from Maria Contreras-Sweet,
BT&H Secretary

Congratulations and thanks to every Californian who contributed to the state’s success in meeting the energy challenge this summer! Your commitment to conservation played a major role in preventing rolling blackouts.

This year, the DRE and other state offices significantly cut electricity use from January through the end of August compared to the same period in 2000. For example, in monitoring 37 of the state’s largest office buildings covering nearly 12 million square feet, the Department of General Services, has recorded an average 22.4 percent drop in electricity use. Despite hikes in utility rates, the state was still able to save more than $800,000 in cities such as Sacramento, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Oakland, San Diego, Van Nuys, and Riverside.

While the state has made extraordinary progress in bringing new power generation on line, the threat of shortages remains real. Conservation, both now and for the long term, will continue to be an important part of the strategy to keep the lights on.

Fall and winter months present challenges just as tough as the summer months. There are increased demands for power across the state for lighting, heating and other priorities. So we cannot let our guard down just because the seasons have changed.

Refer to page 10 for some practical cool weather tips from the Flex Your Power Web site that will help all of us continue to save power, save money and keep electricity flowing to all California communities.

School cited
Failure to provide course as approved

The Department views education of real estate licensees as an essential foundation to providing better service to the consumer. The DRE reviews course offerings to ensure that courses provide both basic and advanced levels of education so licensees can provide knowledgeable service to the public. Departures from course structure as approved may result in a diminution of course goals, objectives, and content, and the issuance of an Order to Desist and Refrain from such departures or more importantly, a notice that the DRE is withdrawing approval altogether. Each Order has the effect of prohibiting the school from providing a course that was not approved.

Such an Order was recently issued to a notable school for violating Regulations 3000(a)(1), 3000(a)(5), 3002(b), 3004(c), 3004(d) and 3007.6. The Education Section of the Department approved the school’s application to offer Real Estate Principles (45 hours), as a resident (live) course and as a separate correspondence course. DRE approved the school’s advertising of the resident course as a “45-Hour Principles Course” and its advertising of the correspondence course as “45-Hour Home Study Options.” Without DRE’s approval, the school modified each course by changing it to 24 hours of resident instruction, with the remaining 21 hours as home study, and advertised the modified course as a “24-Hour Class With Home Study.” This later advertisement was also never approved by DRE.

By modifying each course the school made a material change in the offering of each of the approved Principles courses. Moreover, by advertising the modified course as “45-Hour Home Study Options” the school engaged in false advertising.

The school explained its conduct on the basis that students were reluctant to enroll in a resident course requiring mandatory attendance of 45 hours. Whatever the reason, in order to avoid disciplinary action by the Department, a school cannot change an offering without first obtaining DRE approval.
2001 DRE Legislative Summary

The brief descriptions of 2001 legislation provided herein are intended to alert licensees to pertinent changes to the law. We encourage you to consult the statutes for complete information. Copies of the bills can be obtained from the authors’ offices or at www.loginfo.ca.gov. All statutes are effective January 1, 2002 unless otherwise noted:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bill/Author</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Chapter</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AB 452 (Correa)</td>
<td>Subdivision Public Report</td>
<td>307</td>
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<td>AB 392 (Maddox)</td>
<td>Escrow Agents</td>
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<td>AB 489 (Migden)</td>
<td>Predatory Lending</td>
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<td>SB 795 (Dutra)</td>
<td>Real Estate</td>
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<td>SB 329 (Morrow)</td>
<td>Licensing Educational Requirements</td>
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<td>SB 221 (Kuehl)</td>
<td>Subdivision Water Supplies</td>
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<tr>
<td>SB 364 (Alpert)</td>
<td>Mortgages/Trust Deeds: Accrual of Interest</td>
<td>364</td>
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</table>

AB 452 (Correa) — Public Report Disclosure

This is a straightforward bill which adds a disclosure to public reports that informs a prospective home buyer that he or she has the right to negotiate with the seller for an inspection of the property. AB 452 was sponsored by the coalition of California Home Inspectors.

AB 392 (Maddox) — Escrow Agents

This bill requires the Commissioners of Real Estate, Corporations and Insurance to notify each other when taking enforcement or disciplinary action against a person or licensee related to the providing of escrow services. The bill also requires the departments to maintain Web sites that include a database of individuals who have been the subject of escrow violation disciplinary actions. AB 392 was sponsored by the California Escrow Association.

AB 489 (Migden) — Predatory Lending

This bill adds new provisions to the Financial Code to impose certain restrictions in the making or arranging of covered home loans, as defined, to help curb predatory lending. The bill also establishes various administrative and civil sanctions against persons or licensees who engage in prohibited acts, as defined, in the origination or servicing of a covered loan. Note: AB 344 (Migden, Chapter 733) was a trailer bill to AB 489 and made various technical changes to AB 489. In addition, the provisions of AB 489 are effective July 1, 2002.

AB 795 (Dutra) — Real Estate

This bill made numerous changes to the Real Estate Law. AB 795 enhances consumer protections in mortgage brokering transactions by clarifying the Department’s authority to discipline brokers who violate the multi-lender criteria as set forth in Business and Professions Code Section 10229. This bill closes a reporting loophole for violations of certain restrictions in the making or arranging of covered home loans, as defined. The bill also requires mortgage brokers to obtain written acknowledgments from borrowers that they received federal disclosures. Finally, this bill makes minor reforms and clarifications to the Recovery Account application procedures. AB 795 was sponsored by the Department of Real Estate.

Continued on page 3
Legislation
Continued from page 2

SB 329 (Morrow) — License Educational Requirements

This bill adds a course in “Computer Applications” to the list of optional educational prerequisites for obtaining a real estate broker license.

SB 221 (Kuehl) — Subdivision Water Supplies

This bill requires verification of adequate water supplies before tentative map approval can be granted on subdivision projects of more than 500 units. AB 221 also provides that a subdivider must provide written verification of the availability of a sufficient water supply for projects of more than 500 units before a public report can be issued.

SB 364 (Alpert) — Mortgages and Deeds of Trust: Accrual of Interest

This bill amends the Civil Code to conform to a similar statute, enacted last year as an amendment to the Financial Code, setting forth clear rules as to when lenders may begin charging interest on a real property secured loan.

Escrow services
New law mandates information exchange between departments

For years, the Department of Real Estate and Department of Corporations have voluntarily shared license applicants’ regulatory histories to prevent a real estate licensee who has been disciplined by the DRE from obtaining a California Finance Lenders License or a Residential Mortgage Lenders License or vice versa. This proactive approach has helped address the problem of a licensee whose license has been revoked or is facing disciplinary action from “switching licenses” in order to keep operating.

With the passage of AB 392 (Maddox), effective January 1, 2002, the Departments of Real Estate, Corporations and Insurance are required to share information regarding actions taken against persons or licensees with respect to violations of escrow laws. AB 392 was sponsored by the California Escrow Association in response to the problem of escrow personnel who have been disciplined by a regulatory agency merely “going across the street” and working for an escrow provider who is under a different regulatory agency. For example, a person may receive an order from the Department of Corporations barring them from working in an independent escrow company due to violating various escrow provisions in the Financial Code only to go to work for a title company or real estate broker performing escrow functions.

To address this problem, AB 392 requires the major escrow regulators to communicate with each other when administrative action is taken against a person related to escrow services and post those actions on their respective Web sites. In turn, escrow service providers will be able to determine if a prospective employee has been the subject of disciplinary action related to escrow by checking on each regulators’ Web site. In addition, the sharing of disciplinary information will help prevent the issuance of a license to a person who has been previously disciplined by a different regulatory agency.

To search DRE’s records to determine if a licensee has been disciplined for any reason, including escrow violations, visit DRE’s Web site at www.dre.ca.gov and click on “License Lookup.” In addition, DRE will establish a link from its licensee lookup Web page to the Web sites of the Departments of Insurance and Corporations to help facilitate background checks of potential employees. A little due diligence may prevent problems for you and consumers down the road.

A copy of AB 329 may be obtained from www.leginfo.ca.gov.

2002 Real Estate Law Book

The DRE anticipates availability of the 2002 version of the Real Estate Law book in January 2002. The book will contain the Real Estate Law (from the Business and Professions Code), the Real Estate Commissioner’s Regulations (from the California Code of Regulations) and other pertinent excerpts from California Codes.

The law book will be offered in print and also on CD ROM in a format compatible with Adobe Acrobat Reader. Prices will be as follows:

- $20 for the printed version
- $20 for the CD ROM
- $35 for the printed version and CD ROM

Orders will be accepted after January 1, 2002. Use the order form on page 11 or submit a Publications Request (RE 350).

For the first time, the complete law book will also be available on the DRE Web site: www.dre.ca.gov.
Use of Fictitious Business Names

The Broker/Corporation Unit in the Licensing Section receives a high volume of broker/corporation change applications requesting the addition of a fictitious business name to a particular broker or corporation license. The processing time to issue a license with a new fictitious business name is slowed down if the application is incomplete or the supporting documents are not in a proper format.

DRE approval of a fictitious business name is governed in part by Section 10159.5 of the Business and Professions Code (B&P) and Real Estate Commissioner’s Regulation 2731. A fictitious business name may be added to a broker or corporation license by submitting the appropriate application form (RE 204 for a broker, RE 204A for a corporation) and a copy of the fictitious business name statement which bears the “filed” stamp from the county clerk in the county in which the applicant’s main office is located. The requesting broker or corporation must be listed as the registrant on the fictitious business name statement. A fee is not required to be submitted with the application. A fictitious business name may not be added to the license of a real estate salesperson.

To avoid delays, licensees should carefully read the instructions that accompany the broker/corporation change form, and ensure that all required information on the form is properly and legibly completed. Some of the most common causes for processing delays are:

- Incomplete application forms;
- Fictitious business name statement does not bear the county clerk’s “filed stamp”;
- Broker or corporation licensee’s name does not appear as the registrant on the fictitious business name statement;
- The business address is different on the fictitious business name statement from that of the main office address; or
- The fictitious business name entered on the application differs from the name on the fictitious business name statement.

The Department of Real Estate often receives fictitious business name statements which state that the business is conducted by a partnership, co-partner, or limited liability company (LLC) or in which those terms appear in the fictitious name itself. There are no provisions in the B&P Code which authorize the issuance of a license to a partnership or a LLC; therefore, those types of requests cannot be accepted by DRE. In addition, the following types of fictitious business name requests cannot be accepted:

- Contains the name of a licensee which had been previously revoked;
- Contains or implies the name of a real estate salesperson, unless the broker or corporation name is included in the fictitious business name;
- Implies that the business is conducted by a trust;
- Contains words such as bank, banker, savings association, or trust company without a letter of authorization from the Department of Financial Institutions;
- Contains a word such as insurance without a letter of authorization from the Department of Insurance;
- Contains a word such as escrow without a letter of authorization from the Department of Corporations;
- Contains words which imply the name of a federal agency without a letter of authorization from the particular agency; or
- Contains misleading names or names which constitute false advertising.

If a licensee has questions concerning the acceptability of a proposed fictitious business name, the Licensing Section in DRE’s Sacramento office should be contacted for clarification. The fictitious business name cannot be used by the licensee until the name has been added to the license and appears on DRE’s Web site. It is suggested that a fictitious business name request be submitted as early as possible prior to the date you intend to use the name, since processing time for adding a fictitious business name can vary depending on the workload in the Broker/Corporation Unit. Please help us to help you avoid delays by making certain that you submit a properly completed change application and fictitious business name statement. This will serve to eliminate any unforeseen problems that may affect the process.

Senior Deputy Commissioner Gary Sibner of the DRE Mortgage Lending Unit addresses a group of seniors about reverse mortgages at the Ventura County Area Agency for Aging.

October 10, 2001
Disciplinary Action — June 2001 to Aug. 2001

A list of actions is not published in this Bulletin until the 30-day period allowed for Court of Appeal has expired, or if an appeal is filed and the disciplinary action is stayed, until the stay is dissolved. Names of persons to whom licenses were denied on application are not published.

Licensees are listed alphabetically by the District Office region of responsibility.

The license type is listed in parentheses after the licensee’s name: [REB – Real Estate broker; RREB – Restricted real estate broker; RES – Real estate salesperson; RRES – Restricted real estate salesperson; PRLS – Prepaid rental listing service; PRPLS – Restricted pre-paid rental listing service; REO – Real estate officer; REC – Real estate corporation].

Below are brief summaries of various regulations and code sections. The full text of the sections is found in the Business and Professions Code and the Real Estate Commissioner’s Rules of the Real Estate Commissioner.

Commissioner’s Regulations

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<tr>
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<th>Description</th>
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<td>Licensee’s failure to maintain current business or mailing address with DREn</td>
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<tr>
<td>2n26n</td>
<td>Failure to have broker-salesperson agreement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2n1</td>
<td>Unauthorized use of fictitious business names</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2n52n</td>
<td>Broker’s failure to notify DRE of salesperson employment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2n5n</td>
<td>Broker’s failure to retain salesperson’s license at main office or return the license</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2n1n</td>
<td>Failure to keep proper trust fund records</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2831.1n</td>
<td>Inadequate separate trust fund beneficiary records</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2831.2n</td>
<td>Failure to reconcile trust account</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2n2n</td>
<td>Failure to comply with trust fund handling provisions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2832(a)n</td>
<td>Failure of broker to place trust funds into hands of owner, into a neutral escrow depository or trust fund account within three business days of receipt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2832.1n</td>
<td>Failure to obtain permission to reduce trust fund balance in an multiple beneficiary account</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2n</td>
<td>Trust account withdrawals by unauthorized or unobligated person</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2n2</td>
<td>Failure to give approved borrower disclosures</td>
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<tr>
<td>2n9</td>
<td>Failure to submit advance fee material for review</td>
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<tr>
<td>2n92n</td>
<td>Advance fee accounting</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Business and Professions Code

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Rule</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>475(a)(1)n</td>
<td>Making false statement in license application</td>
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<tr>
<td>480(a)n</td>
<td>Denial of real estate license on grounds of conviction of crime, dishonest or fraudulent act, or act which would warrant suspension or revocation of license</td>
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<tr>
<td>480(c)n</td>
<td>Denial of license on grounds of false statement in license application</td>
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<td>490n</td>
<td>Substantially related criminal conviction</td>
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<td>498n</td>
<td>License obtained by fraud or misrepresentation</td>
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<td>10085n</td>
<td>Failure to submit advance fee materials</td>
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<td>Acting without license</td>
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<td>10137n</td>
<td>Unlawful employment or payment of compensation</td>
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<tr>
<td>10145n</td>
<td>Trust fund handling</td>
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<tr>
<td>10145(a)n</td>
<td>Trust fund handling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10145(c)n</td>
<td>Failure by salesperson to deliver trust funds to broker</td>
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<td>10146n</td>
<td>Advance fee handling</td>
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<tr>
<td>10148n</td>
<td>Failure to retain records and make available for inspection</td>
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<td>10159.2n</td>
<td>Failure by designated officer to supervise licensed acts of corporation</td>
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<tr>
<td>10159.5n</td>
<td>Failure to obtain license with fictitious business name</td>
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<tr>
<td>10160n</td>
<td>Failure to maintain salesperson licenses in possession of broker</td>
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<td>10161.8n</td>
<td>Failure of broker to notify Commissioner of salesperson employment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10161.8(a)n</td>
<td>Failure of broker to notify Commissioner of salesperson employment</td>
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<tr>
<td>10162n</td>
<td>Failure to maintain a place of business</td>
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<tr>
<td>10167.9(a)n</td>
<td>Failure to provide a completed prepaid rental listing servicing contract</td>
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<tr>
<td>10167.9(cn)</td>
<td>Failure to file a PRLS contract with DREn</td>
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<tr>
<td>10167.11(a)n</td>
<td>False, misleading or deceptive advertising or description of rental property</td>
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<tr>
<td>10167.11(b)n</td>
<td>Referral of tenant to unavailable or nonexistent rental property</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10167.12(a)n</td>
<td>Violation of PRLS provisions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10176(a)n</td>
<td>Making any substantial misrepresentation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

REVOLED LICENSEES

Fresno Region

Ealy, Desiree Rochelle (RES)
7303 Summertime Ln., Calverton 
Effective: 6/14/01
Violation: 498, 10177(a)n

Frias, Margaret M. (RESc)
14035 Badger Ave., Sylmar 
Effective: 8/30/00
Violation: 490, d0177(b)n

Garcia, Inez (REBc)
3231/2 W. Beverly Blvd., Montebello 
Effective: 8/1/00
Violation: 10148, d0177(g)(h)n

Griggs, Larry Lee (REBc)
14 Woodpine, Ivirven 
Effective: 8/20/00
Violation: 490, d0177(b)n

Haltom, Paul Theodore III (RESc)
33282 Golden Lantern, Ste. 109n 
Effective: 7/19/01
Violation: 490, d0177(b)n

Hanley, Jason Daniel (RESc)
24303 Woobyde Canyon Rd., Canoga Park 
Effective: 6/11/01
Violation: 490, d0177(b)n

Jones, Derrek Alan (RES)
5601 W. Slauson, Culver City 
Effective: 6/11/01
Violation: 10137, d0145(c), n10177(d)n

Los Angeles Region

Calvo, Vanessa M. (REBc)
921 East 29th St., Hialeah, FLn 
Effective: 7/3/01
Violation: 2832, 2834, 10137
10145, d0177(d)g)n

Cisneros, Victor Manuel (RES) 
9806 Casiano Ct.n 
Effective: 8/20/01
Violation: 490, d0177(b)n

Davis Kent Ivan (REBc)
PO Box #243, Malibu 
Effective: 6/20/01
Violation: 10177.5n
Duenas, Maribel (RESc)
11711 Whitter Blvd., Whittier
Effective: 8/20/01
Violation: 10176(a)(n)
Right to RRES license on term
and conditions

Espinoza, Mario Cesar (RES)c
6245 S. Atlantic Ave., #198, Bell
Effective: 8/20/01
Violation: 10176(a)(n)
Right to RRES license on term
and conditions

Felker, Gregory dames (RES)c
33122 Southwind Ct, n
San Juan Capistran
Effective: 7/5/01
Violation: 10177(a)(n)
Right to RRES license on term
and conditions

Hardwick, Sharon Kline (REB)c
31630 Railroad Canyon Road,n
Canyon Laken
Effective: 8/30/01
Violation: 2831, 2831.2, 2832.1.n
10145, #0177(d)n
Right to RREc license on term
and conditions

Hernandez, Concepcion Connie G.c (RES)c
21630 Cedar St., Wildomar
Effective: 8/13/01
Violation: 10130, 10145(c)n
10177(d)n
Right to RRES license on term
and conditions

James, Aniefiek Okse (REB)c
6310 West 89th St., Ste. 218.n
Westchester
Effective: 7/13/01
Violation: 10177.5n
Right to RREc license on term
and conditions

Tamayo, Richard (REB)c
5350 E. Beverly Blvd.,n
Los Angeles
Effective: 6/12/01
Violation: 10177(g)n
Right to RREc license on term
and conditions

Thomas, Ken (REB)c
16222 Monterey Ln.,n
Huntington Beach
Effective: 8/2/01
Violation: 10177(f)(i)(n)
Right to RRES license on term
and conditions

Oakland Region

Geritz, Realty, Inc. (REC)c
1732 East 14th St., San Leandro
Effective: 8/21/01
Violation: 10145, 10177(d)n
Right to RREC license on term
and conditions

Geritz, John Philip (REB, REO)c
1732 East 14th St., San Leandro
Effective: 8/21/01
Officer of: Geritz Realty, Inc.n
Violation: 10177(b)n
Right to RREc license on term
and conditions

Matco, Guillermo Quicho Jr. (REB)
1272 Southgate Ave., Daly City
Effective: 7/26/01
Violation: 10177.5n
Right to RREc license on term
and conditions

Trotter-Vogel Realty, Inc. (REC)c
180 El Camino Real, San Brunon
Effective: 6/20/01
Violation: 2832.1, #0145.n
10177(d)n
Right to RREc license on term
and conditions

Sacramento Region

Baker, Mark F. (REB, REO)c
8409 Misty Oak Way, Antelope
Effective: 6/13/01
Violation: 2731, #0137,n
10177(d)n
Right to RREc license on term
and conditions

Montgomery, Margaret Anne
(REB)c
1931 High Ridge Ct., Ste. A.n
Walnut Creek
Effective: 8/21/01
Violation: 40, #0177(b)n
Right to RREc license on term
and conditions

Ybarra, Lisa R. (RES)c
3146 Bonanza Dr., Cameron Park
Effective: 6/13/01
Violation: 10130, #0177(d)(j)n
Right to RREc license on term
and conditions

San Diego Region

Alkire, Anita Marie (REB, REO)c
1550 Hotel Circle North, #100,n
San Diego
Effective: 6/21/01
Violation: 10177(b)n
Right to RREc license on term
and conditions

American Spirit Realty (REC)c
951 Hanover St., San Diego
Effective: 6/21/01
Violation: 2731, 2831.1, 2831,n
2832.1, 2832, 2834, 10145.n
10145(a), 10148, 10177(d)n
Right to RREC license on term
and conditions

Najor, Linda damil (RES)c
1623 Highland Cove,n
Solana Beach
Effective: 8/2/01
Violation: 490, #0177(b)n
Right to RREc license on term
and conditions

Zimmerman, Gerald dulius (REB, REO)c
41593 Winchester Rd.,n
Ste. 210N, Temecula
Effective: 8/1/01
Violation: 2726, 2831, 2831.1,n
2832.1, 2832(a), 2970, 2972,n
10085, 10145, 10146, 18177(d)n
10240n
Right to RREc license on term
and conditions

Russ, Charles Francis (RES)c
11611 San Vicente Blvd.,n
Los Angeles
Effective: 8/22/01
Violation: 10177(g)n
Suspected for 80 days-stayed form
1 year on condition

Alden, Marion Ellen (RES)c
PO Box 9166, Pittsburgh
Effective: 7/26/01
Violation: 10176(a)n
Suspected for 60 days-30 days
stay for 1 year on term and
conditions

Fern, joseph Philip (REB)c
1501 Old Bayshore Hwys.,n
Burlingame
Effective: 7/12/01
Violation: 2831.1, #2831.2,n
10177(d), 10229(a)(e)(g), 10240n
Suspected for 80 days-stayed form
2 years on terms and condition

Garber, Steven &. (REB, REO)c
12540 Oaks North Dr., Ste. G,n
San Diego
Effective: 8/7/01
Officer of: Seacoast Equities,n
Inc.n
Violation: 10137n
Suspected for 80 days-stayed form
1 year on terms

Sardon Corp. (REC)c
8870 La Mesa Blvd.,n
La Mesa
Effective: 8/8/01
Violation: 2726, 2731, 2752,n
2831, 2831.1, 2831.2, 2834,n
10177(d)n
Suspected for 80 days-stayed form
2 years on terms and condition

Home Services Unlimited, Inc.c (REC)c
7839 University Ave., #103,n
La Mesa
Effective: 8/7/01
Violation: 10137n
Suspected for 80 days-stayed form
1 year on terms

Williams, Roy Everett (REB, REO)c
8870 La Mesa Blvd.,n
La Mesa
Effective: 8/8/01
Officer of: Sardon Corp.n
Violation: 10177(h)n
Suspected for 80 days-stayed form
2 years on terms and condition

SUSPENDED
INDEFINITELY

Los Angeles Region

North Fork Financial Inc. (REC)c
2101 East n8th St., #210-A,n
Santa Aunan
Effective: 6/14/01
Violation: 10162, #0165n
San Diego Region

Harris, Timothy Wayne (REB)c
7484 University Ave., Ste. J,n
La Mesa
Effective: 6/14/01
Violation: 2715, #0162,n
10177(d)n
SUSPENDED WITH
STAY!

Los Angeles Region

Amerinax Realty Financial (REC)c
1499 Quail, #135,n
Newport Beach
Effective: 8/14/01
Violation: 2742, 2752, 2753,n
2840, 10160, 10161.8(a), 10165,n
10176(g), 10177(d)(f)(g), 10240n
10241n
Suspected for 60 days-stayed form
2 years on terms and condition

Boggs, Virginia Clanton (REB)c
16429 Bellflower Blvd.,n
Bellflower
Effective: 7/2/01
Violation: 2831, 2831.1, 10145.n
10177(d)n
Suspected for 90 days-stayed form
2 years on terms and condition

Home Services Unlimited, Inc.c (REC)c
6888 Lincoln Ave., Ste. A,n
Buena Park
Effective: 8/30/01
Violation: 2752, 2832, 2834,n
10145, 10161.8, 10177(d)(j)n
Suspected for 60 days-stayed form
2 years on terms and condition

Ko, Francis (REB, REO)c
6888 Lincoln Ave., Ste. A,n
Buena Park
Effective: 8/30/01
Officer of: Home Services
Unlimited, Inc.n
Violation: 10159.2, #0177(b)n
Suspected for 60 days-stayed form
2 years on terms and condition

Rausch, Sandra K. (REB, REO)c
1400 Quail, #135,n
Newport Beach
Effective: 8/14/01
Officer of: Amerinax Realty
Financial
Violation: 2742, 2752, 2753,n
2840, 10159.2, 10160,n
10161.8(a), 10165, 10176(g)n
10177(d)(f)(g), 10240, 10241n
Suspected for 60 days-stayed form
2 years on terms and condition

San Diego Region

Oakland Region

Winter 2001v
Real Estate Bulletin — Page 7v
Advance Fees – uses and requirements

An advance fee includes any up front fee or retainer collected by a broker in exchange for the promise to perform certain services (Business and Professions Code Section 10026). Some examples of services where licensees have elected to charge advance fees are: advertising a property on the Internet, providing certain types of signage, placing a special type of advertisement, and processing and/or underwriting loan applications (typically large commercial loans). The laws regulating advance fees apply to all licensees, including those in the areas of commercial real estate and lending as well as those engaged in business brokerage activities.

Before collecting an advance fee, a broker must obtain the Department’s approval of the agreement and other advance fee materials (Business and Professions Code Section 10085). Since the circumstances in which a broker may wish to collect an advance fee are so varied, the Department cannot issue a blanket approval or contract. Therefore, before collecting an advance fee, a broker must submit the agreement that he or she wishes to use to the DRE for approval. Brokers who use pre-printed forms with retainer clauses or other advance fee provisions obtained from stationary stores may discover that these may not comply with the Real Estate Law and could expose the broker to possible license disciplinary action.

In order to obtain approval of an advance fee contract, the following essential elements must be a part of the advance fee agreement:

- The agreement must be in contract form, with spaces for dating and execution by the broker and principal(s).
- The agreement must obligate the principal to pay, at a specified time, a specified advance fee.
- The agreement must obligate the broker to deposit the advance fee into a trust account and provide the principal(s) with the verified accountings required by Business and Professions Code Section 10146.
- The agreement must obligate the broker to use the advance fee to fund specified services for the principal’s benefit.
- The materials must allocate estimated portions of the advance fee to each of the services the broker agrees to provide.
- The agreement must obligate the broker to complete the advance fee services by a specified date.
- The agreement may not characterize any portion of the advance fee as non-refundable.
- The agreement must be in not less than 10-point type.
- The agreement cannot contain any provision that purports to relieve or exempt the person collecting the advance fee from any obligation to fulfill verbal or other written agreements and representations made by employees and agents of the person contracting for the advance fee.

While not considered a true advance fee service, some brokers engage in the business of operating a Prepaid Rental Listing Service (PRLS), which is the business of supplying prospective tenants with listings of residential real properties for tenancy in which the tenant is required to pay an advance fee or con-

Continued on page 9

LICENSE SURRENDERED
(Licenses voluntarily surrendered per B&P Code §10100.2 during an administrative action or investigation)

Fresno Region
Pinion, Vickie Dale (REB)c
1625 E. Shaw, #116, Fresno
Effective: 6/12/01

Los Angeles Region
Dodge, Philip Preston (REB)c
5000 Birch St., Ste. 5600,n
Newport Beachn
Effective: 6/7/01n
Holt, Jeffrey John (REB)c
80-194 Delphi Ct., Indio
Effective: 6/11/01n
Ouyang, Mei Ling (REB)c
1742 Vista Del Valle, Arcadian
Effective: 7/26/01n
Sukhija, Kuldev (REB)c
13172 Doss Ct., Granda Hills
Effective: 6/7/01n
Weichman, Roland Earle (REB)c
100 Scholz Plaza, PH14,n
Newport Beachn
Effective: 8/27/01n

Oakland Region
Boudreau, James Joseph (REB)c
730 Barron Ave., Redwood City
Effective: 7/5/01n
Gustavsen, John Edward (REB)c
15495 Los Gatos Blvd., #4,n
Los Gatosn
Effective: 7/2/01n
Perasso-W, DaniellePatrice (REB)c
2315 Bay Meadows Circle,n
Pleasanton
Effective: 8/8/01n
Ramos, Maria Dorcelyn (REB)c
22 Crown Circle,n
South San Francisco
Effective: 6/26/01n
Wayne E. Rogers, Inc. (REB)c
4325 Moorpark Ave., San Josen
Effective: 6/11/01n

Sacramento Region
Simmons, Max Russell (REB)c
2110 Walbridge St., Red Bluff
Effective: 6/18/01n
San Diego Region
Roberts, Noyes Weldon (REB)c
12311 Lomita Dr., San Diego
Effective: 6/19/01n

INDEFINITE SUSPENSIONS
(under Recovery Acct. provisions)

Castro, Darin Gutierrez (REB)c
700 W. Third St., B-310,n
Santa Anan
Effective: 6/13/01n
Henderson, William Shermanc
(ReB)c
3889 Exmoor Cir., Sacramento
Effective: 8/17/01n
Kasper, Bruce Gary (REB)c
1975 Hamilton Ave., Ste. 25,n
San Josen
Effective: 7/6/01n
Lavey, Jack Matthews (REB)c
4183 First St., Pleasanton
Effective: 7/6/01n
Moguel, Pamela Lynn (REB)c
864 S. Robertson Blvd., #101,n
Los Angeles
Effective: 7/9/01n
Advance Fees
Continued from page 8

temporaneous fee to specifically obtain rental listings or to purchase any other product or service in order to obtain such listings.

Prior to engaging in the PRLS business, a broker must first obtain approval of their proposed contract from the Department (Business and Professions Code Section 10167.9). Specifically, Section 10167.9 requires the broker to submit to the Department for its review a copy of the proposed contract to be used in the PRLS business. This contract must include the following:

- The services to be provided by the broker.
- The tenant’s specifications for rental property.
- The name, address, and phone number of the licensee.
- Acknowledgment of receipt of the fee.
- Contract expiration date.
- Right to Refund language.
- Small-claims court remedy.
- A clause stating that the purchase of any service other than the listing is optional.
- Signature of the licensee.

As previously mentioned, the advance fee definition includes much more than just the collection of up front fees to promote the purchase or sale of real property, therefore, this article is not intended to be an all-inclusive treatment of the subject of advance fees. A broker considering collecting an advance fee for any purpose should review Business and Professions Code Sections 10026, 10027, 10085, 10085.5, 10046 and 10167 as well as Commissioner’s Regulations 2970 and 2972. The PRLS requirements can be found in the Business and Professions Code starting at Section 10167 to 10167.17.

Licensees may also call the Advance Fee Review Desk or PRLS Desk at (916) 227-0770 with questions regarding advance fees or Prepaid Rental Listing Services.

New DRE Web Site Features

The DRE is continually improving its Web site to better serve licensees and consumers. Check out the following new features at www.dre.ca.gov:

Información En Español — Includes information in Spanish about the DRE's operations, objectives, services, program areas, and office locations as well as Spanish translations of the following DRE publications: Using the Services of a Mortgage Broker, Living in a California Common Interest Development, and A Consumer Guide to Filing Real Estate Complaints.

Reference Book — All 29 chapters of this real estate guide are available in a format compatible with Adobe Acrobat Reader. Special features include quick links to chapters, a detailed table of contents, and bookmarks within each chapter to enhance ease of use.

Web Site Tour — A virtual guide to the DRE Web site, including an overview of changes on the way.

Because You Asked Availability of Hazards Booklets

The DRE has received numerous inquiries regarding where to obtain the Environmental Hazards: A Guide for Homeowners, Buyers, Landlords and Tenants booklet referred to in Civil Code Section 2079.7. The booklet has been maintained and updated by the California Association of REALTORS® for several years. To purchase the booklet, go to the C.A.R. Product Mall Online at www.car.org/mall/mall.htm or call Val Forms, a private vendor, at (925) 461-0570.

The Homeowner’s Guide to Earthquake Safety and The Commercial Property Owner’s Guide to Earthquake Safety, as well as many other informational booklets about geological hazards, are available through the Seismic Safety Commission. To order the booklets, go to www.seismicsafe.org or call (916) 263-5506.
Classroom Cash?
New educator loans may boost sales

A newly developed Extra Credit Teacher Program may assist real estate licensees in expanding their client base and selling more homes. Launched in July, the California Housing Finance Agency’s (CHFA) Extra Credit Teachers Program provides below market interest rates on a CHFA first loan, in combination with a forgivable interest CHFA deferred payment second loan, for qualified teachers and principals seeking financing assistance with the purchase of a first home.

By offering assistance with affordable housing, the program provides a recruitment incentive for quality teachers and principals to accept—and remain—in positions at low performing schools. In return, schools become the recipients of increased academic standing and are better able to provide students with high quality education.

With a projected teacher shortage of 250,000 over the next ten years, administrators are having a difficult time attracting and retaining quality educators in low performing schools. Contributing to the challenge is the average teacher salary of $38,635 and statewide median housing price of $276,590. Says Jerry Smart, CHFA’s Chief of Homeownership Programs, “We think real estate licensees can use this as a tool for making sales to educators who might not otherwise qualify for a home loan. This program may help bridge the enormous gap between educator salaries and home purchase prices in California.”

Cynthia Meza, a teacher for eight years in a low performing Southern California school, recently became a first-time homeowner with the Extra Credit Teacher Program. “I looked at a lot of places for assistance before my lender informed me of this new program,” says Meza, who is very excited and glad to have the opportunity to purchase a home.

Program Highlights include:
1. Extra Credit Teacher Program
   - CHFA first loan
   - 30-year term
   - Fixed, below market interest rate
   - Loan amount to the maximum a teacher or principal qualifies for based on income

2. Extra Credit Teacher Program
   - CHFA second loan
   - 30-year term
   - Deferred payments (no monthly payment required)
   - Forgivable interest rate from 5% to 0% based on number of years of service to low performing school

Those interested in obtaining more information about qualifications and details are encouraged to contact CHFA lenders, or CHFA, ECTP Programs, 1121 L Street, 7th Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814. Phone 1-800-789-2432; fax 1-916-324-6589; or visit the CHFA Web site at www.chfa.ca.gov.

Cool Weather Energy Tips

Use your appliances wisely
- Turn off appliances, lights and equipment when not in use,—
- Set your thermostat to 68 degrees when you’re home and 55 degrees at night, or off when you’re away,—
- To help prevent electricity outages, do not run large appliances between 5 a.m.—9 a.m. and 4 p.m.—7 p.m.—
- Do your laundry efficiently by using the warm or cold water setting for washing your clothes and always use cold water to rinse clothes. If housing restrictions allow,—dry clothes outside when the weather is warm.—
- Conserve energy by running your dishwasher only when it is fully loaded, and turn off the dry cycle to allow dishes—to air dry instead.—

Inexpensive energy solutions
- Choose Energy Star® products. Purchase compact fluorescent light bulbs. They use a quarter of the energy and last five to ten times longer than conventional light bulbs.—
- Reduce your hot water temperature. Set your water heater to the normal setting or 120 degrees unless the owner’s manual for your dishwasher requires a—higher setting.—
- Replace disposable furnace filters once—a-month or clean electrostatic filters—according to manufacturer instructions.—
- Dirty filters restrict airflow and in—crease energy use. Keep your furnace clean, lubricated—and properly adjusted.—
- Install low-flow showerheads. You’ll be surprised how much this simple device can cut your hot water costs.—
- Wrap your hot water tank with jacket insulation. If your water heater is gas, be sure to leave the air intake vent—uncovered.—

Eliminate wasted energy
- Turn off lights in unoccupied rooms.—
- Unplug electronic devices and chargers when they’re not in use.—
- Close the damper on your fireplace when you’re not using it.—
- Unplug that spare refrigerator in the garage if you don’t really need it.—

Check out www.flexyourpower.ca.gov for more information and ways to save money!
Real Estate Publications

Purchase information

DRE publications may be purchased/ordered by mail, by fax, by phone, or in person. (Refer to specific payment methods below.)

For your convenience, most publications are available at no cost on our Web site at http://www.dre.ca.gov.

By mail — Photocopy or remove this page from your Bulletin. Complete Parts A, B, and C (if appropriate). Mail it with the proper fee to: Department of Real Estate, Book Orders, P.O. Box 187006, Sacramento, CA 95818-7006.

By fax — Complete Parts A, B, and C. Fax form to (916) 227-0361.

By phone — Have credit card information ready, then call Book Order desk at (916) 0853.

In person from District Office — Complete Parts A, B, and C (if appropriate). Offices are located in Sacramento, Los Angeles, Oakland, Fresno, and San Diego.

Acceptable payment methods

- Personal check, cashier’s check or money order should be made payable to: Department of Real Estate.
- VISA and MasterCard credit cards may used to purchase DRE publications.
- Cash is acceptable only if purchasing in person and only if it’s the exact amount of purchase.

Miscellaneous information

- Mail orders originating in California and over-the-counter sales must include the state sales tax (7.5% for mail orders; effective 1/1/02 tax rate will be 7.75). Requests and fees will be returned if the appropriate sales tax is not included.
- Prices are subject to change.
- Orders received with incorrect payments will be returned.
- All sales are final — no refunds.
- Allow 4–6 weeks for delivery.
- Volume discounts are available. Contact DRE at (916) 227-0853 prior to ordering.

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Real Estate Commissioner Paula Reddish Zinnemann presented the California Community Colleges with a $50,000 ceremonial check representing funding for real estate education at the fall Real Estate Educators’ Conference. Butch Grimes, real estate practitioner from Los Angeles, and Joe Newton, real estate educator from Bakersfield, accepted the check on behalf of the Chancellor’s Office.

By statute, the Department of Real Estate earmarks a portion of license fees for the advancement of real estate education. Last year, $50,000 was appropriated and used to update existing community college instructor guides and student study guides to reflect current statutes, regulations, decisional law and industry practices and standards for real estate principles, practices, economics, appraisal and finance courses. A new instructor guide and student study guide for the mortgage loan brokering and lending course was developed as well.

The Commissioner also delivered a keynote speech at the conference, in which she reported on the status of her education study group, provided an update on DRE activities and plans and responded to questions from the audience.