies such as ADEQ, ADWR, DFI, and BTR on regulatory issues
- Review and make recommendations on proposed administrative rules or policy changes
- Serve on ADRE or other state agency committees, when available and appropriate
- Assist AAR CEO and lobbyist in drafting and testifying on proposed rules

#### Measurable Goals:

Measurable objectives	Status
Negotiation of reasonable regulatory rules and policies that are acceptable to AAR members and do not hinder their success	<ul> <li>Completed Utility Rate Taxation –         AZ Corporation Commission</li> <li>Meetings with the Arizona         Bankers Assoc. regarding anti-         deficiency statutes</li> </ul>
Maintain contact with ADRE Advisory Board	On-going
Establish a regulatory agency work group	<ul> <li>Group formed – Met July 25, 2013</li> <li>Next meeting November 21, 2013</li> </ul>

# **General Programs**

**Support** This program includes support programs, including:

- Continuing education
- State and County Bar dues
- Resource subscriptions
- Staff attendance at legal, legislative and industry meetings
- Copying and postage

#### Measurable Goals:

Measurable objectives	Status
All tasks assigned by the Committee are	<ul> <li>On-going</li> </ul>
completed, updates and information provided to	
members after Professional Standards,	
continuing legal education class or industry	
meetings. General printing/postage/supply	
funds provide the tools to accomplish the Area's	
PPSA's	

# Related activities without direct Committee oversight

# Legal Counsel

- Provide guidance to leadership and CEO on association legal concerns
- Review and advise on building/tenant issues and related contracts
- Review and advise on affinity agreements
- Prepare memoranda on legal issues as they arise
- Provide limited advice and guidance to local associations
- Respond to member inquires as appropriate

Measurable objectives	Status
CEO, state leadership, committees, and local	On-going
association executives are informed on legal	
issues and questions satisfactorily answered.	

# <u>Litigation Support</u> Related activities without direct committee oversight:

- Draft Amicus Briefs and monitor litigation and potential litigation or disputes in which AAR has an interest
- Legal research and evaluation of claims or issues
- Preparation of pleadings, memos and correspondence relating to claims or issues
- Coordinate with outside counsel in the representation of AAR on any claims or issues

Measurable objectives	Status
Successful outcome in litigation and dispute resolution.	<ul> <li>Hawk v. PC Village - Court of Appeals Opinion - September 3, 2013</li> <li>Hack v. The Ranch at Prescott HOA - Certification of Decision of ALJ - August 5, 2013</li> </ul>