

December 1, 2014

To: NDAR

I'm sure everyone that attended the conference in New Orleans is saying the same thing. The highlight was seeing our own, Casey Chapman, doing the invocation at the inaugural dinner. It truly was a great moment for North Dakota and an honor for Casey.

I attend 2 national committee meetings on behalf of NDAR. The first is the newly formed Broker Involvement Committee. The purpose of this committee is to grow involvement in the "Realtor Party", starting with the Broker, and having the Broker filter information to the sales agents. The thought is that if the broker asked the agents to participate in a Call to Action, they are more likely to do it then if NAR asks them directly. From the statistics we have received, involvement has gone up approximately 16% in the last year, so that is great. The problem with ND is that we do such a good job already; we are the envy of most states. That is not to say there is not room for improvement. This meeting in particular, after some statistics were shared, the majority of the meeting was concentrated on defining the Commercial Realtor. Apparently there is a strong need to filter some Calls to Action directly to Commercial Agents. The problem, of course, is that some agents do both, and how is it defined, it may be different in different states, etc.

Lots of action items forwarded to the BOD in the Professional Standards Committee meeting this session. California is testing a citation policy which I think would be great. Like a ticket, you get a ticket for your first infraction, a ticket for your second, get a third, you get a big ticket and it is exposed to the public.

Some was clean up in regards to hearings, the time process, an alternate panel member and their responsibilities, etc. Watch for these changes coming January 1, 2015.

A subcommittee worked very hard to establish a "fast track" ethics hearing process; which was compared to the current policy and approved.

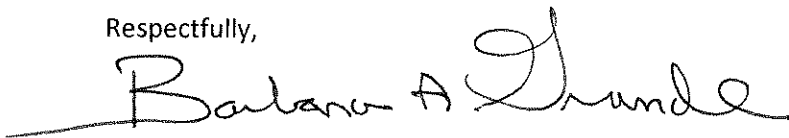
Also, when serving notice of complaint, it seems not everyone has a street address anymore; so language was added to notice section stating that when possible, email is the preferred form of service.....I don't think we have had this issue, but potentially we could.

Changes in the Ethics and Arbitration manual are substantial and will need to be reviewed when they arrive the first of the year. Whoever the chair is for the state Professional Standards committee will want to reread the code carefully.

And, before January of 2016, our state association will be required to offer ombudsman services, or a cooperative agreement. **

Again, thank you.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Barbara A. Grande". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. The first name "Barbara" is written in a larger, more prominent script, followed by "A." and then "Grande". The signature is positioned below the word "Respectfully," and above the printed name "Barbara A. Grande, Broker".

Barbara A. Grande, Broker

Coldwell Banker First Realty