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GENERAL PORTION (REAL ESTATE PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICES)

PSI 1 PROPERTY OWNERSHIP (8/10%)

- A. Real versus personal property; conveyances
- B. Land characteristics and legal descriptions
 - 1. Types of legal descriptions; Metes and bounds, Lot and block, government survey
 - 2. Measuring structures
 - 3. Livable, rentable, and usable area
 - 4. Land Measurement
 - 5. Mineral, air, and water rights
- C. Encumbrances and effects on property ownership
 - 1. Liens
 - 2. Easements and licenses
 - 3. Encroachments
 - 4. Other potential encumbrances of title

TYPES OF OWNERSHIP

TENANTS IN COMMON

JOINT TENANCY

COMMON-INTEREST OWNERSHIP

TIMESHARES

CONDOMINIUMS

CO-OPS

OWNERSHIP IN SEVERALTY/SOLE OWNERSHIP

LIFE ESTATE OWNERSHIP

PROPERTY OWNERSHIP HELD IN TRUST (BROKER ONLY)

I. PROPERTY OWNERSHIP (Salesperson 8%;

Broker 10%)

UNIT 2

Real Property and the Law



REAL PROPERTY AND THE LAW

Real estate is a market like any other.



REAL PROPERTY AND THE LAW

 Real property is the product, and the real estate professional is the salesperson



REAL PROPERTY AND THE LAW

 The real estate professional needs to know enough about the product to be able to educate and guide clients and customers, whether they are buyers, sellers, renters, or investors.



 Discuss the concepts or land and ownerships rights in real property



 Distinguish between real and personal property and the differences in transferring ownership and title



 Describe and explain the basic economic and physical characteristics of real property



 Discuss the limitations of the real estate professional under the law



Accession



Accession

 Acquiring title to additions or improvements to real property as a result of the annexation of fixtures or the accretion of alluvial deposits along the banks of streams.



Accretion



- Accretion
 - The increase or addition of land by the deposit of sand or soil washed up naturally from a river, lake, or sea.



Air Rights



Air Rights

 The right to use the open space above a property, usually allowing the surface to be used for another purpose.



Allodial System



- Allodial System
 - A system of land ownership in which land is held free and clear of any rent or service due to the government; commonly contrasted to the feudal system. Land is held under the allodial system in the

Annexation



- Annexation
 - Process of converting personal property into real property.



Appurtenance



- Appurtenance
 - A right, privilege, or improvement belonging to, and passing with, the land; "runs with the land."



Area Preference



- Area Preference
 - People's desire for one area over another, based on a number of factors such as history, reputation, convenience, scenic beauty, and location.



Attachment



Attachment

 The act of taking a person's property into legal custody by writ or other judicial order to hold it available for application to that person's debt to a creditor.



Avulsion



Avulsion

 The sudden tearing away of land, as by earthquake, flood, volcanic action, or the sudden change in the course of a stream.



Bundle of Legal Rights



- Bundle of Legal Rights
 - The concept of land ownership that includes ownership of all legal rights to the land-possession, control within the law, enjoyment, exclusion, and disposition.



Common Law

- Common Law
 - The body of law based on custom, usage, and court decisions.

KEY TERMS TO DEFINE AND RECORD Constructive Annexation



- Constructive Annexation
 - The combination of items into real property that are not fixed or fastened to the property.



Dwelling

 Any building or part of a building designed for occupancy as a residence by one or more families.



KEY TERMS TO DEFINE AND Easement by Implication



- Easement by Implication
 - An easement that occurs when a party's actions reflect the intention to create an easement.

Emblements



Emblements

 Growing crops, such as corn, that are produced annually through labor and industry; also called fructus industriales.



Erosion



Erosion

 The gradual and sometimes imperceptible wearing away of the land by natural forces, such as wind, rain, and flowing water.



Feudal System



KEY TERMS TO DEFINE AND RECORD • Feudal System

A system of ownership usually associated with pre-colonial England, in which the king or other sovereign is the source of all rights. The right to possess real property was granted by the sovereign to an individual as a life estate only. Upon the death of the individual, title passed back to the sovereign, not to the decedent's heirs.

Fixture



Fixture

 An item of personal property that has been converted to real property by being permanently affixed to the realty.



Immobility



Immobility

 The fact that property cannot be relocated to satisfy demand where supply is low, nor can buyers always relocate to areas with greater supply.



Improvement



Improvement

 (1) Any structure, usually privately owned, erected on a site to enhance the value of the property (e.g., a building, fence, or driveway).



 (2) A publicly owned structure added to or benefitting land (e.g., a curb, sidewalk, street, or sewer).



KEY TERMS TO DEFINE AND Judicial Precedent



- Judicial Precedent
 - In law, the requirements established by prior court decisions within the jurisdiction of the dispute.

Land



Land

 The earth's surface, extending downward to the center of the earth and upward infinitely into space including things permanently attached by nature, such as trees.



Littoral Rights



- Littoral Rights
 - (1) A landowner's claim to use water in large navigable lakes and oceans adjacent to her property.

• (2) The ownership rights to land bordering these bodies of water up to the high-water mark.



KEY TERMS TO DEFINE AND Manufactured Housing



KEY TERMS TO DEFINE AND RECORD Manufactured Housing

- - Dwellings that are built off site and trucked to a building lot where they are installed or assembled.

KEY TERMS TO DEFINE AND Nonhomogeneity



KEY TERMS TO DEFINE AND RECORD Nonhomogeneity

- - A lack of uniformity; dissimilarity. Because no two parcels of land are exactly alike, real estate is said to be nonhomogeneous.



Panic Peddling



- Panic Peddling
 - The illegal practice of soliciting people in a neighborhood to sell their homes because of fear or alarm; also referred to as blockbusting.



Personal Property



- Personal Property
 - Items, called chattels, that do not fit into the definition of real property; movable objects.

Personalty



- Personalty
 - Personal Property



Possession



- Possession
 - Owning or occupying a property.



KEY TERMS TO DEFINE AND Prior Appropriation



KEY TERMS TO DEFINE AND Prior Appropriation

- - A concept of water ownership in which the landowner's right to use available water is based on a government-administered permit system.

Protected Class



Protected Class

 Any group of people designated as such by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in consideration of federal civil rights legislation.



Individual states and local jurisdictions provide such designation to additional groups as well.



Real Estate



Real Estate

 Land; a portion of the earth's surface extending downward to the center of the earth and upward infinitely into space, including all things permanently attached to it, whether naturally or artificially.

KEY TERMS TO DEFINE AND Real Estate License Law



KEY TERMS TO DEFINE AND Real Estate License Law

- - State law enacted to protect the public from fraud, dishonesty, and incompetence on the part of those they hire to represent them in the purchase and sale of real estate.



KEY TERMS TO DEFINE AND RECORD Real Estate Recovery Fund



KEY TERMS TO DEFINE AND RECORD Real Estate Recovery Fund

 A fund established in some states from real estate license revenues to cover claims of aggrieved parties who have suffered monetary damage through the actions of a real estate professional.

Real Property



- Real Property
 - The interests, benefits, and rights inherent in real estate ownership; often used as a synonym for real estate.



Revocation



- Revocation
 - Canceling or annulling licensed privileges or rights.



Riparian Rights



Riparian Rights

 An owner's rights in land that borders on or includes a stream, river, or lake. These rights include access to and use of the water.



KEY TERMS TO DEFINE AND Rules and Regulations



KEY TERMS TO DEFINE AND Rules and Regulations

- - Real estate licensing authority orders that govern real estate professionals' activities, having the same force and effect as statutory law.

Severance



Severance

 Changing an item of real estate to personal property by detaching it from the land (e.g.,cutting down a tree).



Situs



Situs

The location of land for legal purposes;
 the jurisdiction in which land is located.



KEY TERMS TO DEFINE AND Subsurface Rights



KEY TERMS TO DEFINE AND Subsurface Rights

- - Ownership rights in a parcel of real estate to the water, minerals, gas, oil, and so forth that lie beneath the surface of the property.

Surface Rights



- Surface Rights
 - Ownership rights in a parcel of real estate that are limited to the surface of the property and do not include the space above it (air rights) or the substances below the surface (subsurface rights).



Tie-in Agreement



- Tie-in Agreement
 - Agreement to sell one product only if the buyer purchases another product as well; also called a tying agreement.



Trade Fixture



Trade Fixture

 An article installed by a tenant under the terms of a lease that is removable by the tenant before the lease expires.



KEY TERMS TO DEFINE AND RECORD Uniform Commercial Code (UCC)



KEY TERMS TO DEFINE AND Uniform Commercial Code (UCC)

- A codification of commercial law, adopted in most states, that attempts to make uniform all laws relating to commercial transactions, including chattel mortgages and bulk transfers. Security interests in chattels are created by an instrument
- GENTKHOWN AS A SECURITY AGREEMENT.
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RECORDTo give notice of the security interest, a financing statement must be recorded. Article 6 of the code regulates bulk transfers-the sale of a business as a whole, including all fixtures, chattels, and merchandise.



Water Rights



Water Rights

 Common law rights held by owners of land adjacent to rivers, lakes, or oceans; includes restrictions on those rights and land ownership.



B. Land characteristics and legal descriptions

LAND, REAL ESTATE AND REAL PROPERTY

Land

 Land is defined as the earth's surface extending downward to the center of the earth and upward to infinity.



REAL ESTATE AND REAL PROPERTY

Real Estate

 Real estate is defined as land plus all human-made improvements to the land that are permanently attached (annexed) to it.



REAL ESTATE AND REAL PROPERTY

Real Estate (cont.)

 An improvement to land can be any artificial thing attached on or below ground, such as a building, fence, water line or sewer pipe, as well as growing things that are made part of the landscaping.



REAL ESTATE AND REAL PROPERTY

Real Property

 Real property is defined as the interests, benefits, and rights that are automatically included in the ownership of real estate.



SURFACE, SUBSURFACE AND AIR RIGHTS

Surface rights

 Ownership rights in a parcel of real estate that are limited to the surface of the earth



Possession



Control



Enjoyment



Exclusion



Disposition



• "DEEP C"



TITLE TO REAL PROPERTY

• The right to or ownership of the property, including the owner's bundle of legal rights.



TITLE TO REAL PROPERTY

Evidence of that ownership by a deed



SURFACE, SUBSURFACE AND AIR RIGHTS

Subsurface rights

 The rights to the natural resources below the earth's surface



SURFACE, SUBSURFACE AND AIR RIGHTS

Air rights

 The rights to use the space above the earth; may be sold or leased independently, provided the rights have not been limited by law



5. Mineral, air, and water rights

WATER RIGHTS

Littoral Rights



WATER RIGHTS

Accretion, Erosion and Avulsion



WATER RIGHTS

Doctrine of Prior Appropriation



Personal Property (chattels)



Factory-Built Housing



Plants



Fructus Naturales



Emblements (fructus industriales)



CLASSIFICATION OF FIXTURES

 A fixture is personal property that has been so attached to land or a building that, by law, it becomes part of the real property.



LEGAL TEST OF A FIXTURE

Method of annexation



Adaptability of item to land's use



Relationship of parties



Intention in placing item on the land



Agreement of the parties



TRADE FIXTURES

 Usually owned and installed by a tenant for the tenant's use



TRADE FIXTURES

 May be attached to a building so they appear to be fixtures, but are removable



Scarcity



Improvements



Permanence of Investment



Area Preference (situs)



CHARACTERISTICS OF REAL PROPERTY Physical Characteristics

Immobility



CHARACTERISTICS OF REAL PROPERTY Physical Characteristics

Indestructibility



CHARACTERISTICS OF REAL PROPERTY Physical Characteristics

Uniqueness

Contract Law



General Property Law



Agency Law



Real Estate License Law



 Federal, state, and local laws and regulations (e.g., consumer protection, environmental, tax, land use, and zoning)



QUESTIONS

ExamSmart Property Ownership



MASS 5

Forms of Real Estate Ownership



☐ In Massachusetts, it is presumed that when a deed conveys land to two or more people, or to a husband and a wife—except if it is a mortgage, a devise, or a conveyance in trust—it is conveying ownership as an estate in common, unless there is evidence that another form of ownership was intended

- ☐ Tenants in common do not have a right of survivorship **between owners**, and may sell or give away their ownership interest.
- ☐ They have a right of inheritance



Another distinction of tenants in common is that the ownership interest does not need to be equal.



☐ Upon the death of a tenant in common, the estate is probated in order to transfer ownership interest.



☐ Four main elements indicate a joint tenancy ownership:



1.) The joint tenants own an undivided interest in the property as a whole, and each share is equal.



□ 2.) All joint tenants own for exactly the same period of time—in this case, the tenants' lifetime.



☐ 3.) The joint tenants received and maintain their ownership under the same **title**.



CAKE ANALOGY

Possession~ they all possess it together



□ 4.) All joint tenants enjoy the same rights until one of them dies. (survivorship)



Under the right of survivorship, the death of one joint tenant **automatically** transfers the remainder of the property in equal parts to the survivors.

■ When only one joint tenant is left alive, he receives the entire estate

TENANCY BY THE ENTIRETY

- A tenancy by the entirety is created when
- □ the conveying deed expressly transfers the property "to X and Y as tenants by the entirety"; and the conveyance is to a married couple.
- ☐ Right of survivorship to remaining spouse



PARTNERSHIP OWNERSHIP

Partnership ownership results if partnership funds are used in the purchase of property by persons who are partners.



PARTNERSHIP OWNERSHIP

■ Massachusetts has adopted the Uniform Partnership Act, under the terms of which a partner may purchase property with the partnership funds in his own individual name.



PARTNERSHIP OWNERSHIP

☐ The property does not have to be in the partnership's name.



COOPERATIVES

☐ To foster the development of safe, decent, and affordable housing, the state encourages the establishment of multiple-family housing cooperative associations.



COOPERATIVES,

Following statutory requirements, a special kind of corporation is established, in which individual unit residents own stock in the corporation, and receive a proprietary lease, entitling her to occupy a specific unit in the building, and to use the common areas.



CONDOMINIUMS M.G.L. C. 183A

☐ Condominium ownership is a real-property interest, combining mixed forms of ownership (e.g., joint tenancy with an estate in common).



CONDOMINIUMS M.G.L. C. 183A

☐ Condominium means to "exercise dominion with others."

The notice must contain the following three items:



☐ The owner has filed or intends to file a master deed converting the property to a condominium.



The tenant shall be given a **period of time to vacate**, based on status as elderly, low to
moderate income, handicapped, or other.

☐ The tenant shall be given a **chance to purchase the unit he occupied**, at terms

equal to or better than those offered to the general public.



CONDOMINIUM CLOSING REQUIREMENTS

In addition to normal property closing requirements, a condominium requires two items:

- ☐ 6D Certificate. Common area fees have been paid.
- Master Insurance Policy.



CONDOMINIUM FINANCING

☐ Condominium buyers are often surprised to find their bank will allow them to buy a house that costs more than a condominium.



CONDOMINIUM FINANCING

In calculating how much a buyer can afford, most lenders will include the condominium fee as a monthly expense.



CONDOMINIUM FINANCING

■ Therefore, when calculating how much of a buyer's monthly income is available to carry a mortgage, include the condominium fee.



CONDOMINIUM SUPER LIEN

☐ The Massachusetts Condominium Super Lien improves a condominium association right to collect unpaid condominium fees in the case of foreclosure.



CONDOMINIUM SUPER LIEN

■ It allows the condominium association to collect up to six months of overdue condominium fees, after taxes and municipal debts have been paid, but before any mortgage obligations are paid.



CONDOMINIUM SUPER LIEN

■ This is true even if the condominium association lien is recorded after the mortgage at the Registry of Deeds.



TIMESHARE OWNERSHIP M.G.L. C. 183B

☐ In a time-share arrangement, a parcel is held by several owners in common.



TIMESHARE OWNERSHIP M.G.L. C. 183B

☐ Each owner has the right to use the property for a certain period of time, which may be either fixed or variable.



TIMESHARE OWNERSHIP M.G.L. C. 183B

☐ In Massachusetts, an ownership interest in a unit that includes the right of possession during a potentially infinite number of separate periods, is an estate in fee simple, and it includes all the rights of common law fee ownership.



TIMESHARE OWNERSHIP M.G.L. C. 183B

M.G.L. C. 183B

An interest in a unit, that includes the right of possession during five or more separate time periods, over a limited number of years, that is greater than five, including extension and renewal options, is a common law estate for years.





UNIT 5 QUIZ

The four unities of possession, interest, time, and title are associated with which of the following?

a. Community propertyb. Severalty ownershipc. Tenants in commond. Joint tenancy

D. JOINT TENANCY

UNIT 5 QUIZ

A trust is a legal arrangement in which property is held for the benefit of a third party by a(n)

- a. beneficiary
- b. trustor
- c. trustee
- d. attorney-in-fact

C. TRUSTEE

A legal arrangement under which the title to real property is held to protect the interests of a beneficiary is a

- a. trust
- b. corporation
- c. limited partnership
- d. general partnership

A. TRUST

An owner purchases an interest in a house in Beachfront. The owner is entitled to the right of possession only between July 10 and August 4 of each year. Which of the following is MOST likely the type of ownership that has been purchased?

a.Cooperative

b.Condominium

c.Time-share

d.Partnership

C. TIME-SHARE

A corporation is a legal entity, recognized as an artificial person. Property owned solely by the corporation is owned in

- a .Trust
- b. Partnership
- c.severalty
- d.survivorship tenancy

C. SEVERALTY

Which of the following is MOST likely evidence of ownership in a cooperative? a Tax hill for an individual unit b.Existence of a reverter clause c.Shareholder's stock d.Right of first refusal

C. SHAREHOLDER'S STOCK

An ownership interest that can be an estate interest or a right of use is a

- a. leasehold
- b. time-share
- c. condominium
- d. cooperative

B. TIME-SHARE

Which of the following is NOT a form of co-ownership?

- a. Tenancy in common
- b. Ownership in severalty
- c. Tenancy by the entirety
- d. Community property

B. OWNERSHIP IN SEVERALTY

If property is held by two or more owners as joint tenants, the interest of a deceased co-owner will be passed to the

- a. surviving owner or owners
 - b. heirs of the deceased
 - c. state, under the law of escheat
 - d. trust under which the property was owned

Answer

A. SURVIVING OWNER OR OWNERS

D. TYPES OF OWNERSHIP

UNIT 4

Forms of Real Estate Ownership



FORMS OF REAL ESTATE OWNERSHIP

Although the forms of ownership available are controlled by state law, real estate may be held in one of three basic ways. They include ownership in severalty (one owner), co-ownership (more than one owner), and ownership by a trust (property held for the benefit of another).



☐ Define and explain the distinction between ownership in severalty and co-ownership.



■ Describe the various forms of co-ownership in real estate.



□ Describe the key elements of trusts, partnerships, corporations, and LLCs.



☐ Identify and describe the types of property ownership for common-interest properties.



- Administrator
- Co-ownership
- Codicil
- Common Elements
- Community Property
- Condominium
- Conveyance

- Corporation
- Courtesy
- Decedent
- Descent
- Determinable Fee
 - Estate
- Dower



Cooperative

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- Incorporeal Right
- Joint Tenancy
- Land Trust
- Legacy
- Legally Competent
 Parties

Ageimited Liability

-
- Life Tenant

- Minor
- Model Real Estate
- ☐ Time-Share Act
- Nuncupative Will
- Partition
- Partnership
- 🗀 PITT

Power of Attorney

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- Severalty
- ☐ Tenancy by the
 - Entirety
- ☐ Tenancy in Common (TIC)
- ☐ Testamentary Trust
- Time-share

- Town House
- Trust
- Trustee
- Uniform Partnership
 Act
- Unity of Ownership
- Unity of Possession

Administrator



- Administrator
- A court-selected person who assists with the settlement of an estate of a person who died without leaving a will.

A woman might be called an administratrix, although administrator is the term used most often to refer to either a man or woman.

Co-ownership



- Co-ownership
 - Title ownership held by two or more persons.



Codicil



Codicil

A supplement or an addition to a will, executed with the same formalities as a will, which normally does not revoke the entire will.



Common Elements



- Common Elements
 - Parts of a property that are necessary or convenient to the existence, maintenance, and safety of a condominium or are normally in common use by all the condominium residents.



Each condominium owner has an undivided ownership interest in the common elements.



Community Property



- Community Property
 - A system of property ownership based on the theory that each spouse has an equal interest in the property acquired by the efforts of either spouse during marriage.



A holdover of Spanish law found predominantly in the western U.S. states; the system was unknown under English common law.

Condominium



Condominium

■ The absolute ownership of a unit in a multi-unit building based on a legal description of the airspace the unit actually occupies, or a separate dwelling unit in a multi-unit development, plus an undivided interest in the ownership of the common elements in the building or development,

ENTWhich are owned jointly with the other

Conveyance



- Conveyance
 - A term used to refer to any document that **transfers title** to real property. The term is also used in describing the act of transferring.



Cooperative



Cooperative- Personal Property

☐ A residential multi-unit building whose title is held by a trust or corporation that is owned by and operated for the benefit of people living within the building who are the beneficial owners of the trust or shareholders of the corporation, each possessing a proprietary lease to a property unit.



Corporation



- Corporation
 - An entity or organization, created by operation of law, whose rights of doing business are essentially the same as those of an individual.



The entity has continuous existence until it is dissolved according to legal procedures.



Curtesy



- Curtesy
 - A life estate, usually a fractional interest, given by some states to the surviving husband in real estate owned by his deceased wife.



Most states have recognized other marital property rights and abolished courtesy.



Decedent



- Decedent
 - A person who has died.



- Descent
 - Acquisition of an estate by inheritance in which an heir succeeds to the property by operation of law.



□ Determinable Fee Estate



- Determinable Fee Estate
 - A fee simple estate that the property returns to the original grantor or heirs when specified condition occurs, indicating that the property is no longer being used for the purpose prescribed.



Dower



Dower

- The legal right or interest, recognized in some states, that a wife acquires in the property her husband held or acquired during their marriage.
- Spousal rights



During the husband's lifetime, the right is only a possibility of an interest; upon his death, it can become an interest in land.



Executor



- Executor
 - An appointed person who carries out the directions of a will.



☐ Heir



- □ Heir
 - One who might inherit or succeed to an interest in land under the state law of descent when the owner dies without leaving a valid will.



Holographic Will



- Holographic Will
 - □ A will that is written, dated, and signed in the testator's handwriting.



☐ Incorporeal Right



- ☐ Incorporeal Right
 - A nonpossessory right in real estate (e.g., an easement or a right-of-way).



- Joint Tenancy
 - Ownership of real estate between two or more parties who have been named in one conveyance as joint tenants. Upon the death of a joint tenant, the decedent's interest usually passes to the surviving joint tenant or tenants by the right of survivorship.

☐ Land Trust



- □ Land Trust
 - A trust in which property is conveyed, and in which real estate is the only asset.



Legacy



- Legacy
 - A disposition of money or personal property by will.



■ Legally Competent Parties



- Legally Competent Parties
 - People who are recognized by law as being able to contract with others; those of legal age and sound mind.



☐ Life Tenant



- Life Tenant
 - A person in possession of a life estate.



☐ Limited Liability Company (LLC)



- □ Limited Liability Company (LLC)
 - A form of business organization the most attractive features of limited partnerships and corporations.



☐ Minor



□ Minor

A person who has not reached the age of majority and, therefore, does not have legal capacity to transfer title to real property.



☐ Model Real Estate Time- Share Act



- Model Real Estate Time-Share Act
 - An act that governs the management, use, and termination of time-share-units.



Nuncupative Will



- Nuncupative Will
 - An oral will declared by the testator in his final illness, made before witnesses and afterward reduced to writing; not permitted by all states.



Partition



Partition

The division of cotenants' interests in real property when the parties do not all voluntarily agree to terminate the co-ownership; takes place through a court procedure.



Partnership



Partnership

An association of two or more individuals who carry on a continuing business for profit as co-owners. Under the law, a partnership is regarded as a group of individuals rather than as a single entity separate from the individual owners.



A general partnership is a typical form of joint venture in which each general partner shares in the administration, profits, and losses of the operation. A limited partnership is a business arrangement whereby the operation is administered by one or more general partners and funded, by and large, by limited or silent partners, who are by law responsible for losses only to the extent of their investments.



□ PITT



□ PITT

The four unities of tenants in a joint tenancy; **p**ossession, **i**nterest, **t**ime, and **t**itle.



Power of Attorney



- Power of Attorney
 - A written instrument authorizing a person, the attorney-in-fact, to act as agent for another person to the extent indicated in the instrument.



Public Ownership



- Public Ownership
 - ☐ Government-owned property.



Separate Property



- Separate Property
 - Under community property law, property owned solely by either spouse before the marriage, acquired by gift or inheritance during the marriage, or purchased with separate funds after the marriage.



Severalty



- Severalty
 - Ownership of real property by one person only; also called sole ownership.



☐ Tenancy by the Entirety



- **☐** Tenancy by the Entirety
 - The joint ownership, recognized in some states, of property acquired by husband and wife during marriage. Upon the death of one spouse, the **survivor** becomes the owner of the property.



☐ Tenancy in Common (TIC)



- **□** Tenancy in Common (TIC)
 - ☐ A form of co-ownership by which each owner holds an undivided interest in real property as if each were sole owner. Each individual owner has the right to partition. Unlike joint tenants, tenants in common have the right of inheritance.



☐ Testamentary Trust



- **□** Testamentary Trust
 - □ A trust that is established by will after one's death.



☐ Time-share



- □ Time-share
 - A form of ownership interest that may include an estate interest in property and that allows use of the property for a fixed or variable time period.



□ Town House



■ Town House

☐ A type of residential dwelling with two floors that is connected to one or more dwellings by a common wall or walls. Title to the unit and lot vest in the owner who shares a fractional interest with other owners in any common areas.



☐ Trust



☐ Trust

A fiduciary arrangement whereby property is conveyed to a person or an institution, called a trustee, to be held and administered on behalf of another person, called a beneficiary. The one who conveys the trust is called the trustor.



☐ Trustee



☐ Trustee

One to whom something is entrusted and who holds legal title to property and administers the property for the benefit of a beneficiary. Can also be a member of a board entrusted with the administration of an institution or organization, such as a cooperative.



☐ Uniform Partnership Act



- Uniform Partnership Act
 - Law that provides for the continuation of an existing business if a partner in a general partnership dies, withdraws, or goes bankrupt.



Unity of Ownership



- Unity of Ownership
 - The four unities that are traditionally needed to create a joint tenancy- unity of title, time, interest, and possession.



☐ Unity of Possession



- Unity of Possession
 - Co-owners of a joint tenancy are each entitled to possession and use of the entire property, even though each hold only a fractional ownership interest.



OWNERSHIP IN SEVERALTY

Property is owned by one individual, corporation, or other entity

Co-Ownership

Ownership by two or more individuals



1. Tenants in common

2. Joint tenancy

4. Ownership in severalty/sole ownership

FORMS OF CO-OWNERSHIP

- ☐ Tenancy in common (TIC)
- Joint tenancy
- Tenancy by the entirety
- Community property



TRUSTS AND BUSINESS

- ☐ Living and Testamentary Trusts
- Land Trusts
- Business Organizations
- Partnership
- Corporation
- Limited Liability Company



6. Property ownership held in trust (BROKER ONLY)

a) Timeshares b) Condominiums

c) Co-ops

CONDOMINIUMS, COOPERATIVES & TIME-SHARE'S

Condominium Ownership

- Common elements
- Right of first refusal option
- HOA



CONDOMINIUMS, COOPERATIVES & TIME-SHARE'S

Cooperative Ownership

- Corporation holds title
- Corporation bylaws
- Shares of stock



CONDOMINIUMS, COOPERATIVES & TIME-SHARE'S

Time-Share Ownership

- Time-share estate
- Time-share use



3. Common- interest ownership

1. Types of legal descriptions;

- Metes and bounds,
- Lot and block,
- government survey

UNIT 5

Land Descriptions



LAND DESCRIPTIONS

A street address, while helpful for finding the location of a property or building, is not precise enough to define the perimeter of a parcel of land in a way that excludes all other parcels.



A property description must be legally sufficient, or described in a way that will enable a sales contract, deed, or mortgage document to be legally enforceable. A legal description is a detailed way of describing a parcel of land for such documents. The description is based on information collected through a survey.



UNIT OBJECTIVES

- ☐ Identify and explain the methods used for describing real estate.
- ☐ Explain the process involved in identifying and measuring property rights including those above and below the surface.



4. Land Measurement

- Acre
- Air Lots
- Area
- Base Line
- Benchmarks
- Datum
- ☐ Front Footage

- Frontage
- Legal Description
- Linear Measurement
- Lot-and-block (recorded plat) method
- Meridian
- Metes-and-bounds method
- Monument

- Plat Map
- Point of beginning (POB)
- Principal Meridian
- Range
- Recorded plat
- Rectangular (government) survey
 - system

- Section
- Spot survey
- Survey
- Tiers
- Township
- Township Lines
- Uniqueness

Acre





Acre

A measure of land equal to 43, 560 square feet, 4,840 square yards, 4,047 square meters, 160 square rods, or 0.4047 hectares.



☐ Air Lots





□ Air Lots

Designated airspace over a piece of land. An air lot, like surface property, may be transferred.



☐ Area





- Area
 - A level surface or piece of ground; the size of a surface; the amount of a two-dimensional object.



☐ Base Line



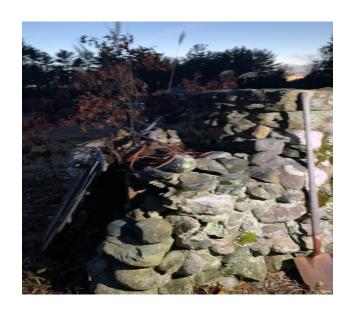


Base Line

The main imaginary line running east and west and crossing a principal meridian at a definite point; used by surveyors for reference in locating and describing land under the rectangular (government) survey system of legal description.



Benchmarks





- Benchmarks
 - Permanent reference marks or points established for use by surveyors in measuring differences in elevation.

Datum



- Datum
 - A horizontal plane from which heights and depths are measured.



☐ Front Footage



- Front Footage
 - The measurement of a parcel of land by the number of feet of street or road frontage.

☐ Frontage





- Frontage
 - The length of property along the street or waterfront.









- Legal Description
 - A description of a specific parcel of real estate complete enough for an independent surveyor to locate and identify it.



☐ Linear Measurement



- Linear Measurement
 - Measurement in a straight line.



☐ Lot-and-block (recorded plat) method



- Lot-and-block (recorded plat) method
 - A method of describing real property that identifies a parcel of land by reference to lot and block numbers within a subdivision as specified on a recorded subdivision plat.



Meridian



Meridian

One of a set of imaginary lines running north and south and crossing a base line at a definite point, used in the rectangular (government) survey system of property description.



■ Metes-and-bounds Method



- Metes-and-bounds Method
 - A method used to describe a parcel of land that begins at a well-marked point and follows the property's boundaries, using directions and distances around the tract, back to the place of beginning.

Monument





- Monument
 - A fixed natural or artificial object used to establish real estate boundaries for a metes-and-bounds description.



Plat Map



- Plat Map
 - A map of a town, section, or subdivision indicating the location and boundaries of individual properties.



□ Point of Beginning (POB)



- □ Point of Beginning (POB)
 - In a metes-and-bounds legal description, the starting point of the survey, situated in one corner of the parcel; all metes-and-bounds descriptions must follow the boundaries of the parcel back to the point of beginning.



Principal Meridian



Principal Meridian

The main imaginary line running north and south and crossing a base line at a definite point; used by surveyors for reference in locating and describing land under the rectangular (government) survey system of legal description.



□ Range



Range

A strip of land six miles wide, extending north and south an numbered east and west according to its distance from the principal meridian in the rectangular (government) survey system of legal description.



☐ Recorded Plat



- Recorded Plat
 - A map of a subdivision filed as a public record showing the location and boundaries of the individual parcels.



□ Rectangular (government) survey system



- □ Rectangular (government) survey system
 - A system established in 1785 by the federal government, providing for surveying and describing land by reference to principal meridians and base lines.



Section



Section

A portion of a township under the rectangular (government) survey system. A township is divided into 36 sections, numbered 1 through 36. A section is a square with mile-long sides and an area of one square mile, or 640 acres.



□ Spot Survey



- Spot Survey
 - A survey that shows the location, size, and shape of buildings on the lot, in addition to the lot's legal description.



☐ Survey



□ Survey

The process by which boundaries are measured and land areas are determined; the on-site measurement of lot lines, dimensions, and position of a house on a lot, including the determination of any existing encroachments or easements.



Tiers



□ Tiers

Strips of land that are six miles wide, extending east and west and numbered north and south according to their distance from the base line in the rectangular (government) survey system of legal description.



☐ Township



- Township
 - The principal unit of the rectangular (government) survey system. A township is a 6-mile square or 36 square miles.



☐ Township Lines



- **□** Township Lines
 - All the lines in a rectangular survey system that run east and west, parallel to the baseline and six miles apart.



Uniqueness





- Uniqueness
 - The idea that no matter how identical they may appear, no two parcels of real estate are ever exactly alike.



METHODS OF DESCRIBING REAL ESTATE

- Metes and bounds
 - Point of beginning
 - Monuments: Fixed objects used to identify the POB, all corners of the parcel or ends of boundary segments, and the location of intersecting boundaries.



METHODS OF DESCRIBING REAL ESTATE

- Rectangular (government) survey
 - Principal meridian
 - ☐ Tiers
 - Ranges
 - Townships
 - Sections



METHODS OF DESCRIBING REAL ESTATE

- Lot and block (recorded plat)
 - Lot and block number
 - Subdivision plat



THE SURVEY- MEASURING PROPERTY RIGHTS

- Legal description
- Survey sketch



LAND DESCRIPTION

- Measuring Elevations
 - □ Air lots
 - Datum
- Monuments and Benchmarks
- ☐ Units of Land Measurement



CHAPTER 15

Land-Use Controls and Property Development



ZONING REGULATIONS

Through power conferred by state enabling acts, each city and town in Massachusetts develops its own city plan and zoning ordinances or bylaws.



ZONING REGULATIONS

The Zoning Act (M.G.L. c. 40A) is the source of zoning authority for all communities in the state except Boston. It sets forth procedural rules for establishing zoning ordinances.



THE ZONING ACT

SPECIFICALLY EXEMPTS:

The Zoning Act specifically exempts land and buildings, that did not conform to the prescribed use for the location, at the time the zoning code was passed.



THE ZONING ACT

The statute indicates that nonconforming (i.e., grandfathered) uses may not continue forever, and prescribes that if the use is abandoned and not used for a period of two years or more, the current zoning code must be followed.



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The statute also states that pre-existing, nonconforming structures or uses, may be extended or altered, so long as the permit granting authority finds that the extension or alteration is not substantially more detrimental to the neighborhood than the existing nonconforming use.



Objections to the zoning of particular pieces of land may be taken to the Zoning Board of Appeals.



Applicants for zoning variance



must demonstrate that the desired variance will be in the public interest, and that it will remain within the spirit of the ordinance.



must show that the change is necessary because of the hardship caused by the existing requirement, and that the variance would affect only his property, and not the general district. Decisions of the Zoning Board of Appeals may be appealed to the Massachusetts Superior Court.



In addition to local zoning boards, Massachusetts law provides for the creation of local and regional planning boards in all parts of the state.



■ Planning boards have two major functions:



planning



usubdivision control - Subdivision control consumes most of a board's time, especially in growing suburban and rural areas.



Subdivisions are defined in Massachusetts as land divided into two or more lots that do not front on a public or approved road.



The Subdivision Control Law is also in effect in every city, except for Boston, and in every town in Massachusetts that develops its own plan and zoning regulations.



The basic purposes of subdivision control law include:



protecting the health, safety, convenience, and welfare of inhabitants



providing adequate access by roads that are safe and convenient for travel



lessening congestion on subdivision roads and adjacent public roads



reducing motor vehicle accidents



securing safety in case of fire, flood, panic, and other emergencies



lessening congestion on subdivision roads and adjacent public roads



securing safety in case of fire, flood, panic, and other emergencies



ensuring compliance with applicable zoning ordinances and bylaws



securing adequate provision for water, sewer, drainage, underground utility services, fire, police, other municipal equipment, street lighting, and other requirements where necessary in a subdivision



coordinating the ways in a subdivision with each other, with the public ways in the city or town where it is located, and with the ways in neighboring subdivisions



UNIFORM BUILDING CODE

The Uniform Building Code regulates residential, commercial, and industrial construction in Massachusetts.



UNIFORM BUILDING CODE

■ It supersedes local building codes.



ANTI-SNOB ZONING

In response to selective zoning practices in many cities and towns in the Commonwealth, the Massachusetts legislature enacted an anti-snob zoning law in 1969 called the Massachusetts Comprehensive Permit Law.

ANTI-SNOB ZONING

In an effort to increase the supply and improve the regional distribution of low-income and moderate-income housing, the law allows certain public agencies and any nonprofit or limited dividend organization, to construct low-income and moderate-income housing, despite local zoning bylaws.



In Massachusetts, restrictions may be created to exist for any length of time, but, unless the creating document includes a definite time limit, they become void after 30 years.



Courts will refuse to enforce a restriction if:



changes in the neighborhood have frustrated the purpose of the restriction



the parties who have the right to enforce the restriction have acted in such a way as to make enforcement unfair



■ The general plan first contemplated by the subdivider has been abandoned or no longer exists



■ the highest and best use of the land is impeded by the restriction



enforcement of the restriction is inequitable



2. Measuring structures

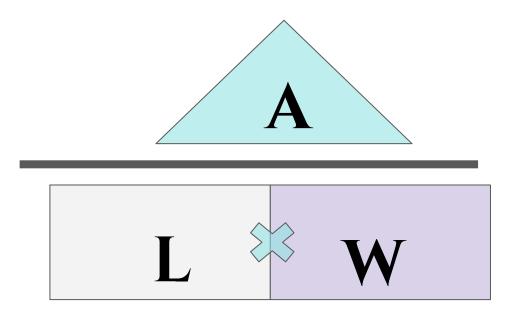
TIPS TO SOLVE

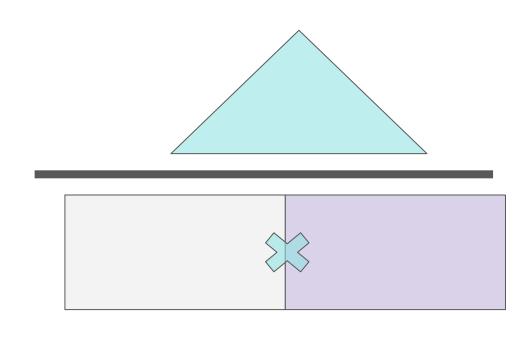
- Cover the item you are solving for
 - ☐ (The one you do not have!)
- □ Put the one you are solving for alone on one side alone
 - ☐ What is left is on the other!



3. Livable, rentable, and usable area

LENGTH X WIDTH = AREA





C. Encumbrances and effects on property ownership

- 1. Liens
- 2. Easements and licenses
- 3. Encroachments
- 4. Other potential encumbrances of title

5. Life Estate ownership

II. LAND USE CONTROLS AND REGULATIONS (SALESPERSON 5%; BROKER 5%)

- A. Government rights in land
 - 1. Property taxes and special assessments
 - 2. Eminent domain, condemnation, escheat
- B. Government controls
 - 1. Zoning and master plans
 - 2. Building codes
 - 3. Regulation of special land types
 - a) Flood zones b) Wetlands
 - 4. Regulation of environmental hazards
 - a) Types of hazards b) Abatement and mitigation c) Restrictions on contaminated property
- C. Private controls
 - 1. Deed conditions or restrictions
 - 2. Covenants, conditions, and restrictions (CC&Rs)
 - 3. Homeowners association regulations

PSI EXAMS 2

Land use controls and regulations (Salesperson 5 items/Broker 5 items

GOVERNMENT RIGHTS IN LAND

PROPERTY TAXES AND SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS

EMINENT DOMAIN, CONDEMNATION, ESCHEAT

GOVERNMENT CONTROLS

ZONING AND MASTER PLANS

BUILDING CODES

REGULATION OF SPECIAL LAND TYPES

FLOOD ZONES

WET LANDS

REGULATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS

TYPES OF HAZARDS

ABATEMENT AND MITIGATION

RESTRICTIONS ON CONTAMINATED PROPERTY

PRIVATE CONTROLS

DEED CONDITIONS OR RESTRICTIONS

COVENANTS, CONDITIONS, AND RESTRICTIONS (CC&Rs)

HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION REGULATIONS

LAND USE CONTROLS

- 1. Government rights in land
 - a. Property taxes and special assessments
 - b. Eminent domain, condemnation, escheat
 - c. Police power





■ Buffer Zone





□ Buffer Zone

A strip of land, usually used as a park or designated for a similar use, separating land dedicated to one use from land dedicated to another use (e.g., residential from commercial).





Building Code





Building Code

An ordinance that specifies minimum standards of construction for buildings to protect public safety and health.





Building Permit



Building Permit

Written governmental permission for the construction, alteration, or demolition of an improvement, showing compliance with building codes and zoning ordinances.





Certificate of Occupancy





- □ Certificate of Occupancy
 - Permission by the municipal inspector to occupy a completed building structure after being inspected and having complied with building codes.





Conditional-use Permit





- **☐** Conditional-use Permit
 - Written governmental permission allowing a use inconsistent with zoning but necessary for the common good, such as locating an emergency medical facility in a predominantly residential area.

4. PRIVATE CONTROLS

- a. Deed conditions or restrictions
- b. Homeowners association (HOA) regulations



☐ Covenants, Conditions, and Restrictions (CC&Rs)





- ☐ Covenants, Conditions, and Restrictions (CC&Rs)
 - Private agreements that affect land use. They may be enforced by an owner of real estate that benefits from them and can be included in the seller's deed to the buyer.



Deed Restrictions





Deed Restrictions

Clauses in a deed limiting the future uses of the property. Deed may impose a vast variety of limitations and conditions--for example, they may limit the density of buildings, dictate the types of structures that can be erected, or prevent buildings from being used for specific purposes or even from being used at all.



Density Zoning





Density Zoning

☐ Zoning ordinances that restrict the maximum average number of housing units per acre that may be built within a particular area, generally a subdivision.





Developer





Developer

One who attempts to put land to its most profitable use through the construction of improvements.





Development





- Development
 - ☐ The construction of improvements that benefit land.





Enabling Acts







☐ State legislation that confers zoning and other powers on municipal governments.





☐ Interstate Land Sales Full Disclosure Act (ILSA)





- ☐ Interstate Land Sales Full Disclosure Act (ILSA)
 - A federal law that regulates the sale of certain real estate in interstate commerce.





Laches





□ Laches

An equitable doctrine used by courts to bar a legal claim or to prevent the assertion of a right because of undue delay or failure to assert the claim or right.



Master Plan





■ Master Plan

A comprehensive government plan to guide the long-term physical development of a particular area.





Master-planned Community





- Master-planned Community
 - A planned combination of diverse land uses, such as housing, recreation, and shopping, in one contained development or subdivision; also called a planned unit development (PUD).



☐ Mixed Use





☐ Mixed Use

Property that accommodates more than one use, such as commercial use and residential use.





Nonconforming Use





Nonconforming Use

A use of property that is permitted to continue after a zoning ordinance prohibiting it has been established for the area.





Obsolescence





Obsolescence

The loss of value due to property features that are outmoded or less useful. Obsolescence may be functional or external.



Occupancy Permit





Occupancy Permit

A permit issued by the appropriate local governing body to establish that the property is suitable for habitation by meeting certain safety and health standards.



□ Planned Unit Development (PUD)





A planned combination of diverse land uses, such as housing, recreation, and shopping, in one contained development or subdivision.





□ Plat Map





□ Plat Map

A map of a town, section, or subdivision indicating the location and boundaries of individual properties.





Property Reports





Property Reports

☐ The mandatory federal and state documents compiled by subdividers and developers to provide potential purchasers with facts about a property prior to a purchase.



☐ Restrictive Covenant







A clause in a deed that limits the way the real estate ownership may be used.





□ Setback





□ Setback

The amount of space local zoning regulations require between a lot line and a building.





Spot Zoning





Spot Zoning

Granting a particular parcel a classification that differs from the classification of other land in the immediate area; may be considered illegal.





Subdivider





Subdivider

One who buys undeveloped land, divides it into smaller, usable lots and sells the lots to potential users.





Subdivision





Subdivision

☐ A tract of land divided by the owner, known as the subdivider, into blocks, building lots, and streets according to a recorded subdivision plat, which must comply with local ordinance and regulations.



☐ Subdivision and Development Ordinances





- Subdivision and Development Ordinances
 - Municipal ordinances that establish requirements for subdivisions and development.





Variance





□ Variance

Permission obtained from zoning authorities to build a structure or conduct a use that is expressly prohibited by the current zoning laws; an exception from the zoning ordinances.





■ Waste





■ Waste

An improper use or an abuse of a property by a possessor who holds less than fee ownership, such as a tenant, or vendee. Such waste ordinarily impairs the value of the land or the interest of the person holding the title or the reversionary rights.

2. PUBLIC CONTROLS BASED IN POLICE POWER

- a. Zoning and master plans
- b. Building codes
- c. Environmental impact reports
- d. Regulation of special land types (floodplain, coastal, etc.)



Zoning







A regulatory tool that helps communities regulate and control how land is used.



Zoning Board of Appeals







A board that must be formed when the local legislature adopts a new zoning law, to provide for property owners to object to the application of the law to their property.



Zoning Ordinance





Zoning Ordinance

An exercise of police power by a municipality to regulate and control the character and use of property.





Land-Use Controls & Zoning

- **□** Land-Use Controls:
- Government Ownership
- ☐ The Comprehensive Plan
 - □ aka "Master Plan"





Land-Use Controls & Zoning

- **□** Zoning:
- Classifications
 - Ordinances
- Permits
 - Non Conforming
 - Variances and
 - conditional-use permits
 - Zoning Hearing Boards



3. REGULATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS

- a. Abatement, mitigation and cleanup requirements
 b. Restrictions on sale or development of contaminated property
- c. Types of hazards and potential for agent or seller liability



Building Codes

- Building Codes and Certificates of Occupancy
 - Permits
 - Certificate of Occupancy
 - ADA Considerations





Subdivision

- □ A subdivider segments land into parcels.
- □ A developer constructs improvements on subdivided parcels.



Land Development



Land

Development

Plan:

Subdivision Plan

Plat map

Density

Private Land-Use

Controls:

Deed Restrictions

Restrictive

Covenants



Regulation of Land Sales

- ☐ Interstate Land Sales Full Disclosure Act (ILSA)
- ☐ State Subdivided Land Sales Laws

Massachusetts

- 5. Zoning and land-use regulations
- A. State Sanitary Code



Zoning Regulations

□ Through power conferred by state enabling acts, each city and town in Massachusetts develops its own city plan and zoning ordinances or bylaws.





Zoning Regulations

The Zoning Act (M.G.L. c. 40A) is the source of zoning authority for all communities in the state except Boston. It sets forth procedural rules for establishing zoning ordinances.



The Zoning Act Specifically Exempts:

☐ The Zoning Act specifically exempts land and buildings, that did not conform to the prescribed use for the location, at the time the zoning code was passed.



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Objections to the zoning of particular pieces of land may be taken to the Zoning Board of Appeals.



Applicants for zoning variations:





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In addition to local zoning boards,
Massachusetts law provides for the
creation of local and regional planning
boards in all parts of the state.





Planning boards have two major functions:





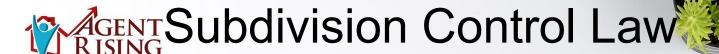
planning



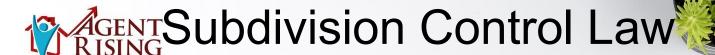


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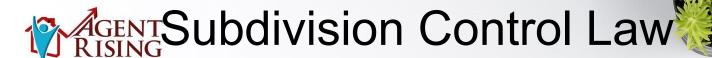




Subdivisions are defined in Massachusetts as land divided into two or more lots that do not front on a public or approved road.

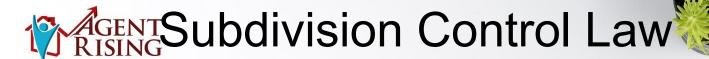


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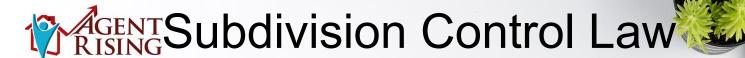


The basic purposes of subdivision control law include:

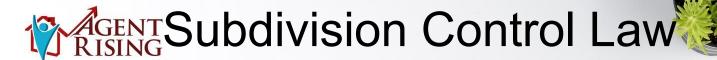




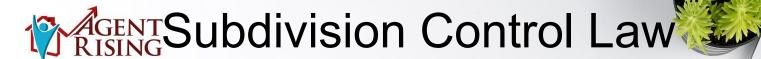
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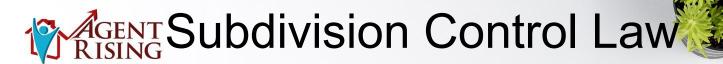
providing adequate access by roads that are safe and convenient for travel



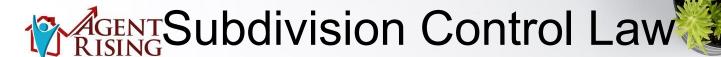
lessening congestion on subdivision roads and adjacent public roads



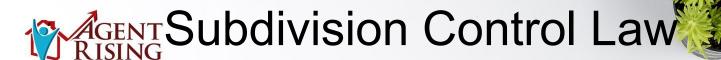
reducing motor vehicle accidents



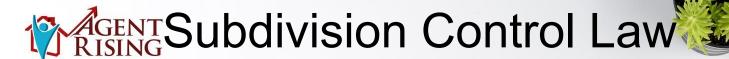
securing safety in case of fire, flood, panic, and other emergencies



lessening congestion on subdivision roads and adjacent public roads

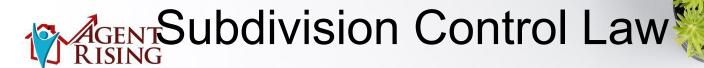


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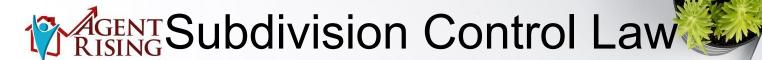


ensuring compliance with applicable zoning ordinances and bylaws

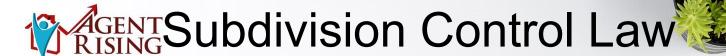
securing adequate provision for water, sewer, drainage, underground utility services, fire, police, other municipal equipment, street lighting, and other requirements where necessary in a subdivision



coordinating the ways in a subdivision with each other, with the public ways in the city or town where it is located, and with the ways in neighboring subdivisions



reducing motor vehicle accidents



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CAGENT Uniform Building Code

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Anti-Snob Zoning

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Anti-Snob Zoning

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changes in the neighborhood have frustrated the purpose of the restriction



□ the parties who have the right to enforce the restriction have acted in such a way as to make enforcement unfair





The general plan first contemplated by the subdivider has been abandoned or no longer exists



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enforcement of the restriction is inequitable





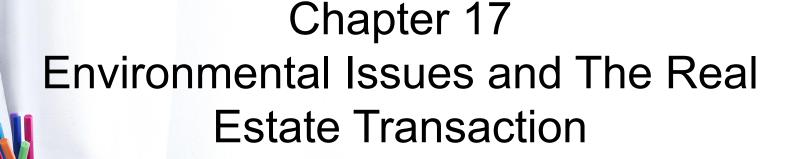
- 11. Hazardous materials
- a. Lead
- b. Asbestos
- c. Fuel storage
- d. Massachusetts Superfund Law



12 State Environmental Issues

- a. Radon
- b. Private sewage disposal
- c. Smoke and carbon monoxide detection
- d. Wetlands and rivers protection







ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

Balance of legitimate commercial and residential use with preserving vital resources.





ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

Quality of:

- □ air
- □ water
- ☐ soil





ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

Prevention and clean up





MASSACHUSETTS LAW

Attorney General is authorized to prevent or remedy damages to natural resources:

destruction





MASSACHUSETTS LAW

Attorney General is authorized to prevent or remedy damages to resources:

damage





MASSACHUSETTS LAW

Attorney General is authorized to prevent or remedy damages to natural resources:

impairment





MASSACHUSETTS LAW (Cont.)

The statutory definition includes air and water pollution, improper sewage disposal, use of toxic pesticides, and excessive noise.



MASSACHUSETTS LAW (Cont.)

Improper operation of dumping grounds; impairment of rivers, streams, floodplains, lakes, ponds, and other surface or subsurface water resources; and destruction of seashores, dunes, marine resources, underwater archeological resources, wetlands, open spaces, natural areas, parks, and historic districts or sites, are all addressed by statute





GENT HAZARDOUS WASTE

The Massachusetts Oil and Hazardous Material Release Prevention and Response Act





FISING HAZARDOUS WASTE

Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA). (NATIONAL)





*** HAZARDOUS WASTE

If any toxic chemicals or petroleum products are on or under the soil of a property, the information should be given to a prospective buyer.





If the owner suspects the presence of any hazardous waste, he should have an expert examine the site.





GENT HAZARDOUS WASTE (Cont.)

In Massachusetts the site inspection for toxic substances is called a "21E" site inspection.





HAZARDOUS WASTE (Cont.)

If toxins are present, arrangements will be made for their removal by the proper state authority.





RISING HAZARDOUS WASTE (Cont.)

This environmental cleanup law is sometimes called the Superfund.





manager





□ transporter





generator of hazardous wastes





☐ If the responsible party cannot be found





□ site owner or landowner is responsible





□ STATE will remediate then record a lien.





☐ This lien takes priority over all other recorded liens





■ Because an automatic lien against the tainted land takes precedence over mortgages, most banks will demand that the property be inspected, before they commit to a loan.





WETLANDS

WETLANDS are legally protected property.





WETLANDS

Land in Massachusetts in a wetland or bordering a wetland is legally protected property.





WETLANDS

Wetlands Restriction Act, the Department of Environmental Protection may draw non encroachment lines around any waterway, in order to restrict harmful, or destructive activities, such as dredging, filling, or polluting.





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WETLANDS (Cont.)

The Coastal Zone Management Act and Ocean Sanctuaries Act both restrict the use and development of the state's coastline, out to the three-mile territorial limit.





WETLANDS (Cont.)

The Scenic Rivers Act; the Clean Waters Act; and a wide array of air, water, and land pollution regulations, protect Massachusetts' wetlands from the detrimental effects of land development.





SCENIC ROADS

1973 LAW that recognizes that trees and stone walls that border local roads have scenic, aesthetic, and historic value.





SCENIC ROADS

Any repair, maintenance, reconstruction, or paving work that involves destruction of trees or stone walls, within the right-of-way of a rural road, may not be undertaken until the planning board has held a public hearing and granted written permission for the work to commence.





LEAD PAINT

Massachusetts first lead poisoning prevention law in 1971.





LEAD PAINT

Since 1971, Homeowners permanently control specified lead-based paint hazards in any housing unit in which a child under the age of six resides. The law was revised in 1987 in three ways.



LEAD PAINT

First, improve the quality and safety of lead abatement work by requiring use of trained and licensed contractors, relocation of housing occupants during abatement, and daily and final cleanup in units undergoing abatement.



LEAD PAINT (Cont.)

Second, the amendments sought to increase the number of units brought into compliance by providing financial assistance (a \$1000 state income tax credit, and a grant/loan program), and by mandating that prospective purchasers of residential premises receive notice about the lead law, and have the opportunity to get an inspection.





LEAD PAINT (Cont.)

Third, the amendments embraced universal blood lead screening, mandating that physicians screen children, and that health insurers cover those costs.





2 year interim controls





Encapsulants allowed





□ \$1500 per unit tax credit





☐ Liability lessened with certification





Tenant Lead Law Notification





□ Short term vacation of 31 days exempt





■ window sills





stair risers





■ woodwork





doors





interior wall corners





☐ Railings up to a height of five feet.





□ Any chipped or cracked plaster or paint must be removed.





☐ Flat wall surfaces do not normally have to be de-leaded.





In short the de-leading requirement applies to all "mouthable" surfaces, accessible to a child under the age of six.





Owners or brokers of pre-1978 properties may not discriminate against potential buyers or tenants who have children.





Property Transfer Notification Certification

If property was constructed prior to 1978, the state-approved lead disclosure form entitled Property Transfer Notification Certification (see Figure 16.3), signed by the seller must then be signed by the prospective buyer or tenant, whether or not lead paint is present.



Property Transfer Notification Certification

The form certifies that the buyer has been informed of the existence of a lead paint hazard.





Property Transfer Notification Certification

Owners must declare on the form whether they have knowledge of the presence of lead paint.





Property Transfer Notification Certification

The buyer must also indicate whether the 10-day period for a lead inspection is being selected or waived.



Property Transfer Notification Certification

The listing and selling agents must sign the disclosure indicating they have informed the buyer and seller of the possible presence of lead.

Real Estate Agents ALWAYS:

□ Verbally inform purchasers of the lead law's abatement requirement and of their right to have a lead inspection of the property.



Real Estate Agents ALWAYS:

Provide a list of professionals who are licensed to perform lead paint inspections and abatement if requested.



Real Estate Agents ALWAYS:

Allow the potential purchaser a 10-day opportunity to conduct lead paint and risk assessment inspections before the purchaser becomes obligated under a contract to purchase.



☐ The P&S agreement may or may not be contingent on the property passing inspection.



☐ If no test is performed on a pre-1978 prior to closing, the purchaser has 90 days after closing to have the property inspected.



Purchaser is required to abate a lead hazard within 90 days of securing title to the property, if a child under six will live in it.



Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program

Childhood Lead Poisoning PreventionProgram (CLPPP) packet published by the Department of Public Health



A copy of the EPA's lead hazard information pamphlet, Renovate Right: Important Lead Hazard Information for Families, Child Care Providers, and Schools, must be provided for all property built before 1978 when renovating, repairing, or preparing, for painting rental housing space rented for child care facilities or schools.





The EPA requires that licensed contractors be trained and certified and follow lead-safe work practices.





They must follow three simple procedures:

contain the work area





They must follow three simple procedures:

minimize dust





They must follow three simple procedures:

clean up thoroughly.





Material in good repair and free from any defects, including but not limited to:

☐ holes





Material in good repair and free from any defects, including but not limited to:

cracks





Material in good repair and free from any defects, including but not limited to:

tears





Material in good repair and free from any defects, including but not limited to:

or any looseness that may allow the release of asbestos dust





Material in good repair and free from any defects, including but not limited to:

☐ any powdered, crumbled, or pulverized asbestos material.





Anyone who handle asbestos-containing material must do so in a manner that does not cause or contribute to air pollution.



Underground Storage **Tanks**

Fuel Storage

No person may construct, maintain, or use any tank or container of more than a 10000-gallon capacity for the storage of any fluid other than water, unless located underground with a permit from the marshal.





Underground Storage **Tanks**

Fuel Storage

Permit needed for tank removal.





CAGENT Underground Storage **Tanks**

Fuel Storage

☐ Must be drained, cleaned properly, and filled with sand, pea gravel, or removed.





CHARGENT Underground Storage **Tanks**

Fuel Storage

Owners of underground storage tanks may be required to maintain a leak detection system, along with records, and reporting of leaks and corrective actions.





(Chapter 453 Acts of 2008) (M.G.L. c. 111 § 127B 1/2)

https://malegislature.gov/Laws/SessionLaws/ Acts/2008/Chapter453 for more information.





Owners of residential property who heat with oil must:





□ Have the fuel supply line covered with a continuous, non-metallic sleeve





□ Have an oil safety valve installed at the tank.





The upgrades are not required if:

The burner is located above the fuel storage tank and the entire supply line is connected to the top of the tank





The upgrades are not required:

☐ If the heating system was installed after Jan. 1 1990







Or if a new tank was installed and fuel lines and fuel safety valves were replaced.



Chapter 206 of the Acts of 1998

In 2002 the Brownfields Legislation became federal law.





Under the law, states and localities receive funds to clean up polluted industrial sites.

Chapter 206 of the Acts of 1998

As of May of 2015, Massachusetts has received over \$111.4 million to assess and clean up properties that have been abandoned or underdeveloped because of contamination or the fear of contamination.



Massachusetts sellers are required to provide buyers with smoke detector compliance certificates before a property closing can occur.



An appointment must be made with the local fire department for an inspection of the property and a fee must be paid.





A fire official will examine the property to check that detectors are of the correct type, in the right location, and are working properly.





A certificate will be signed by the official. The original certificate must be presented at the closing.





Owners of certain residential properties are required to install both ionization and photoelectric smoke detectors. These properties include the following:





□ Residential buildings under 70 feet tall and containing less than six dwelling units





☐ Residential buildings not substantially altered since January
1, 1975 and containing less than six residential units





☐ All residential buildings sold or transferred after January 1, 2010 which are less than 70 feet tall, have less than 6 units, or have not been substantially altered since January 1 1975



Carbon Monoxide Detectors

In the commonwealth, carbon monoxide (CO) detectors are required for all residential dwellings equipped with fossil-fuel-burning equipment that produces carbon monoxide or that have enclosed parking attached to living areas.



Carbon Monoxide Detectors

☐ The law and regulations apply to all homes not just property that is being transferred.





Carbon Monoxide Detectors

Inspections for compliance are performed prior to a closing by the local fire department





Carbon Monoxide Detectors

If the inspection is done simultaneously with the smoke detector inspection there is no additional charge.





Carbon Monoxide Detectors

Maximum fees are defined in the law for inspections performed separately.





Few changes in real estate law have stirred as much controversy as Title 5 of the Massachusetts Environmental Code.





Title 5 requires that all properties that have on-site sewage disposal systems are to have those systems inspected when a change in ownership of property is going to take place, or when an addition to the property is planned.





Homes that are not connected to a sewer system, use cesspools or septic systems, both of which are regulated by the state Department of Environmental Protection





Cesspool and septic system inspections are required:

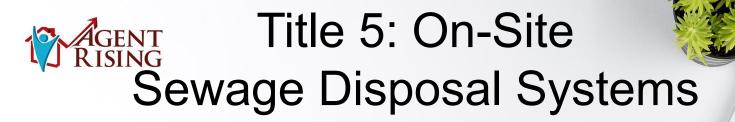
within two years before the sale of a home or transfer of title, or six months after the sale, if weather conditions preclude prior inspection



in certain inheritance situations



in certain insolvency proceedings



→ when the use of the home is changed

when the home is expanded and a building or occupancy permit is required



Inspections are not required:

■ when a mortgage is refinanced





Inspections are not required:

when title to the house is transferred from one spouse to another or placed in a particular family trust





Inspections are not required:

when the system was inspected within three years before the sale of the house, and the owners have records showing that their system was pumped annually since the inspection





Inspections are not required:

when the local board of health has issued a certificate of compliance within two years before the time of transfer of title



when the homeowner has entered into an enforceable agreement that is binding on subsequent buyers with the board of health, requiring a system upgrade, or connection to the municipal sewer system, within two years of transfer or sale



when the community has adopted a plan approved by the department requiring periodic inspections, and the system was inspected at the most recent time as required by the plan.



Mold is a growing concern in all parts of the country.





Mold can be found almost anywhere and can grow on almost any organic substance as long as moisture and oxygen are present.





☐ Few states have enacted legislation concerning mold.





☐ Currently Massachusetts has no legislation on mold.





■ Not only is it a serious health concern in new building construction, mold is also an area of increasing litigation.





Radon



While there are no Massachusetts state regulations regarding radon, the Environmental Protection Agency has issued recommended guidelines.



Radon

The Massachusetts Department of Health's Radiation Control Program can advise property owners on how to get their homes tested for radon and assist them in interpreting the results.



Radon

The Radiation Control Program has a booklet describing methods of reducing high concentrations of radon.





Radon (Cont.)

Radon is a naturally occurring radioactive gas produced in the ground through decay of uranium and radium.





Radon (Cont.)

As it decays radon produces new radioactive elements or decay products.



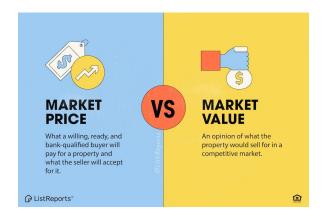


Radon (Cont.)

☐ These products cannot be detected by human senses, colorless, odorless, and tasteless.



MODULE 3 (7%) VALUATION AND MARKET ANALYSIS



PSIEXAMS.COM

GENERAL PORTION (REAL ESTATE PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICES)

A. APPRAISALS





KEY TERMS TO DEFINE AND RECORD

AccruedDepreciation





TERMS TO DEFINE AND RECORD



Loss in a property's value resulting from physical deterioration, external depreciation, and functional obsolescence.



KEY TERMS TO DEFINE AND RECORD

Anticipation







- Anticipation
 - ☐ The appraisal principle holding that value can increase or decrease based on the expectation of some future benefit or detriment produced by the property.



ig Key Terms to Define and Record

Appraisal





Appraisal

An estimate of the quantity, quality, or value of something. The process through which conclusions of property value are obtained; also refers to the report that sets forth the process of estimation and conclusion of value.





AppraisalReport









Appraisal Report

An opinion of a property's market value given to a lender or client with detailed market information.

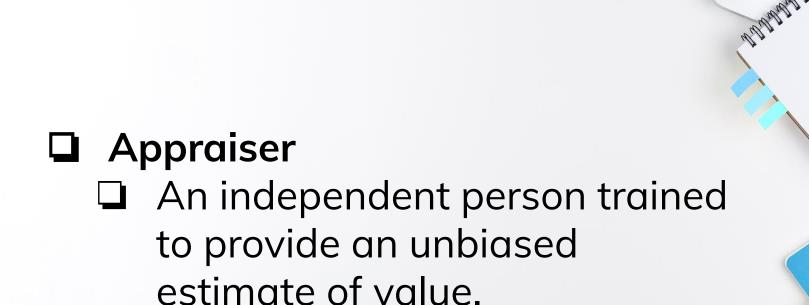


Appraiser











□ Appraiser Independence Requirements (AIR)





- □ Appraiser Independence Requirements (AIR)
 - Regulations issued by Fannie Mae that must be followed by appraisers to ensure accurate and objective appraisals.



Assemblage









While he had been

Assemblage

The combining of two or more adjoining lots into one larger tract to increase their total value.



Balance







Balance

☐ The appraisal principle stating that the greatest value in a property will occur when the type and size of the improvements are proportional to each other as well as the land.



☐ Broker's Price Opinion (BPO)







An opinion of real estate value commissioned by a bank or an attorney and provided by a broker.





Capitalization





Capitalization

A mathematical process for estimating the value of a property using a proper rate of return on the investment and the annual net operating income expected to be produced by the property. The formula is expressed as follows: income ÷ rate= value.



Capitalization Rate





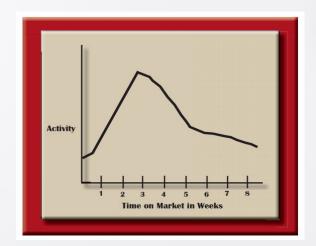


☐ The rate of return a property will produce on the owner's investment.





Change







GENERAL TERMS TO DEFINE AND RECORD



The Shall share

Change

The appraisal principle that holds that no physical or economic condition remains constant.



Comparables





RD

Comparables

Properties used in an appraisal report that are substantially equivalent to the subject property.





Competition







Competition

□ The appraisal principle stating that excess profits generate competition.



Conformity







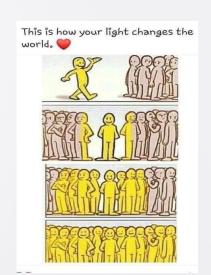


The appraisal principle holding that the greater the similarity among properties in an area, the better they will hold their value.





Contribution







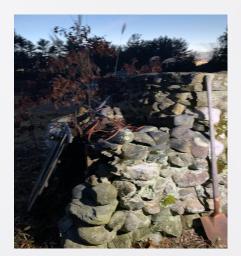
Contribution

The appraisal principle stating that the value of any component of a property is what it gives to the value of the whole or what its absence detracts from that value.





Cost Approach







- Cost Approach
 - ☐ The process of estimating the value of a property by adding to the estimated land value the appraiser's estimate of the reproduction or replacement cost of the building, less depreciation.



Depreciation







Depreciation

(1) In appraisal, a loss of value in property due to any cause, including physical deterioration, functional obsolescence, and external obsolescence. (2) In real estate investment, a deduction for tax purposes taken over the period of ownership of income property, based on the property's acquisition cost.



Economic Life





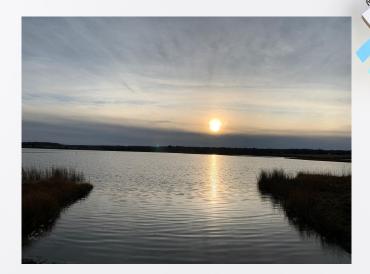


The number of years during which an improvement will add value to land.





ExternalDepreciation









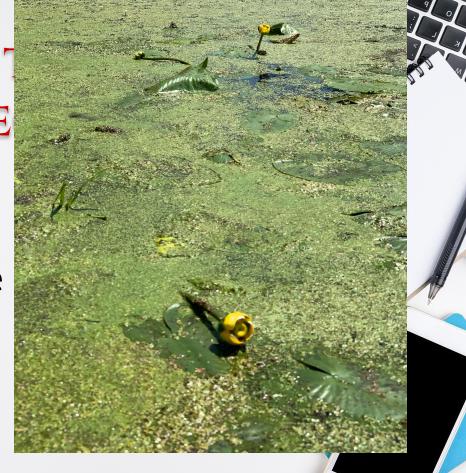
Reduction in a property's value caused by outside factors (i.e.,those that are off the property).





AGENT KEY TERMS **DEFINE AND RE**

■ External Obsolescence







Incurable depreciation caused by factors not on the subject property, such as environmental or economic factors.





FunctionalObsolescence









□ Functional Obsolescence

A loss of value to an improvement to real estate arising from problems of design or utility.



☐ Gross Income Multiplier (GIM)



- ☐ Gross Income Multiplier (GIM)
 - A figure used as a multiplier of the gross annual income of a property to produce an estimate of the property's value; usually used for commercial property.





☐ Gross Rent Multiplier (GRM)





- ☐ Gross Rent Multiplier (GRM)
 - ☐ The figure used as a multiplier of the gross monthly income of a property to produce an estimate of the property's value; usually used for single-family residential property.



Highest and **Best Use**







- ☐ Highest and Best Use
 - The legally permitted and physically possible use of a property that would produce the greatest net income and, thereby, develop the highest value.





Income Approach





- Income Approach
 - ☐ The process of estimating the value of an income-producing property through capitalization of the annual net income expected to be produced by the property during its remaining useful life.



Law of Diminishing Return





- Law of Diminishing Return
 - Point at which additional property improvements do not increase the property's income or value.





Law of Increasing Returns







Applies as long as money being spent on property improvements produces an increase in the property's income or value.





Market Data Approach







Also known as the sales comparison approach. An estimate of value obtained by comparing property being appraised with recently sold comparable properties.



Market
Value









Manda of the

■ Market Value

The most probable price that a property would bring in an arm's-length transaction under normal conditions on the open market.



Net Operating Income (NOI)



- Net Operating Income (NOI)
 - The income projected for an income-producing property after deducting anticipated vacancy and collection losses and operating expenses.





PhysicalDeterioration







Physical Deterioration

A reduction in a property's value resulting from a decline in physical condition; can be caused by action of the elements or by ordinary wear and tear.



Plottage





Plottage

The increase in value or utility resulting from the consolidation (assemblage) of two or more adjacent lots into one larger lot.





Progression







Progression

An appraisal principle that the value of a lesser-quality property is favorably affected by the presence of a better-quality property.





Reconciliation





Reconciliation

The final step in the appraisal process, in which the appraiser considers the estimates of value received from the sales comparison, cost, and income approaches to arrive at at a final opinion of market value for the subject property.





Regression





Regression

An appraisal principle that the value of a better-quality property is affected adversely by the presence of a lesser-quality property.





Replacement Cost





- □ Replacement Cost
 - ☐ The construction cost at current prices of a property that is not necessarily an exact duplicate of the subject property but serves the same purpose or function as the original.



□ Reproduction Cost







☐ The construction cost at current prices of an exact duplicate of the subject property.





Sales Comparison Approach







The process of estimating the value of a property by examining and comparing sales and listings of comparable properties.





□ Sales Price







Sales Price

☐ The amount of money paid to a seller for the product sold.



Substitution





Substitution

An appraisal principle that the maximum value of a property tends to be set by the cost of purchasing an equally desirable and valuable substitute property, assuming that no costly delay is encountered in making the substitution.



Supply and Demand





Supply and Demand

☐ The appraisal principle that follows the interrelationship of the supply of and demand for real estate. Because appraising is based on economic concepts, this principle recognizes that real property is subject to the influences of the marketplace as with any other commodity.



Uniform Residential Appraisal Report (URAR)



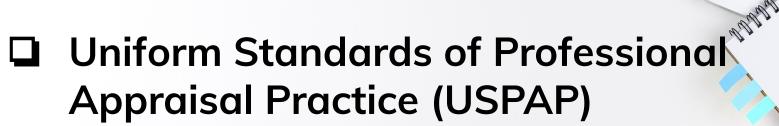


- Uniform Residential Appraisal Report (URAR)
 - The appraisal form created by Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac that is required for most residential real estate transactions.



Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice (USPAP)





A set of standards developed by the Appraisal Foundation that details information required for a property appraisal.



□ Value







The power of a good or service to command other goods in exchange for the present worth of future rights to its income or amenities.



1. PURPOSE AND USE OF APPRAISALS FOR VALUATION



methods.

APPRAISING

Appraisal: An opinion of value based on supportable evidence and approved

Appraisal report: An opinion of market value on a property given to a lender or client with detailed market information.





Appraiser: An independent professional trained to provide an unbiased opinion of value in an impartial and objective manner, following an identified appraisal process.

3. SITUATIONS REQUIRING APPRAISAL BY

CERTIFIED APPRAISER



AGENT RISING REGULATION OF **APPRAISAL ACTIVITIES**

- Appraiser Independence Requirements (AIR)
- ☐ Title XI of the Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act of 1989 (FIRREA)
- Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice (USPAP)



COMPARATIVE MARKET ANALYSIS (CMA)

- Recently sold properties
- Properties currently on the market
- Expired listings
- NOT an appraisal
- Pending Sales/ Under agreement



BROKER'S PRICE OPINION (BPO)

- Usually less extensive than a CMA
- NOT an appraisal
- Cannot be used if the matter involves a federally related transaction that requires an appraisal and/or the transaction occurs in a state that requires one



2. GENERAL STEPS IN APPRAISAL PROCESS



THE APPRAISAL PROCESS

- Identify problem
- □ Determine scope of work
- ☐ Gather, record, and verify data
- Analyze data
- Form opinion of land value
- ☐ Form opinions of value (3 approaches)
- Reconcile values
- Report final opinion of value



B. ESTIMATING VALUE



TAGENT VALUE AND MARKET

Market Value:

Most probable price a property will bring in a competitive market

Market Price:

Property's asking offer, or sales price

1. EFFECT OF ECONOMIC PRINCIPLES AND PROPERTY CHARACTERISTICS



Value:

- Demand
- ☐ Utility
- Scarcity
- Transferability





BASIC PRINCIPLES OF VALUE

- Anticipation
- Change
- Competition
- Conformity
- Contribution



- ☐ Highest and Best Use
- Increasing and Diminishing Returns
- Plottage
- Regression and Progression
- Substitution
- Supply and Demand



THREE APPROACHES TO VALUE

- Sales Comparison Approach (Market Data Approach)
- Cost Approach
 - Depreciation

3. COST APPROACH



- Income Approach
 - ☐ Gross rent multiplier
 - ☐ Gross income multiplier





RECONCILIATION

- Analyzing and effectively weighing the findings from the three approaches
 Appraiser explains not only the
- Appraiser explains not only the appropriateness of each approach but also the relative reliability of the data within each approach in line with the type of value sought
- Appraiser explains how the data reflect the current market





CHAPTER 14 REAL ESTATE APPRAISAL



APPRAISING

A component of virtually every mortgage process is an appraisal.





APPRAISING

An appraisal is a set of facts about the market that helps to establish a property's market value.





APPRAISING

It is an opinion or estimate of value, not a determination of price.





MARKET VALUE VS. MARKET PRICE

Market value

is defined as the most probable price a property would bring in an arm's-length transaction, under normal conditions, in an open and competitive market.



MARKET VALUE VS. MARKET PRICE

Market price

is defined as the price a buyer is willing to pay, and a seller is willing to sell, based on current market conditions.



RISING HIGHEST AND BEST USE

☐ The principal of highest and best use plays a key role in the decision to purchase real property.





HIGHEST AND BEST USE

An appraisal must presuppose that the owner or buyer would use the property in its highest and best use, and therefore, value the site accordingly.



In Massachusetts, real estate appraisal, like real estate brokerage, is a regulated profession.



Appraisers are required to be certified or licensed by the state, to appraise property for compensation, in all but non-federally related transactions.



☐ The licensing or certification requirement for appraisers does not, however, prevent a real estate broker or salesperson from giving his opinion of a property's value in the ordinary course of business, as long as he does not refer to the opinion as an appraisal.



There are four classes of real estate appraisers recognized in Massachusetts:





State-certified general real estate appraiser





■ State-certified residential real estate appraiser





State-licensed real estate appraiser



□ Real estate appraisal trainee





☐ To be licensed or certified, an appraiser must demonstrate (on a written examination), several areas of expertise.



A licensed or certified appraiser must demonstrate knowledge of the technical terminology of real estate appraisal, appraisal report writing, and real estate economics.



☐ She must have an understanding of the principles of land economics and real estate appraisal processes, as well as the challenges of gathering, interpreting, and processing data.



An appraiser must have an understanding of the standards for developing and communicating appraisals, and a basic comprehension of the theories of depreciation, cost estimating, methods of capitalization, and appraisal mathematics.



Some of the acts or omissions that may form the basis for revoking or suspending an appraiser's license or certificate are:



procuring or attempting to procure a certificate or license by providing false or incomplete information





procuring or attempting to procure a certificate or license by means of bribery, misrepresentation, or fraud



conviction of a crime substantially related to real estate appraisal



entry of a civil judgment against the appraiser based on an allegation of fraud, misrepresentation, or deceit



conviction of any felony



any act or omission involving dishonesty, fraud, or misrepresentation, with the intent to either benefit the appraiser or injure another person



violating the confidentiality of government records



negligence, incompetence, or failure to exercise reasonable diligence in developing an appraisal, preparing an appraisal report, or communicating an appraisal.

2. SALES OR MARKET COMPARISON APPROACH

AGENT RISING

WHAT IS A 'CMA'?

- A CMA is an unbiased estimate or opinion of the market value of real property by a real estate licensee who is not a licensed or certified appraiser.
- BUT- is it unbiased?



C. COMPETITIVE/COMPARATIVE MARKET ANALYSIS



WHAT EXACTLY IS A CMA?

CMA referenced as (interchangeable terms all in common usage):

- Comparative Market Analysis
- Competitive Market Analysis
- Comparable Market Analysis









SAME, BUT DIFFERENT!

- Broker's Price Opinion (BPO)
 - -usually ordered by lenders
- Drive by
- Interior and neighborhood
- determine list price
- -Market Analysis
 Opinion of Value generally less detailed







CMA VS APPRAISAL

- The valuation techniques used are similar to the three approaches to value employed by a licensed or certified appraiser.
- □ Appraiser has no vested interest in transaction







CMA VS APPRAISAL

- Appraisals generally hired by lender
- Appraisers use Uniform
 Standards of Professional
 Appraisal Practices (USPAP)
- ☐ CMA generally used to determine list price



SALES COMPARISON APPROACH

- Identify properties with the same 'highest and proper use' that have sold recently (usually within the last six months
- Excluded would be conveyances such as 'short sales', bankruptcy or foreclosures or sales between relatives, etc.
- Must be arms length transaction







AKA MARKET APPROACH

- Adjustments between subject property and comparables for significant differences such as location, physical characteristics, etc.
- Similarities generally should be in the bathrooms, bedrooms, number of rooms, building age, style of house, condition of property, and lot size.
- All comparable information should be reconciled and a value should be 'estimated'



1. SELECTING COMPARABLES



WE CALL THEM "COMPS"

- Beware of our 'lingo'
- Caution about 'what makes my house better'
- ☐ Usually 6 month look back





2. ADJUSTING COMPARABLES

COST APPROACH OR

AGENT RISING

REPLACEMENT COST APPROACH

- Cost approach is based on the property's replacement cost.
- Add together the building and land value (each computed separately).
 - Estimate the replacement cost of the building new.
 - Deduct all accrued depreciation from the replacement cost
 - Add the estimate land value to the depreciated replacement cost.





4. INCOME ANALYSIS APPROACH



INCOME APPROACH

- Income approach is determined by the amount of net operating income the property will produce over its remaining economic life.
- Steps to estimate by Income Approach
- Normally commercial/investment









HOW TO APPLY INCOME APPROACH

- ☐ Estimate the potential annual gross income.
- Adjusted Gross Income Deduct an allowance for vacancy and collection loss.
- Net Operating Income (NOI) Deduct all annual operating expenses of the property from Adjusted Gross Income.









INFO FROM THE INTERNET (BIG DATA)

Where do we see big data in Real Estate?









ALGORITHMS

They all have their own systems to analyze the big data. That's why when you are looking for your home value, you get so many different responses.





WHAT WE SAY ABOUT YOUR HOME

Here are our considerations.

- MARKET VALUE
 What's your home worth?
- **ECONOMICS**What are today's conditions?

- 6 MONTHS OF COMPARABLES What homes resemble yours?
- LOCATION/CONDITION
 What's the location and condition?





2 EARS 1 MOUTH?

Listing presentation

- ☐ Listen to what your seller has to say.
- ☐ Being prepared to roll up your sleeves and helping out can win a seller's heart.
- Do not presume to know what they want





PSI 4

Financing

IV FINANCING

(Salesperson 10%; Broker 8%)

- A. Basic concepts and terminology
- 1. Points
- 2. LTV
- 3. PMI
- 4. Interest

IV FINANCING

(Salesperson 10%; Broker 8%)

A. Basic concepts and terminology

5. PITI

6. Financing instruments (mortgage, promissory note, etc.)

UNIT 12

Real Estate Financing



REAL ESTATE FINANCING

Many homes in the United States are bought with borrowed money, and a huge lending industry has been built to service the financial requirements of homebuyers.



It is important for the real estate professional to be knowledgeable about real estate financing programs and products in order to provide quality service, especially when representing a buyer.



UNIT OBJECTIVES

- Describe the various aspects of housing affordability,
- including mortgage terms, ability to pay, and investment and tax considerations.



UNIT OBJECTIVES

- Describe the terms, conditions, and use of the promissory note.
- Explain the elements and use of security instruments, and describe the mortgage deed of trust and the roles, rights, and obligations of the parties involved.



UNIT OBJECTIVES

- Describe the various types of real estate financing.
- Explain the distinction between a judicial foreclosure and a non-judicial foreclosure, and the process involved in each.
- Describe the various consumer protections related to homeownership.

- Acceleration Clause
- Adjustable-rate-mortgage (ARM)
- Alienation Clause
- Amortized Loan
- Annual Percentage Rate



- Assumption of Mortgage
- Automated Underwriting
- Balloon Payment
- Beneficiary
- Coinsurance Clause



- Collateral
- □ Comprehensive Loss Underwriting Exchange (CLUE)
- □ Computerized Loan Origination (CLO)Debt to Income (DTI)
- Deed in lieu of foreclosure

- Defeasance Clause
- Deficiency Judgment
- Discount Point
- Discount Rate
- Due-on-sale clause



- Equity
- Estoppel Certificate
- Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act (FIRREA)
- Financing

- Foreclosure
- Fully Amortized Loan
- ☐ Graduated-payment mortgage (GPM)
- □ Growing-equity mortgage
- ☐ Home Mortgage Disclosure Act



- ☐ Index
- Interest
- ☐ Interest-only loan
- Liability Coverage
- Lien Theory

- Loan-to-value ratio (LTV)
- Margin
- Mortgage
- Mortgage Banker
- Mortgagee
- Mortgagor

- Negative Amortization
- Negotiable Instrument
- Nonconforming Loan
- Novation
- □ P&I
- Participation Mortgage



- Payment Cap
- 🖵 PITI
- Point
- Prepayment Penalty
- Promissory Note
- Rate Cap



- Release Deed
- Reverse Mortgage
- Satisfaction of Mortgage
- Shared Appreciation Mortgage (SAM)
- Short Sale
- Straight Loan



- "Subject to"
- ☐ Title Theory
- ☐ Trust Deed
- ☐ Trustor
- Usury
- Variable Rate Mortgage



Acceleration clause



Acceleration clause

The clause in a mortgage or deed of trust that can be enforced to make the entire debt due immediately if the borrower defaults on an installment payment or other obligation.



□ Adjustable-rate mortgage (ARM)



■ Adjustable-rate mortgage (ARM)

A loan characterized by a fluctuating interest rate, usually one tied to a bank or savings and loan association cost-of-funds index.



Alienation Clause



Alienation Clause

The clause in a mortgage or deed of trust stating that the balance of the secured debt becomes immediately due and payable at the lender's option if the property is sold by the borrower. In effect, this clause prevents the borrower from assigning the debt without the lender's approval.



Amortized Loan



Amortized Loan

A loan in which the principal, as well as the interest, is payable in monthly or other periodic installments over the term of the loan.



□ Annual Percentage Rate (APR)



□ Annual Percentage Rate (APR)

The relationship of the total finance charges associated with a loan. This must be disclosed to borrowers by lenders under the Truth in Lending Act.



Assumption of Mortgage



Assumption of Mortgage

Acquiring title to property on which there is an existing mortgage and agreeing to be personally liable for the terms and conditions of the mortgage, including payments.



Automated Underwriting



Automated Underwriting

Computer systems that permit lenders to expedite the loan approval process and reduce lending costs.



Balloon Payment



Balloon Payment

A final payment of a mortgage loan that is considerably larger than the required periodic payments because the loan amount was not fully amortized.



Beneficiary



Beneficiary

(1) The person for whom a trust operates or in whose behalf the income from a trust estate is drawn. (2) A lender in a deed of trust loan transaction.



□ Coinsurance Clause



Coinsurance Clause

A clause in insurance policies covering real property that requires the policyholder to maintain fire insurance coverage generally equal to at least 80% of the property's actual replacement cost.



Collateral



- Collateral
 - Something having value that is given to secure repayment of a debt.



□ Comprehensive Loss Underwriting Exchange (CLUE)



- □ Comprehensive Loss Underwriting Exchange (CLUE)
 - A database of consumer claims history that allows insurance companies to access prior claims information in the underwriting and rating process.



☐ Computerized Loan Origination (CLO)



- □ Computerized Loan Origination (CLO)
 - An electronic network for handling loan applications through remote computer terminals linked to various lenders' computers.



□ Debt to income (DTI)



- **□** Debt to income (DTI)
 - Information about an applicant's gross income and total debt that lenders generally look at as a percentage to determine qualification for a loan.



Deed in lieu of foreclosure



- Deed in lieu of foreclosure
 - A deed given by the mortgagor to the mortgagee when the mortgagor is in default under the terms of the mortgage. If accepted by the mortgagee, this is a way for the mortgagor to avoid foreclosure process.



Deed of Reconveyance



- Deed of Reconveyance
 - A document that a trustee uses to transfer the title back to the trustor (borrower) when the note is repaid.



Defeasance Clause



Defeasance Clause

A clause used in leases and mortgages that cancels a specified right upon the occurrence of a certain condition, such as cancellation of a mortgage upon repayment of the mortgage loan.



Deficiency Judgment



Deficiency Judgment

A personal judgment levied against the borrower when a foreclosure sale does not produce sufficient funds to pay the mortgage debt in full. In some states, a deficiency judgment cannot be sought when the mortgage debt was used to purchase, and is secured by, the borrower's principal residence.



Discount Point



- Discount Point
 - A unit of measurement used for various loan charges; one point equals 1% of the amount of the loan.



Discount Rate



- Discount Rate
 - The interest rate set by the Federal Reserve that member banks are charged when they borrow money through the Fed.



□ Due-on-sale Clause



- Due-on-sale Clause
 - A provision in the mortgage stating that the entire balance of the note is immediately due and payable if the mortgagor transfers (sells) the property.



Equity



- Equity
 - The interest or value that an owner has in property over and above any indebtedness.



Estoppel Certificate



- Estoppel Certificate
 - A document in which a borrower certifies the amount owed on a mortgage loan and the rate of interest.



☐ Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act (FIRREA)



- ☐ Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act (FIRREA)
 - This act restructured the savings and loan association regulatory system; enacted in response to the savings and loan crisis of the 1980's.



Financing





- Financing
 - The business of providing the funds that make real estate transactions possible.



□ First Mortgage



- **□** First Mortgage
 - □ A mortgage that has priority over all other mortgages.



Foreclosure



Foreclosure

A legal procedure whereby property used as security for a debt is sold to satisfy the debt in the event of default in payment of the mortgage document.



The foreclosure procedure brings the rights of the parties to a conclusion and passes the title in the mortgaged property to either the holder of the mortgage or a third party who may purchase the realty at the foreclosure sale. Depending on the priority of the foreclosed mortgage, the property may be sold free of all other encumbrances incurred prior to the sale.



☐ Fully Amortized Loan



- Fully Amortized Loan
 - A loan consisting of equal, regular payments satisfying the total payment of principal and interest by the due date.



☐ Graduated-payment Mortgage (GPM)



- ☐ Graduated-payment Mortgage (GPM)
 - A loan in which the monthly principal and interest payments increase by a certain percentage each year for a certain number of years and then level off for the remaining loan term.



☐ Growing-equity Mortgage



- **□** Growing-equity Mortgage
 - A loan in which the monthly payments increase annually, with the increased amount being used to directly reduce the principal balance outstanding and thus shorten the overall term of the loan.



□ Home Mortgage Disclosure Act



- □ Home Mortgage Disclosure Act
 - A federal law, implemented at its creation by Regulation C of the Federal Reserve, that requires lenders to annually disclose the number of loan applications and loans made in certain areas to avoid the practice of redlining. On July 21, 2011, the rule-making authority of the law was transferred to the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.



☐ Homeowners Insurance



- Homeowners Insurance
 - Insurance that covers a residential real estate owner against financial loss from fire, theft, public liability, and other common risks.



Hypothecation



- Hypothecation
 - To pledge property as security for an obligation or loan without giving up possession of it.



☐ Index



- ☐ Index
 - An objective economic indicator to which the interest rate for an adjustable-rate mortgage is tied.



☐ Interest



- Interest
 - □ A charge made by a lender for the use of money.



☐ Interest-only Loan



- Interest-only Loan
 - A loan that only requires the payment of interest for a stated period of time with the principal due at the end of the term.



Liability Coverage



- Liability Coverage
 - Feature of homeowners insurance that covers injuries or losses sustained within the home.



☐ Lien Theory



■ Lien Theory

Principle in which the mortgagor retains both legal and equitable title to property that serves as security for a debt. The mortgagee has a lien on the property, but the mortgage is nothing more than collateral for the loan.



□ Loan Origination Fee



- Loan Origination Fee
 - A fee charged to the borrower by the lender for making a mortgage loan. The fee is usually computed as a percentage of the loan amount.



■ Loan-to-value Ratio (LTV)



- Loan-to-value Ratio (LTV)
 - The relationship between the amount of the mortgage loan and the value of the real estate being pledged as collateral.



Margin



- Margin
 - A premium added to the index rate representing the lender's cost of doing business.



Mortgage



- Mortgage
 - A conditional transfer or pledge of real estate as security for the payment of a debt. Also, the document creating a mortgage lien.



■ Mortgage Banker



- Mortgage Banker
 - A mortgage loan company that originates, services, and sell loans to investors.



Mortgagee



- Mortgagee
 - □ A lender in a mortgage loan transaction.



Mortgagor



- Mortgagor
 - □ A borrower in a mortgage loan transaction.



- B. Types of loans
- 1. Conventional loans
- 2. FHA Insured loans
- 3. VA guaranteed loans
- 4. USDA/rural loan programs

Negative Amortization



- Negative Amortization
 - Process by which the amount of the loan increases. The mortgagor sets a payment cap, or maximum amount for payments, but the difference between the payment made and the full payment amount is added to the remaining mortgage balance.



■ Negotiable Instrument



- Negotiable Instrument
 - A written promise or order to pay a specific sum of money that may be transferred by endorsement or delivery. The transferee then has the original payee's right to payment.



Nonconforming Loan



- Nonconforming Loan
 - A loan that exceeds the Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA) loan limits; also called a jumbo loan.



Novation



- Novation
 - Substituting a new obligation for an old one or substituting new parties to an existing obligation.







- □ P&I
 - Principal and interest.



Participation Mortgage



- Participation Mortgage
 - A mortgage loan wherein the lender has a partial equity interest in the property or receives a portion of the income from the property.



Payment Cap



- Payment Cap
 - The limit on the amount the monthly payment can be increased on an adjustable-rate mortgage when the interest rate is adjusted.







- PITI
 - The basic costs of owning a home--mortgage principal and interest, real estate taxes, and **hazard** insurance.



Point



- Point
 - A term used for a percentage of the principal loan amount charged by the lender. Each point is equal to 1% of the loan amount.



Prepayment Penalty



- Prepayment Penalty
 - A charge imposed on a borrower who pays off the loan principal early. This penalty compensates the lender for interest and other charges that would otherwise be lost.



Promissory Note



- Promissory Note
 - A financing instrument that states the terms of the underlying obligation, is signed by its maker, and is negotiable (transferable to a third party).



□ Rate Cap



Rate Cap

☐ The limit on the amount the interest rate can be increased at each adjustment period in an adjustable rate loan. The cap may also set the maximum interest rate that can be charged during the life of the loan.



☐ Release Deed



Release Deed

A document, also known as a deed of reconveyance, that transfers all rights given a trustee under a deed of trust loan back to the grantor after the loan has been fully repaid.



□ Reverse Mortgage



□ Reverse Mortgage

A loan by which a homeowner receives a lump sum, monthly payments, or a line of credit based on the homeowner's equity in the property secured by the mortgage. The loan must be repaid at a prearranged date, upon the death of the owner, or upon the sale of the property.



Satisfaction of Mortgage



- Satisfaction of Mortgage
 - A document acknowledging the payment of a mortgage debt.



☐ Shared Appreciation Mortgage (SAM)



- □ Shared Appreciation Mortgage (SAM)
 - A mortgage loan in which the lender, in exchange for a loan with a favorable interest rate, participates in the profits (if any) the borrower receives when the property is eventually sold.



■ Short Sale



- □ Short Sale
 - ☐ Sale of property in which the sales price is less than the remaining indebtedness.



Straight Loan



- Straight Loan
 - A loan in which only interest is paid during the term of the loan, with the entire principal amount due with the final interest payment.



□ "Subject to"



- □ "Subject to"
 - A clause in a contract specifying exceptions or contingencies of a purchase.



☐ Title Theory



- **□** Title Theory
 - Principle in which the mortgagor conveys legal title to the mortgagee (or some other designated individual) and retains equitable title and the right of possession.



In effect, because the lender holds legal title, the lender has the right to immediate possession of the real estate and rents from the mortgaged property if the mortgagor defaults.



☐ Trust Deed



□ Trust Deed

An instrument used to create a mortgage lien by which the borrower conveys title to a trustee, who holds it as security for the benefit of the note holder (the lender); also called a deed of trust.



☐ Trustor



- **□** Trustor
 - A borrower in a deed of trust loan transaction; one who places property in a trust. Also called a grantor or settler.



☐ Usury



- Usury
 - Charging interest at a higher rate than the maximum rate established by state law.



Variable Rate Mortgage



- Variable Rate Mortgage
 - A mortgage loan in which the interest rate varies depending on market conditions.



HOUSING AFFORDABILITY

- Mortgage Terms
- Ownership Expenses and Ability to Pay
 - □ PITI (principal, interest, taxes, and insurance)
 - Debt-to-income ratio (DTI)
- Investment Considerations
 - Tax deductions and benefits

PROMISSORY NOTE

- Negotiable instrument
- Interest
 - Usury
- Loan Origination Fee
- Discount Points
- Prepayment Penalty



SECURITY INSTRUMENT

- Mortgage loan
- Hypothecation
- Lien theory



REAL ESTATE FINANCING

- Duties of the Borrower
- Provisions for Default
- Assignment of the Mortgage



- Release of the Mortgage Lien or Deed of Trust
 - Defeasance clause
 - Satisfaction of mortgage
- ☐ Tax and Insurance Reserves
 - ☐ Flood insurance reserves



REAL ESTATE FINANCING

- Buying "Subject to" or Assuming a Seller's Mortgage or Deed of Trust
 - Alienation clause
- Recording a Mortgage or Deed of Trust
- Priority of Mortgage or Deed of Trust



TYPES OF LOANS

- Straight (interest-only)
- Amortized
- Adjustable-Rate Mortgage (ARM)
- ☐ Growing-Equity Mortgage (GEM)
- Balloon Payment Loan
- Reverse Mortgage



REAL ESTATE FINANCING

- Foreclosure
 - Judicial
 - Nonjudicial
- Strict



- Deed in Lieu of Foreclosure
- Redemption
- Deed to Purchaser at Sale
- Deficiency Judgment
- Short Sale



CONSUMER PROTECTIONS

- Dodd-Frank Act
- Homeowners Insurance
- Coverage and claims
- □ Comprehensive loss underwriting exchange (CLUE)
- ☐ Federal Flood Insurance Program



- B. Types of loans
- 5. Amortized loans
- 6. Adjustable-rate mortgage loans
- 7. Bridge loans
- 8. Owner financing (installment and land contract/contract for deed)

C. Financing and lending1 Lending process application

1. Lending process application through closing

- 2. Financing and credit laws and rules
- a) Truth in lending
- b) RESPA
- c) Equal Credit Opportunity
- d) CFPB/TRID rules on financing and risky loan features

- 3. Underwriting
- a) Debt ratios
- b) Credit scoring
- c) Credit history

CHAPTER 12

Real Estate Financing Principles and Practices



MORTGAGE LAW
Massachusetts is a title theory state, meaning that the mortgage splits title to the property—the mortgagee takes legal title, while equitable title is retained by the mortgagor. The granting of the property to the mortgagee by the mortgagor is done with an instrument that is similar to a warranty deed, except that the document contains provisions permitting the mortgagor to get the property back if he fulfills certain conditions. Generally, these conditions are that he



MORTGAGE LAW

- pays back the sum of money with interest as provided in a separate promissory note;
- □ keeps the property insured for the benefit of the mortgagee
- promptly pays the taxes assessed against the property



MORTGAGE LAW

- □ keeps the property in good repair (does not allow the property to be waste
- does not remove any buildings or improvements from the property.



MORTGAGE DISCHARGE (M.G.L. C. 183 § 54, 55)

(CHAPTER 63 ACTS OF 2006)

Within 45 days of receiving full payoff funds, the mortgagee must record an effective discharge, which includes recording or providing any necessary documentation, including assignments, to make the discharge effective. Documentary proof is needed to establish the authority of a servicer or note holder to discharge a mortgage.



FINANCING TECHNIQUES Massachusetts banks are permitted to make, purchase, participate in, or service a wide variety of statutorily approved real estate mortgage loans, including certain loans in excess of 95% of value, open-end mortgages, and reverse mortgage loans.



In Massachusetts, several state agencies provide financing and loan programs for homeowners and renters.



FINANCING TECHNIQUES

MassHousing

The Massachusetts Housing Partnership Fund

☐ The Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development



Examples

- ☐ Using false appraisals to sell properties for much more than they are worth
- Encouraging borrowers to lie about their income, expenses, or cash available for down payments to get a loan



- Knowingly lending more money than a borrower can afford to repay
- Charging high interest rates to borrowers based not on their credit history but on their race or national origin

- Charging fees for unnecessary or nonexistent products and services
- Pressuring borrowers to accept higher-risk loans, such as balloon loans, interest-only payments, and steep prepayment penalties



Targeting vulnerable borrowers, when they know borrowers are in need of cash due to medical, unemployment, or debt problems



- ☐ Convincing homeowners to refinance again and again, when there is no benefit to the borrower, thereby stripping homeowners' equity from their homes
- Using high-pressure sales tactics to sell home improvements, and then financing them at high interest rates



LICENSING OF MA MORTGAGE COMPANIES AND LOAN

ORIGINATORS

The Division of Banks, licenses mortgage lenders, and brokers, and mortgage loan originators, pursuant to M.G.L. c. 255E and its implementing regulations found at 209 CMR 42.00 et seq and Massachusetts General Laws chapter 255F and its implementing regulations found at 209 CMR 41.00 et seq, respectively.



LICENSING OF MA MORTGAGE COMPANIES AND LOAN ORIGINATORS

- Mortgage Broker License
- Mortgage Broker License (Branch)
- Mortgage Lender License
- Mortgage Lender License (Branch)
- Mortgage Loan Originator License
- Professional Requirements



AMORTIZED LOANS

In Massachusetts, amortized mortgage loans are called direct reduction loans. The payments on a direct reduction loan are the same amount each month. Each payment pays some of the interest on the loan and some of the principal amount borrowed.



AMORTIZED LOANS

Initially, most of the payment is credited to the interest with very little credited to the principal; eventually, payment increases toward the principal and decreases toward the interest



DEFAULT

Default occurs when any condition of the mortgage is not satisfied by the mortgagor. A default will activate the acceleration clause in the mortgage, and cause the entire debt to be due immediately.



DEFAULT

In most Massachusetts mortgages, the mortgagee will have included a power-of-sale clause, giving it the right to immediately possess the property, to advertise the property as having been foreclosed, and, after a stated period, to sell the property and apply the proceeds to the unpaid balance of the loan.



Massachusetts has undergone many changes to its foreclosure laws.



RIGHT TO CURE A MORTGAGE DEFAULT

In November 2007, the governor signed into law An Act Protecting and Preserving Home Ownership, which provided homeowners, who were facing foreclosure, a 90-day right to cure a default after written notice was given by the mortgagee to the mortgagor.



RIGHT TO CURE A MORTGAGE DEFAULT

The 90-day right to cure applied once in a five-year period, regardless of the mortgage holder. The law was amended in August 2010 to provide for a 150-day right-to-cure notice (or 90-day right-to-cure notice, if applicable). Lenders cannot accelerate or foreclose on the property during the 150 days.



RIGHT TO CURE A MORTGAGE DEFAULT

The 150-day right to cure is granted to a borrower once during any three-year period, regardless of the mortgage holder. If the homeowner remains in default, then the power-of-sale clause is activated.



RIGHT TO CURE A MORTGAGE DEEALUT (CONTINUED)

- DEFAULT (CONTINUED)

 In accordance with M.G.L. c. 244 § 35A (b), a mortgagee may send a 90-day right-to-cure notice provided:
- ☐ the mortgagee can demonstrate that it has negotiated in good faith with the borrower;

RIGHT TO CURE A MORTGAGE DEFAULT (CONTINUED)

- ☐ The mortgagee certifies that it has negotiated to reach an alternative to foreclosure in good faith with the borrower;
- ☐ At least one meeting has taken place between the mortgagee and the borrower;



RIGHT TO CURE A MORTGAGE

- □ The mortgagee provided loss mitigation information to the borrower before the meeting; and
- ☐ That, after the meeting, the creditor is able to demonstrate that the mortgagee and the borrower were not able to reach a resolution, (other than foreclosure).



FORECLOSURE UNDER POWER OF SALE (M.G.L. C. 244 § 14)

Some states use a judicial foreclosure process, which requires a lender to file a foreclosure action in the court system and receive an order from a judge, before the property goes to a foreclosure sale.



Massachusetts uses a non-judicial foreclosure process, where the lender only has to put the borrower on notice as to the default in payments and provide a 150/90- day right to cure the default.



In addition, Massachusetts also requires an order of notice be obtained, to determine if the property owner/s are entitled to relief under the **Servicemember Civil Relief Act (SCRA)** by filing a petition to foreclose in land court.



ASSIGNMENT OF LOANS

Lenders, or holders of mortgages or deeds of trust, often assign mortgages or deeds of trust to other lenders, or third parties. When this is done, the assignee (the person receiving the assignment) steps into the place of the original lender or assignor. An assignment is a legal document confirming that a mortgage loan has been transferred from one lender to another.



ASSIGNMENT OF LOANS

To make the assignment effective, the assignment must generally be in proper format and recorded to provide notice of assignment. Assignments must be recorded with the Registry of Deeds where the property is located, so anyone who is researching a property's title may trace the loan's ownership and origin.



Under the new § 14, a foreclosure may not proceed unless the entire chain of mortgage assignments from the original mortgagee to the foreclosing entity is recorded.



Previously, the foreclosing entity had to possess, but did not have to record, mortgage assignments before foreclosing (see U.S. Bank Nat. Ass'n v. Ibanez, 458 Mass. 637, 651 (2011)). Under the new law, no foreclosure notice will be valid unless at the time such notice is mailed evidencing the mortgage

DEED IN LIEU OF FORECLOSURE

A deed in lieu of foreclosure is a voluntary way of surrendering or giving back property to the lender without going through foreclosure process. The lender will often consider a deed in lieu because it saves the time and expense of a foreclosure.



The advantage to the homeowner is it avoids the embarrassment of a public foreclosure. A lender, however, will not accept a deed in lieu of foreclosure if there is a second mortgage on the property.



PSI 5

GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF AGENCY

13%/15 %



5. GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF AGENCY 13%/11%

HTTPS://www.mass.gov/doc/psi-real-estate-candidate-information-bulletin-and-application/download?_ga=2.1998283 97.22876473.1669027917-927352706.1648038387

Examination	Portion	Number of Questions (Points)	Time Allowed
Salesperson	General	80 (80 points)	150 Minutes
	State	40 (40 points)	90 Minutes
	Both	120 (120 points)	240 Minutes
Broker	General	75* (80 points)	150 Minutes
	State	40 (40 points)	90 Minutes
	Both	120 (120 points)	240 Minutes

*Note: General broker exams include questions that are scored up to two points.

Textbook units and chapters:

General Principles of Agency

NA 9 - Real Estate Agency

NA8 - Real Estate Brokerage

MA 1 -Real Estate Brokerage Relationship

CIB: NA V, NA X

MA III, MA IV, MA IX





V. General principles of agency (Salesperson 13%; Broker 11%)

- A. Agency and non-agency relationships
 - 1. Types of agents and agencies
 - Other brokerage relationships (non-agents)
 - a) Transactional
 - b) Facilitators
- B. Agent's duties to clients
 - Fiduciary responsibilities
 - Traditional agency duties (COALD)
 - Powers of attorney and other delegation of authority
- C. Creation of agency and non-agency

agreements; disclosure of conflict of interest

- Agency and agency agreements
 - Key elements of different types of listing contracts
 - Key elements of buyer brokerage/tenant representation contracts
- Disclosure when acting as principal or other conflict of interest
- Responsibilities of agent to customers and third parties, including disclosure, honesty, integrity, accounting for money
- Termination of agency
 - 1. Expiration
 - Completion/performance
 - Termination by force of law
 - Destruction of property/death of principal
 - 5. Mutual agreement

CIB NA X

- Practice of real estate (Salesperson 13%; Broker 14%)
 - A. Trust/escrow accounts
 - Purpose and definition of trust accounts, including monies held in trust accounts
 - Responsibility for trust monies, including commingling/conversion
 - B. Federal fair housing laws and the ADA
 - Protected classes
 - Prohibited conduct (red-lining, blockbusting, steering)
 - Americans with Disabilities (ADA)
 - 4. Exemptions
 - Advertising and technology
 - Advertising practices
 - a) Truth in advertising



- Fair housing issues in advertising
- 2. Use of technology
 - Requirements for confidential information
 - b) Do-Not-Call List
- Licensee and responsibilities
 - Employee
 - Independent Contractor
 - Due diligence for real estate transactions
 - Supervisory responsibilities (BROKER ONLY)
 - a) Licensees
 - b) Unlicensed personnel
- E. Antitrust laws
 - 1. Antitrust laws and purpose
 - Antitrust violations in real estate

CIB MA III

III. REQUIREMENTS GOVERNING LICENSEES (33-35%) (SALESPERSONS: 13 ITEMS; BROKERS: 14 ITEMS)

- A. Advertising
- B. Broker/salesperson relationship
- C. Commissions
- D. Disclosures
 - Consumer/Licensee Relationship
 - 2. Conflict of interest
 - Rental fee disclosures
- E. Agency and Non-Agency Relationships
- F. Handling of documents
- G. Handling of monies
- H. Record Keeping (Broker only)
- I. Home inspectors--licensee responsibility

CIB MA IV

- IV. CONTRACTS (5%)(SALESPERSONS: 2 ITEMS; BROKERS: 2 ITEMS)
 - A. Offer to Purchase
 - B. Purchase and Sale agreement
 - C. Leases
 - D. Listing and Buyer Agreements

CIB MA IX

- IX. ADDITIONAL TOPICS (5%)(SALESPERSONS: 2 ITEMS; BROKERS: 2 ITEMS)
 - A. Ownership
 - B. Condominiums, Cooperatives, and Timeshares
 - C. Registered Land

UNIT 9

Real Estate Agency





REAL ESTATE AGENCY

The relationship between a real estate professional and the parties involved in a real estate transaction is not a simple one. A real estate professional can represent a client as an agent, and the real estate professional acts as a fiduciary and is subject to a wide range of legal and ethical requirements designed to protect the seller, the buyer, and the transaction itself. There are other agency relationships in the real estate business, including that of sales associate to the employing broker.

UNIT OBJECTIVES

- Explain agency concepts and terminology.
- Explain the difference between express and implied agency.
- Define the types of agency and identify which, if any, are involved in real estate practice.
- Describe and explain an agent's duties to third-party customers, especially regarding misstatements, misrepresentation, and potential



- Agency
- Agency by Ratification
- Agent
- Buyer Representation Agreement
- Buyer's Agent
- Buyer's Broker



- Buyer's Representative
- Client
- Customer
- Designated Agency
- Designated Agent
- Dual Agency



- **■** Employment Contract
- Estoppel
- Express Agency
- Express Agreement
- ☐ Fee-for-Service
- Fiduciary



- ☐ Fiduciary Relationship
- Fraud
- General Agent
- Implied Agency
- Implied Agreement
- Latent Defect



- Listing Agreement
- Listing Broker
- Megan's Law
- Ministerial Acts
- Negligent Misrepresentation
- Nonagent



- Ostensible Agency
- Principal
- Puffing
- Ratification
- Real Estate Broker
- Representation



- Seller's Broker
- Single Agency
- Special Agent
- Subagent
- Transaction Broker
- Universal Agent



Agency



- Agency
 - The relationship between a principal and an agent wherein the agent is authorized to represent the principal in certain transactions.



Agency by Ratification



- Agency by Ratification
 - An agency relationship created after the fact.



Agent



Agent

One who acts or has the power to act for another. A fiduciary relationship is created under the law of agency when a property owner, as the principal, executes a listing agreement or management contract authorizing a licensed real estate broker to be his or her agent. A prospective property buyer may authorize a real estate broker to act as the buyer's agent to find a suitable property.



Buyer Representation Agreement



- Buyer Representation Agreement
 - A principal-agent relationship in which the real estate professional acts on behalf of the buyer, usually as an agent, with fiduciary responsibilities to the buyer.



■ Buyer's Agent



- Buyer's Agent
 - A real estate professional who is under contract to locate property for a buyer and represent the buyer's interests in a transaction.



■ Buyer's Broker



- Buyer's Broker
 - A residential real estate professional who represents prospective buyers exclusively.



Buyer's Representative



- Buyer's Representative
 - A residential real estate professional who represents the prospective purchaser in a transaction, often through a sales associate of the broker. The buyer's representative who acts as a buyer's agent owes the buyer-principal the common-law or statutory agency duties.

Client



- Client
 - ☐ The principal in an agency relationship or other form of representation.



Customer



- Customer
 - The third party or non represented consumer for whom some level of service is provided.



Designated Agency



- Designated Agency
 - A process that accommodates an in-house sale in which two different agents are involved. The broker designates one agent to represent the seller and one agent to represent the buyer.



Designated Agent



- Designated Agent
 - A real estate professional authorized by a broker to act as the agent for a specific principal in a particular transaction; also may be called assigned agent or appointed agent.



Dual Agency



- Dual Agency
 - Representing both parties to a transaction. This is unethical unless both parties agree to it, and it is illegal in some states.



□ Employment Contract



Employment Contract

A document evidencing formal employment between employer and employee or between principal and agent or representative. In the real estate business, this generally takes the form of the agreement between broker and sales associate, client representation agreement (including a listing agreement or buyer representation agreement), or property management agreement.



Estoppel



- Estoppel
 - Method of creating an agency relationship in which someone states incorrectly that another person is his agent and a third person relies on that representation.



Express Agency



- Express Agency
 - An agency relationship based on a formal agreement between the parties.



Express Agreement



- Express Agreement
 - An oral or written contract in which the parties state the contract's terms and express their intentions in words.



☐ Fee-for-service



- **□** Fee-for-service
 - Arrangement by which a consumer asks a real estate professional to perform specific real estate services for an agreed-upon fee.



Fiduciary



- Fiduciary
 - One in whom trust and confidence is placed; a reference to a real estate professional employed under the terms of a listing contract or buyer representation agreement.

□ Fiduciary Relationship



- □ Fiduciary Relationship
 - A relationship of trust and confidence, as between trustee and beneficiary, attorney and client, or principal and agent.



□ Fraud



- Fraud
 - Description intended to cause a person to give up property or a lawful right.



General Agent



- General Agent
 - One who is authorized by a principal to represent the principal in a specific range of matters.



☐ Implied Agency



- Implied Agency
 - If the actions of the parties imply that they have mutually consented to an agency relationship, an implied agency relationship is formed.



☐ Implied Agreement



- Implied Agreement
 - A contract under which the agreement of the parties is demonstrated by their acts and conduct.



■ Latent Defect



■ Latent Defect

■ A hidden structural defect that could not be discovered by ordinary inspection and that threatens a property's soundness or the safety of its inhabitants. Some states impose on property sellers and real estate professionals a duty to inspect for and disclose latent defects.

☐ Listing Agreement



☐ A contract between an owner (as principal) and a real estate professional (as representative of the owner) by which the real estate professional is employed to find a buyer for the owner's real estate on the owner's terms, for which service the owner agrees to pay a commission or other form of compensation.

□ Listing Broker



- □ Listing Broker
 - ☐ The broker from whose office a listing agreement is initiated.



Megan's Law



- Megan's Law
 - Federal legislation that promotes the establishment of state systems to maintain residential information on every person who kidnaps children, commits sexual crimes against children, or commits sexually violent crimes.



Ministerial Acts



- Ministerial Acts
 - The necessary paperwork and formalities involved in transferring ownership of real property.



Negligent Misrepresentation



- Negligent Misrepresentation
 - Occurs when the real estate professional should have known that a statement about a material fact was false.



Nonagent



Nonagent

An intermediary between a buyer and a seller, or a landlord and a tenant, who assists one or both parties with a transaction without representing either. Also known as a facilitator, transaction broker, transaction coordinator, and contract broker.

Ostensible Agency



- Ostensible Agency
 - A form of implied agency relationship created by the actions of the parties involved rather than by written agreement or document.



Principal



Principal

- (1) A sum loaned or employed as a fund or an investment, as distinguished from its income or profits.
- (2) The original amount (as in a loan) of the total due and payable at a certain date.
- (3) A main party to a transaction--the person for whom an agent works.



Puffing



- Puffing
 - Exaggerated or superlative comments or opinions.



Ratification



Ratification

Method of creating an agency relationship in which the principal accepts the conduct of someone who acted without prior authorization as the principal's agent.



☐ Real Estate Broker



- □ Real Estate Broker
 - A person licensed to arrange the buying, selling, leasing, or exchange of real property for a fee.



Representation



- Representation
 - The role of a real estate professional acting on behalf of a client in a real estate transaction.



☐ Seller's Broker



- □ Seller's Broker
 - ☐ The real estate broker who represents only the seller in transactions.



☐ Single Agency



- □ Single Agency
 - Agency relationship in which the agent represents only one party to a transaction.



Special Agent



- Special Agent
 - One who is authorized by a principal to perform a single act or transaction; a real estate professional is usually a special agent authorized to find a ready, willing, and able buyer for a particular property, when representing a seller, or a special agent authorized to find a suitable

TRISING Droperty who are the presenting of rold yer.

Subagent



- Subagent
 - A sales associate acting as an agent of a broker and who therefore owes fiduciary duties to the broker's client.



☐ Transaction Broker



- □ Transaction Broker
 - Helps both the buyer and the seller with paperwork and formalities in transferring ownership of real property, but who is not an agent of either party.



Universal Agent



- Universal Agent
 - A person empowered to do anything the principal could do personally.



HISTORY OF AGENCY

- Common law
- Statutory Law
- Administrative Law



CHAPTER DEFINITIONS

- Law of Agency
- Agent
- Principal
- Agency
- Fiduciary

- Client
- Customer
- Non-Agent
- Single Agent



CREATION OF AGENCY

- Express Agency
- Implied Agency
- Compensation



FIDUCIARY RESPONSIBILITIES

- (Reasonable) Care
- Obedience

"OLD CAR"

- Loyalty
- Disclosure
- Accounting
- Confidentiality



TYPES OF AGENCY RELATIONSHIPS General agent:

- Represents the principal in certain business matters generally
- Special agent:
 - Represents the principal only for specified transactions, such as the sale of a house
- Disclosure of agency:
 - Real estate professionals are required to disclose the parties they represent.



AGENCY

Single Agency

- SellerRepresentation
- BuyerRepresentation
- Property

Dual Agency

- Disclosed
- Undisclosed
- DesignatedAgency

TERMINATION OF AGENCY

- Completion of purpose
- Death/incapacity of either party
- Destruction of property
- Expiration of terms
- Mutual agreement
- Breach by one of the parties
- Operation of law (bankruptcy)



CUSTOMER-LEVEL SERVICES

- Reasonable Care and Skill
- Honest and Fair Dealing
- Disclosure of Material Facts
- Opinion vs. Fact
- Puffing
- Fraud
- NegligentMisrepresentation

Disclosures:

- Environmental
 - Hazards
- Property Conditions
- Stigmatized
 - Properties
- Megan's Law





UNIT 8 REAL ESTATE BROKERAGE



KEY TERMS TO DEFINE AND RECORD

Antitrust Laws





KEY TERMS TO DEFINE AND

Antitrust Laws RECORD

Laws designed to preserve the free enterprise of the open marketplace by making illegal certain private conspiracies and combinations formed to minimize competition. Most violations of antitrust laws in the real estate business involve either price-fixing (real estate professionals conspiring to set fixed compensation rates) or allocation of customers or markets (real estate professionals agreeing to limit their areas of trade or dealing to certain areas or properties).



KEY TERMS TO DEFINE AND RECORD

Boycott





KEY TERMS TO DEFINE AND RECORD

- Boycott
 - When individuals or businesses withhold their patronage to a business as a protest or to reduce competition.





Branch Office





Branch Office

A secondary place of business apart from the principal or main office from which real estate business is conducted. A branch office usually must be run by a licensed real estate professional.



Brokerage







Brokerage

☐ The bringing together of parties interested in making a real estate transaction.





Commingling





Commingling

☐ The illegal act by a real estate professional of placing client or customer funds with personal funds. By law, real estate professionals are required to maintain a separate trust or escrow account for other parties' funds held temporarily by the real estate professional.





Commission





Commission

Payment to a real estate professional for services rendered, such as in the sale or purchase of real property; usually a percentage of the selling price of the property.





Conversion





Conversion

The illegal use of money received on behalf of the principal.





Disclaimer





Disclaimer

□ A statement indicating no legal responsibility for information; no warranties or representations have been made.





Do Not Call Registry





Do Not Call Registry

A national registry, managed by the Federal Trade Commission, that lists the phone numbers of consumers who have indicated their preference to limit the telemarketing calls they receive.



Electronic Contracting





Electronic Contracting

A process of integrating information electronically in a real estate transaction between clients, lender, and title and closing agents.





☐ Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act (E-Sign)







An Act that makes contracts (including signatures) and records legally enforceable regardless of the medium in which they are created.



□ Employee





■ Employee

For tax purposes, someone who works as a direct employee of an employer and has employee status. The employer is obligated to withhold income taxes and Social Security taxes from the compensation of employees. See also independent contractor.



■ Independent Contractor





Independent Contractor

Someone who is retained to perform a certain act but who is subject to the control and direction of another only as to the end result and not as to the way in which the act is performed. Unlike an employee, an independent contractor pays for all expenses and Social Security and income taxes and receives no employee benefits. Most real estate sales associates are independent contractors, meeting the Internal Revenue Service definition for a qualified real estate agent.



□ Internet Data Exchange (IDX) Policy





- □ Internet Data Exchange (IDX) Policy
 - Policy that allows all multiple listing service (MLS) members to restrict internet access to MLS property listings.





Managing Broker





Managing Broker

☐ The real estate professional who is responsible for supervision of the real estate professionals who act on behalf of the brokerage; may also be called a supervising broker.



■ Minimum Level of Services





■ Minimum Level of Services

The services that real estate professionals must provide to clients, as prescribed differently by certain states; for example, assisting clients in negotiation and answering questions from clients about offers, counteroffers, and contingencies.



■ Multiple Listing Service (MLS)





Multiple Listing Service (MLS)

A marketing organization composed of member real estate professionals who agree to share their listing agreements with one another in the hope of procuring ready, willing, and able buyers for their properties more quickly than they could on their own. Most multiple listing services accept exclusive right-to-sell or exclusive agency listings from their member real estate professionals.



Procuring Cause





Procuring Cause

☐ The effort that brings about the desired result. Under an open listing, the real estate professional who is the procuring cause of the sale receives the commission.

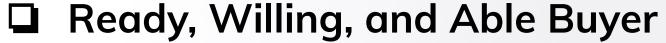




☐ Ready, Willing, and Able Buyer





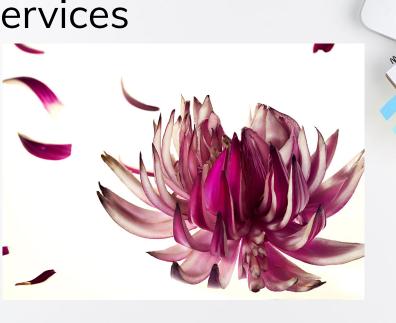


Person who is prepared to buy property on the seller's terms and is ready to take positive steps to consummate the transaction.





Unbundling Services







Offering only the real estate services that a client requires.





Uniform Electronic
Transactions Act (UETA)







Sets forth rules for entering into an enforceable contract using electronic means.



BROKERAGE AND RISING REAL ESTATE LICENSING LAWS

- Purpose of License Laws
 - Establish basic requirements for licensees
 - Define which activities require licensing
 - Describing standards of conduct and practice for licensees
 - Enforcing standards through disciplinary system



REAL ESTATE BROKERAGE

A real estate **broker** is licensed to buy, sell, exchange, or lease real property for others and to charge a fee for those services.





RELATIONSHIP OF BROKER AND SALESPERSON

A real estate salesperson is licensed to perform real estate activities on behalf of a licensed real estate broker.



The broker for whom the salesperson works is called the employing broker, and both will be subject to the terms of an employment agreement, even when the salesperson is an independent contractor for tax and other purposes.





INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR VS EMPLOYEE

Employee:

Rules for working hours, office routines, attendance at meetings, sales quotas, dress codes

Independent Contractor:

- No employee benefits
- ☐ Set own rules





BROKER'S COMPENSATION

The state of the s

- Specified in contract with clients
 - Commission
 - Co-broker's fee(i.e. Buyers agent)
 - Procuring cause
 - Ready, willing, and able buyer



MODELS FOR

COMPENSATION

- ☐ 100% commission plan
- Commission splits
- ☐ No matter how the sales associate's compensation is structured, as a rule only the employing real estate broker can pay it.





FEE FOR SERVICE

- Minimum level of services
- Requirements vary by state





ANTITRUST LAWS

- Price-fixing
- Group boycott
- Allocation of customers
- Allocation of markets
- ☐ Tie-in agreements





TECHNOLOGY IN REAL ESTATE PRACTICE

- □ NAR Internet Data Exchange (IDX) policy
- Smartphones
- Email/Texting
- Social Media
- Internet Advertising





ELECTRONIC CONTRACTING

- Uniform Electronic Transaction Act (UETA)
- Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act (E-Sign)



PROHIBITED COMMUNICATIONS

- National Do Not Call Registry
- Telephone Consumer Protection Act (TCPA)
- Junk Fax Prevention Act
- Controlling the Assault of Non-Solicited Pornography and Marketing Act of 2003 (CAN-SPAM Act)
- ☐ Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA)





CHAPTER 1 REAL ESTATE BROKERAGE



REAL ESTATE BROKERAGE

Massachusetts law distinguishes between two types of real estate professionals:

Real estate brokers

☐ Real estate salespersons.





THE LAW OF AGENCY

☐ The law of agency defines the duties and responsibilities between the real estate agent and the consumer. This relationship between the principal, (buyer or seller) and the agent, results from a contract of employment.



THE LAW OF AGENCY

When an agency relationship is created, the principal is called the client. Agents work for clients.





THE LAW OF AGENCY

☐ The **customer** is the **third party** for whom some level of service is provided. Agents work with customers.





CREATION OF AN AGENCY RELATIONSHIP

An agency relationship may be created in one of three ways:

By written agreement



An agency relationship may be created in one of three ways:

By oral agreement





An agency relationship may be created in one of three ways:

By implications





Although Massachusetts does not require a listing agreement or a buyer agency agreement to be in writing, good business practices dictate the use of a signed listing/buyer contract.



FIDUCIARY DUTIES OF AN AGENT OLDCAR

Obedience





Loyalty



FIDUCIARY DUTIES OF AN AGENT OLDCAR

Disclosure





Fiduciary Duties of an Agent OLDCAR

Confidentiality





Fiduciary Duties of an Agent OLDCAR

Accountability





Fiduciary Duties of an Agent OLDCAR

☐ Reasonable Care





The Massachusetts Licensee-Consumer Relationship Disclosure must be provided in the following circumstances:

At the first personal meeting





The Massachusetts Licensee-Consumer Relationship Disclosure must be provided in the following circumstances:

□ When dealing with a prospective buyer or seller





The Massachusetts Licensee-Consumer Relationship Disclosure must be provided in the following circumstances:

When discussing a specific property



Tradition Agency Business Model





Designated Agency Business Model





Open House Disclosure Requirements



□ Seller's Agent





Buyers' Agent





Single Agency





Disclosed Dual Agency





Subagent





□ Facilitator/Non-agent





Designated Buyer's Or Seller's Agent



Agency Termination

■ Expiration of agreement





Agency Termination

Mutual agreement to terminate, or rescission





Agency Termination

Completion of performance under agreement





□ Death or insanity of buyer's/ seller's agent or client principal





☐ Impossibility of performance (e.g., destruction of property)





CHARGENT Agency Termination

☐ Incapacity (i.e., mentally incapable), or bankruptcy of either party





□ Breach by one of the parties, (in which case the breaching party might be liable for damages)





A real estate broker works under a contractual agreement with his employer (seller and/or buyer). In Massachusetts, this agreement may be created in one of three ways:

Orally





☐ In writing





■ By implication, where the broker and the seller behave as if they have an agreement





A written agreement between the broker and the principal is not necessary to create an enforceable brokerage contract.





The statute of frauds requirement of a written agreement, applies to conveyances of property, but it does not apply to employment agreements, such as listing contracts.





Note, however, that an exclusive-right-to-sell listing agreement must be in writing to be enforceable in court. Brokers and salespersons are advised to always execute a written contract.





The Massachusetts Supreme Court in Tristram's Landing v. Wait, 367 Mass. 622, 327 N.E.2d 727 (1975), held that a broker is entitled to a commission, only when the following three conditions are met:





☐ The broker produces a purchaser, ready, willing, and able to buy, on the terms fixed by the owner.





The purchaser enters into a binding contract with the owner to purchase the property.





The purchaser completes the transaction, by closing the title in accordance with the provisions of the contract.





Under a brokerage agreement, a real estate broker is entitled to a commission from the seller, only if these three requirements are met. This is called the Tristram's Landing rule.





In some cases, a broker may claim a commission by showing that he was the procuring cause of a sale, even though the broker did not actually complete the terms of the employment agreement.





Generally, the mere introduction of a potential buyer to a property, does not entitle the broker to a commission.





The broker needs to demonstrate that he was the efficient, effective, or final cause or force, bringing about the actual sale.





This requires that the agent has set into operation, a continuing and uninterrupted chain of events, resulting in the agreed objective of the parties: the sale.





□ Introducing a seller to a prospective buyer, or interesting a customer in a property that she later buys, may satisfy that test.





The broker's case is particularly strong, if the seller impedes, or precludes the broker, from negotiations or involvement in the sale.





Multiple Commissions

When one broker is the procuring cause and another broker succeeds in getting the seller and the buyer to sign the sales contract, the owner could end up having to pay more than one commission.





Attachment

■ When a broker is entitled to a commission and the seller refuses to pay, a writ of attachment may be filed against the seller's property.

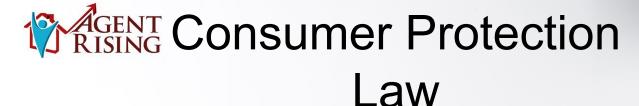




Attachment

An attachment is a legal writ or proceeding, by which property is made subject to a lien, pending the outcome of a suit.





☐ In addition to the obligations placed on the broker by the fiduciary relationship, Massachusetts brokers must comply with the provisions of the Massachusetts Consumer Protection Act (MCPA; M.G.L. c.



PRISING Consumer Protection Law

☐ The purpose of the MCPA is to level the playing field between consumers and businesses in all areas, not just real estate.





PRISING Consumer Protection Law

The MCPA outlaws unfair and deceptive acts or practices in the conduct of any trade or commerce, including advertising, offering for sale, rent, or lease; or selling, renting, leasing, or distributing any service or property, whether real or personal, tangible or intangible.





** Consumer Protection Law (cont)

In addition to this broad statement of liability, the MCPA lists specific actions considered to be misrepresentations. These include, but are not limited to:





** Consumer Protection Law (cont)

making false claims about a product's construction, durability, safety, or strength





***Consumer Protection Law (cont)

making false claims concerning the ease with which a product can be repaired or maintained





Consumer Protection Law (cont)

making false claims about financing terms or availability





** Consumer Protection Law (cont)

advertising that something has a quality, value, or usability that it does not have





Consumer Protection Law (cont)

substituting different goods for those advertised (i.e., bait and switch)





** Consumer Protection Law (cont)

offering guarantees without disclosing the nature and extent of the guarantees.





RISING Affirmative Disclosure

☐ Equally important under the MCPA, is the broker's duty to disclose all facts relating to the sale.





RISING Affirmative Disclosure

☐ In the past, sellers and brokers were required, under common law, to disclose only defects they knew about, that could not be discovered in a normal inspection of the premises.





Now, however, it is illegal to fail to disclose to a buyer or prospective buyer, any fact that might influence the buyer or prospective buyer not to enter into the transaction, whether or not the buyer or prospective buyer requests the information.





PRISING Home Inspection Law

■ Under the Home Inspection Law of Massachusetts (M.G.L. c. 112 § 87YY1/2), real estate agents are prohibited from making direct referrals.





PRISING Home Inspection Law

☐ Upon request, they may provide assistance to a buyer in accessing the information on licensed home inspectors, including providing a complete list of home inspectors, prepared by the Consumer Affairs Board.





Persons Affected by the Law

☐ The MCPA (93A) applies to all listing, selling, and cooperating brokers, and all salespersons affiliated with these brokers, as either employees, or independent contractors.





Persons Affected by the Law

☐ Sellers, developers, and builders, also come under the act's authority. However, the law does not apply to owners who sell their homes privately.





☐ The attorney general of Massachusetts has the power to issue rules and regulations for interpreting and enforcing the act.





Although the attorney general may intervene, whenever a violation occurs, usually this only happens when a violation involves a large number of consumers.





Individuals who have sustained losses as a result of unfair or deceptive practices, may bring a lawsuit themselves





□ 30-Day Demand Letter





30 Day Demand Letter

☐ A consumer must first give the alleged violator, 30 days written notice of the claim, describing the unfair practice and the resulting loss, so that the accused can investigate the claim and offer to settle it out of court.





- Damages
 - ☐ If the consumer rejects the offer, and a court finds that it was indeed reasonable, the consumer may recover no more than the amount of the offer.





Recommendations

☐ If the broker knows of a problem or discovers one during an inspection, he must disclose that information to the buyer or prospective buyer, identify its source, and state whether or not he has verified it.





Recommendations

When the broker makes any sort of claim or representation, he should disclose both the source, and whether or not he has made an attempt to personally verify that information.





RISING Recommendations

☐ The broker cannot be held responsible for the truthfulness of the claims, if he has not tried to verify them.





Recommendations

However, if the broker has tried to verify the claims, or received information that could be used for verification, he must say so.





Recommendations

☐ The broker is not required to conduct any investigation of property that is beyond his level of competence.





Sex Offender Law

☐ Any people over the age of 18 may request sex offender information from their local police department, or by writing to the Sex Offender Registry Board, provided they are seeking it for their own protection; that of a child under the age of 18; or another person for whom the person requesting the information has responsibility, care, or custody.





RISING Sex Offender Law

Information is available only if the offender has a duty to register, and has been classified by the Board as a Level 2 or a Level 3 offender:

- A low-risk offender is classified as Level 1.
- A moderate-risk offender is classified as Level 2.
- A high-risk offender is classified as Level 3.

Massachusetts Privacy and Security Laws

Any person who receives, stores, maintains, or processes (or has access to), personal information on a resident of Massachusetts in connection with providing services, goods, or employment, must have a Written Information Security Program (WISP) in place to protect any personal information collected (201 CMR 17.00) (M.G.L. c. 93H).



RISING Personal Information

The regulation defines personal information as "a resident's first name and last name, or first initial and last name, in combination with any 1 or more of the following data elements, that relate to such resident:





Personal Information

□ Social Security number





Personal Information

driver's license number or state-issued identification card number





Personal Information

inancial account number, or credit or debit card number, with or without any required security code, access code, personal identification number or password, that would permit access to a resident's financial account; provided, however, that "Personal information" shall not include information that is lawfully obtained from publicly available information, or from federal, state or local government records lawfully made available to the general public."



Breach of Information

In addition, M.G.L. c. 93H requires that any person or business that knows or has reason to know of a breach in security, must file a written notice with the attorney general and the director of the Office of Consumer Affairs.





Breach of Information

The notice must contain "the nature of the breach of security or unauthorized acquisition or use, the number of residents of the commonwealth affected by such incident at the time of notification, and any steps the person or agency has taken or plans to take relating to the incident."





RISING Breach of Information

In accordance with Section 4 of Chapter 93A, a violation of M.G.L. c. 93H allows the attorney general to bring an action against a person or business, to cure any violation of this chapter, and for any other relief that may be appropriate.





RISING Breach of Information

The Office of Consumer Affairs and Business Regulation has provided several documents to assist businesses in their efforts to comply with the regulation:



PRISING Breach of Information

☐ Frequently Asked Questions: www.mass.gov/ocabr/docs/idtheft/ 201cmr17faqs.pdf





PRISING Breach of Information

□ 201 CMR 17.00:

www.mass.gov/ocabr/docs/idtheft/

201cmr1700reg.pdf





RISING Breach of Information

☐ A Small Business Guide: Formulating a Comprehensive Written Information Security Program:

www.mass.gov/ocabr/docs/idtheft/ sec-plan-smallbiz-guide.pdf





PRISING Breach of Information

□ Compliance Checklist: www.mass.gov/ocabr/docs/idtheft/ compliance-checklist.pdf





PRISING Breach of Information

Requirement for Security Breach Notification under M.G.L. c. 93H: https://malegislature.gov/Laws/Ge neralLaws/PartI/TitleXV/Chapter9 3h/Section1

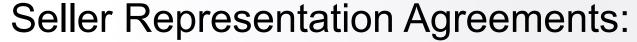




Chapter 3 Seller and Buyer Representation Agreements



Listing Property



- Exclusive-Right-to-Sell Agreement
- □ Exclusive-Agency Agreement
- Open Listing
- Co-broker Listing





RISING Listing Property

Buyer Representation Agreements:

- Exclusive Buyer Representation Agreement
- □ Exclusive Agency Buyer Representation Agreement
- **Buyer Representation Open** Agreement





Facilitator Agreement

☐ In Massachusetts, a real estate broker may provide services as a facilitator.





Facilitator Agreement

□ A facilitator is defined as one who does not represent the buyer or seller in a transaction, and more importantly, does not act in an agency capacity.





RISING Co-broker Cooperation

☐ It is not unusual for one broker to have a property listed that meets the needs of a buyer, found by another broker.





Co-broker Cooperation

Cooperation between brokers is created when a brokerage submits a listing to the multiple listing service and offers cooperation to other brokerage firms who want to show the property to potential buyers, and compensation to the brokerage firm that brings a buyer who purchases the property.



RISING Co-broker Cooperation

☐ If the buyer purchases the property, the listing broker will divide the commission in an agreed proportion between the two brokers.



PRISING Co-broker Cooperation

☐ The listing broker retains control of the listing. The co-broker agreement should be expressed in writing even if the two brokers have had previous dealings.



☐ Under the Massachusetts Real Estate License Law (M.G.L. c. 112 § 87AAA), a net listing is forbidden.





☐ A net listing results when an owner specifies a particular dollar amount that he must net from the sale of the property; any sum exceeding that amount will constitute the broker's commission.



☐ In those states in which such arrangements are legal, they often result in disagreements between owners and brokers on methods of payment, and in claims that brokers have set prices low and made exorbitant profits.





☐ Under a net listing, it is difficult to balance the broker's fiduciary responsibility to the principal, with the broker's own ability to make a profit.





Because the practice of net listing is illegal in Massachusetts, brokers must inform owners that their fee will be either a percentage of the selling price or a flat fee for services.





☐ Then the broker presents the seller with information about comparable sales in the area, and the seller then determines the proper sales price based on the broker's advice and expertise.





Pricing The Property

- ☐ Comparative Market Analysis (CMA)
- Appraisal by a certified or licensed appraiser
- □ Seller's Statement of Property Condition (Voluntary, not required in Massachusetts)







Unit 10

Client Representation Agreements

C. CREATION OF AGENCY AND NON AGENCY

- C. Creation of agency and non-agency 12 agreements; disclosure of conflict of interest 1. Agency and agency agreements
- a) Key elements of different types of listing contracts
- b) Key elements of buyer brokerage/tenant representation contracts



Key Terms to Define and Record

Automatic Extension Clause





☐ Automatic Extension Clause

A listing agreement clause stating that the agreement will continue automatically for a certain period of time after its expiration date. In many states, use of this clause is discouraged or prohibited.



Buyer Representation Agreement





- Buyer Representation Agreement
 - □ A principal-agent relationship in which the real estate professional acts on behalf of the buyer, usually as an agent, with fiduciary responsibilities to the buyer.



□ Comparative Market Analysis (CMA)







Comparative Market Analysis (CMA)

A comparison of the prices of recently sold homes that are similar to a listing seller's home in terms of location, style, and amenities.



Controlled Business Arrangement



- □ Controlled Business Arrangement
 - An arrangement that offers consumers a package of services (e.g., a real estate firm, title insurance company, mortgage broker, and home inspection company).



Exclusive Agency Listing







A listing contract under which the owner appoints a real estate professional as her exclusive agent for a designated period of time to sell the specified property, on the owner's stated terms, for a commission. The owner reserves the right to sell the property without paying anyone a commission if the sale is to a prospect who has not been introduced or claimed by the real estate professional.



☐ Exclusive BuyerRepresentation Agreement







Agreement in which the buyer works with only one broker, although the broker is free to represent other buyer clients.



■ Exclusive Right-to-sell Listing



☐ Exclusive Right-to-sell Listing

A listing contract under which the owner appoints a real estate professional as his exclusive agent for a designated period of time to sell the specified property on the owner's stated terms and agrees to pay the real estate professional a commission when the property is sold, whether by the real estate professional, the owner, or another real estate professional.





■ Multiple Listing Clause



→ Multiple Listing Clause

A provision in an exclusive listing for the authority and obligation on the part of the listing agent to distribute the listing to other real estate professionals in a multiple listing organization.





■ Multiple Listing Service (MLS)



■ Multiple Listing Service (MLS)

A marketing organization composed of member real estate professionals who agree to share their listing agreements with one another in the hope of procuring ready, willing, and able buyers for their properties more quickly than they could on their own. Most multiple listing services accept exclusive right-to-sell or exclusive agency listings form their member real estate professionals.





■ Net Listing





Net Listing

A listing based on the net price the seller will receive if the property is sold. Under a net listing, the real estate professional can offer the property for sale at the highest price obtainable to increase the commission. This type of listing is illegal in many states.



Open Listing





Open Listing

A listing contract under which the real estate professional's compensation is contingent on the real estate professional producing a ready, willing, and able buyer before the property is sold by the seller or another real estate professional.



- Types of Listing Agreements
 - Exclusive Right-to-Sell Listing
 - Exclusive Agency Listing
 - Open Listing
 - Net Listing
- □ Listings Involving Cooperating Brokers
 - Multiple listing service (MLS)



Termination of Seller Representation

- Agreement's purpose fulfilled
- → Term expires
- Property is destroyed
- ☐ Title transferred by operation of law (bankruptcy, foreclosure)
- Mutual agreement
- → Breach
- One party dies or becomes incapacitated



Listings

- Expiration of Listing Period
 - Automatic extension clause
 - Broker protection clause
- ☐ The Listing Presentation
 - Comparative Market Analysis (CMA)
 - Information Needed
 - Disclosures





AGENT The Listing Contract

- Names
- **Brokerage Firm**
- **Description of Premises**
- **Listing Price**
- Broker's Authorities and Responsibilities
- **Broker's Compensation**
- Real Property and Personal **Property**
- Leased Equipment
- Proposed Dates for Closing and **Possession Closing**





The Listing Contract

- Evidence of Ownership
- **Encumbrances**
- Home Warranty
- **Termination**
- **Broker Protection Clause**
- Warranties by Owner
- **Indemnification Wording**
- **Nondiscrimination Wording**
- **Antitrust Wording**
- Signatures
- Date



- Representing the Buyer
 - Exclusive buyer representation agreement
- ☐ Termination of Buyer Representation
 - ☐ Purpose of agreement fulfilled
 - ☐ Term expires
 - Mutual agreement
 - Breach
 - Either party dies or is incapacitated