

Report of the 2015 REALTOR Legislative Meetings and Trade Expo National Association of REALTORS®

Thank you to the members of NDAR for the opportunity to represent our great state as a National Director in 2015 at our mid-year meetings. It is an honor to represent us, and I look forward to the opportunity to continue to do so for many years. It was great, and busy as always, including:

NAR Approved New Data System and Rules

The BOD approved a partnership between NAR and its wholly owned subsidiary Realtors Property Resource® (RPR) and another company, UpStream RE, LLC, to create a data entry and collection system for the brokerage community using the RPR® advanced Multi-list platform (AMP™).

What's in it For ME (For us as the members)? (WiiFM)

This is the first big step in being able to better control our data. In a better future, this will be another differentiator for being a REALTOR vs. everyone else who is not. There is some great information available at http://www.realtor.org/videos/rpr-introduces-project-upstream?om_rid=AAAAAA&om_mid=_BVV3cUB9BvSXpj&om_ntype=SpecialINS (you'll have to sign in)

Commitment to Excellence

The BOD adopted the REALTORS® Commitment to Excellence under which NAR members strive for excellence in a number of competencies, including the NAR Code of Ethics, the laws and regulations affecting real estate, and one's advocacy efforts on behalf of strong real estate markets and healthy communities.

WiiFM?

It is another major step to improve/increase/promote professionalism in our industry and among REALTOR members. It is directly tied into the Core Standards improving Associations, this one is about us.

MLS policy updates

The BOD amended policies to ensure timely implementation of MLS changes; passed provisions to allow MLS participants to augment IDX displays with property information from an outside source; to ensure that MLSs timely process requests for IDX data feeds and clarify the term "publicly accessible" sold information.

WiiFM?

Rather than allowing up to 16 months for rules to take effect, this allows Association to move faster, and the updated policies for IDX rules allows Associations to do what we have already been doing!

Professional Standards

The BOD approved 10 updates in Pro Standards, and at the committee meeting there were 16 appendixes. It was a long meeting, and all of the changes allow for improved processes and speed.

WiiFM?

A faster, smoother, improved system for professional standards processes all around.

Advocacy grants

The BOD approved two major advocacy grants, similar to the over \$1.6M they provided NDAR for advocacy efforts in Texas and Missouri.

WiiFM?

NAR is continuing to support statewide issues flexing the power of the brand and providing congress the strength and visuals of what REALTORS can get done.

Patent trolls

The BOD approved \$180,000 in legal assistance to help two real estate companies fight a patent troll's effort to extract licensing fees from them for their use of certain online search technology.

WiiFM?

The more NAR can support and defend these people trying to extract money from brokerages, the better it is in stopping them before they get to us, or our companies.

Realtor.com

We heard updated from NAR Senior Vice President Bob Goldberg on the progress Realtor.com has made since the acquisition of its parent company, Move, Inc., by News Corp. We also saw some awesome new ads, the most improved and significant campaign ever launched by NAR. See them here https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lyxSqes4YFI It's awesome!

WiiFM?

Realtor.com has new branding, new strength, and is spending a ton of money on promotions this year. It's more power for us as REALTORS, more recognition, and more awareness. And it's fun!

D.A.N.G.E.R. Report

The BOD heard a report from Strategic Thinking Committee on the recently released D.A.N.G.E.R. Report, which covers 50 issues that keep brokers, sales associates, associations, and MLSs up at night.

WiiFM?

See the report here http://www.dangerreport.com/ It's FREE, and has insights from the best minds in the business, and can give you tools to help your business grow into the future, it is a MUST read!

There is, as always, a ton of additional information available about these meetings and other happenings of your Association, all of which can be found at realtor.org. If you have not done so, please, take a few minutes and go look around; there is information there on everything you could imagine. And one more WiiFM; have you used NAR's library yet? You really should, everything you've ever wanted to read is in there. Go to www.realtor.org/library - it's FREE!

Respectfully submitted.

Dary Braham

Broker/Owner, NAR Director

Serve on NAR BOD, MLS, Pro Standards, Interps, and RPAC Participation Council Committees

2016 REALTOR Party Director