# AAR Risk Management Committee 2018 Business Plan

FROM: Risk Management Committee (RMC)

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

# **CURRENT TOP PRIORITIES**

- Continue Grievance Committee and Professional Standards support
  - o Maintain and enhance Ethics hearing and Arbitration hearing process
  - o Quarterly Professional Standards Newsletter 12/29/17
- Enhance dispute resolution services
  - o Administer the Buyer/Seller Dispute Resolution Program
  - o Administer the Mediation and Ombudsman Programs
  - o Professional Standards Workshop 2/7/18
  - o Professional Standards Mediator and Ombudsman training 10/25/17
- Forms
  - o Revise On-Site Wastewater Treatment Facility Addendum
  - o Revise Commercial Real Estate Purchase Contract
- Legal Hotline Support
  - o Continue promotion efforts
- Regulatory Issues
  - o Continue to work with ADRE
  - o ADRE Advisory Board meetings met on 1/24/18
  - o ADRE TRID Partner's meetings met on 8/9/17
- Risk management education and information
  - o AZ REALTOR® Voice articles
  - o AAR website articles and blogs
  - o Scams & Frauds, Short Sales
  - Arizona Broker/Manager Quarterly 11/30/17
  - o Update Advisories Revised Buyer Advisory 2/18

# RECOMMENDATIONS

 Approve for release in June 2018 a revised On-Site Wastewater Treatment Facility Addendum

### **GROUPS CURRENTLY FORMED**

- Cyber-Security Taskforce
- On-Site Wastewater Treatment Facility Addendum Workgroup
- Commercial Real Estate Purchase Contract Workgroup

# **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
- Mediation Program
- Ombudsman Program

#### **Measurable Goals:**

Measurable objectives	Status
GVC: Prompt review of complaints	4th Quarter 2018 Filings
	Ethics = 28
	Arbitration = 8
PSC: Complete ethics cases promptly	4th Quarter 2018 Ethics Hearings
	Held = 7
PSC: Complete arbitrations promptly	4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter 2018 Arbitrations
	Held = 1
Update PS policy adaptations as necessary	On-Going
Reinforce, on a continuing basis, AAR PS	On-Going
benefits and results	

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

### Measurable Goals:

Measurable objectives	Status
Facilitate mediation requests on a timely basis	4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter 2018 Mediations Requested = 14 Held = 6 Successful = 5
Receive positive feedback from mediation evaluations	On-Going
Maintain list of qualified mediators	17 mediators for 4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter 2018
Update mediation policies and procedures as necessary	On-Going

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

Measurable objectives	Status
Facilitate ombudsman requests on a timely basis	4th Quarter 2018 Ombudsman
	requests
	Filed = 15
	Out of Scope $= 2$
	Unsuccessful = 5
	Successful = 8
Receive positive feedback from ombudsman	On-Going
evaluations	

Maintain list of qualified ombudsmen	15 Ombudsman for 4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter 2018
Update PS policy adaptations as necessary	On-Going

# 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
<ul> <li>Offer PS Training for GVC and PS</li> </ul>	Professional Standards
Committee	Workshop held on February 7,
	2018
PS Policy & Training Workgroup meeting	Held when needed
Offer Mediator training	October 25, 2017
Offer Ombudsman training	October 25, 2017
Offer hearing panel chair training	To be scheduled
Publish PS, Mediation and Ombudsman	Quarterly Newsletter sent
information	December 29, 2017
PS outreach to members	On-Going

<u>Buyer-Seller Dispute Resolution</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:

Measurable objectives	Status
Offer an effective Buyer-Seller Dispute     Resolution program	On-Going
Recruit effective Buyer-Seller Dispute Resolution providers	On-Going
<ul> <li>Ensure compliance of Buyer-Seller Dispute providers with program's directives</li> </ul>	On-Going
Receive positive feedback from Buyer-Seller     Dispute Resolution program evaluations	On-Going

# **RISK MANAGEMENT**

# Forms Development This program involves:

Creation of workgroups

**Drafting** - Draft new forms as needed and revise current forms

**Education** - Forms information updates on website, emails and other communication vehicles.

Measurable objectives	Status
<ul> <li>Workgroups formed as necessary</li> </ul>	- On-Site Waste Water Treatment
	Facility Addendum Workgroup
	- Commercial Purchase Contract
	Workgroup
	- Cyber Security Task Force
Protect our forms copyright	On-Going

Forms drafted or revised for introduction in February and June 2018	<ul> <li>Residential Lease Owner's         Property Disclosure Statement         2/18     </li> <li>Additional Clause Addendum</li> <li>2/18</li> <li>On-Site Wastewater Treatment</li> <li>Facility Addendum 6/18</li> </ul>
Deliver timely forms information/education	<ul> <li>Post articles on aaronline.com,</li> <li>AAR Blog and The Voice</li> <li>Maintain Short Sale webpage</li> <li>Maintain Scams and Frauds webpage</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Promote and update the educational tool kit for teams and brokers on best practices and guidelines for management of teams</li> </ul>	On-Going
Promote and update a webpage that includes safety education, incident recordation and contemporaneous incident notification via a REALTOR® text alert system (ASAP)	On-Going

<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 for the Arizona REALTOR® Voice and AAR website	On-Going
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	On-Going
Hotline attorney to consult with AAR     General Counsel on legal issues as requested	On-Going
Evaluate Hotline program by surveying members	To be performed in 2018
Form Hotline Workgroup to evaluate program	To be performed in 2018

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

#### Measurable Goals:

Measurable objectives	Status
<ul> <li>Maintain claims statistics to identify liability trends</li> </ul>	On-Going
Foster alliances with defense attorneys and E&O carriers and mediators	On-Going
As of 2018, monitor marijuana legal conflicts, solar, marketing service agreements, and comfort animals - Keep members informed as these issues evolve	On-Going
Educate agents on potential ethical and legal liabilities associated with off-market listings	On-Going
Share with agents the dangers posed by social media	On-Going
<ul> <li>Increase promotion and education of federal regulatory changes and enforcement; respond to changes and monitor</li> </ul>	On-Going
Monitor cyber-fraud and cyber-security issues and keep members informed of risks, as well as policies and procedures members can implement to mitigate those risks	On-Going - Cyber Security Task Force formed - Wire Fraud Advisory drafted and released - Cyber Security Broker Policies and Procedures drafted and released - A flyer on steps to take if a victim of wire transfer fraud drafted and released
<ul> <li>Monitor the Americans with Disabilities Act website accessibility issues and keep members informed as the issue evolves</li> </ul>	On-Going
Collaborate with local associations, regional vice presidents and multiple listing services to identify risk management needs for members, associations and regions	On-Going - Events held on March 30, 2017 and July 6, 2017 - RVPs contacted on February 8, 2018

# <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
- AZ Broker/Manager Quarterly
- Buyer Advisory
- Short Sale Seller Advisory
- Lease Owner's Advisory
- Tenant Advisory
- Legal information and risk management information on website (Short Sales blog, Scams & Frauds webpage)
- Spanish translations
- Risk Management brochures

#### Measurable Goals:

Measurable objectives	Status
Distribution of time sensitive legal and risk management information and articles	Articles recently published on:  - The Use of SWIFT Codes in wire transactions  - February 1, 2018 Forms Release  - National Risk Management Issues  - Fair Housing Anniversary
Deliver Arizona Broker/Manager Quarterly	On-Going
Maintain advisories as necessary: Buyer     Advisory, Short Sale Seller Advisory, Lease     Owners Advisory, Tenant Advisory	On-Going
Maintain and update legal, risk management, fair housing, and international real estate content on AAR's website and in publications, as necessary	On-Going
Promote and continue to develop resources that assist brokers in operating a brokerage that is of value to the public, agents, and the real estate industry (i.e. risk management, legal hotline, etc.)	On-Going
Direct agents to their brokers	On-Going
Direct members to AARonline.com for relevant risk management resources	On-Going

# <u>Legal and Legislative Outreach and Education</u> 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	On-Going

# <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 objectives	Status
Successful outcome in legislation supported	Advise on legislation
and successful defeat of legislation opposed	pertaining to:
	- Sign ordinances

	<ul> <li>The sale of new mobile/manufactured home by real estate licensees</li> <li>Sober living facilities</li> <li>The use of mandatory eviction action forms</li> <li>HOA licensing and related HOA issues</li> <li>Awarding attorneys' fees in construction defect cases</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Promote laws (legislative and case law), regulations, and standards of practice that reduce member liability</li> </ul>	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	- Request made to assist ADRE
policies that are acceptable to AAR members	in drafting Substantive Policy
and do not hinder their success	Statement on Teams
Maintain contact with ADRE Advisory Board	Met on January 24, 2018

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

# 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 Goals:**

Measurable objectives	Status
<ul> <li>CEO, state leadership, committees, and local association executives are informed on legal issues and questions satisfactorily answered.</li> </ul>	On-Going

# <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
<ul> <li>Successful outcome in litigation and dispute resolution.</li> </ul>	On-Going