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HB 1395 2003

A bill to be entitled An act relating to real estate appraisers; amending s. 475.611, F.S.; revising and providing definitions applicable to regulation of real estate appraisers; amending s. 475.612, F.S.; eliminating the regulatory category of licensed appraiser; redesignating registered assistant appraisers as registered trainee appraisers and requiring direct supervision of a certified appraiser; revising exemption provisions applicable to brokers, broker-salespersons, and salespersons; amending s. 475.613, F.S.; granting the Florida Real Estate Appraisal Board power to establish by rule standards for and regulate supervisory appraisers; amending s. 475.617, F.S.; deleting education and experience requirements to be a licensed appraiser, to conform; amending s. 475.618, F.S.; revising renewal and continuing education requirements; authorizing and providing for certification of distance learning courses by independent certification organizations; limiting renewal of registered trainee appraiser registration; amending s. 475.6221, F.S.; providing that a registered trainee appraiser may only receive compensation through or from the primary supervising appraiser; creating s. 475.6222, F.S.; providing requirements for supervision of registered trainee appraisers; creating s. 475.631, F.S.; providing for reciprocity for nonresident appraisers; requiring an irrevocable consent to suits and actions and providing for service of process or pleading; requiring resident appraisers who become nonresidents to notify the board and comply with nonresident requirements; providing penalties;

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authorizing the board to adopt rules for regulation of nonresident appraisers; amending ss. 475.01, 475.011, 475.6147, 475.615, 475.616, 475.619, 475.620, 475.621, 475.622, 475.623, 475.624, 475.626, 475.627, 475.628, 475.629, 475.6295, and 655.60, F.S.; conforming terminology; providing an effective date.

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Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 475.01, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

475.01 Definitions.--

- (1) As used in this part:
- "Broker" means a person who, for another, and for a compensation or valuable consideration directly or indirectly paid or promised, expressly or impliedly, or with an intent to collect or receive a compensation or valuable consideration therefor, appraises, auctions, sells, exchanges, buys, rents, or offers, attempts or agrees to appraise, auction, or negotiate the sale, exchange, purchase, or rental of business enterprises or business opportunities or any real property or any interest in or concerning the same, including mineral rights or leases, or who advertises or holds out to the public by any oral or printed solicitation or representation that she or he is engaged in the business of appraising, auctioning, buying, selling, exchanging, leasing, or renting business enterprises or business opportunities or real property of others or interests therein, including mineral rights, or who takes any part in the procuring of sellers, purchasers, lessors, or lessees of business enterprises or business opportunities or the real property of



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another, or leases, or interest therein, including mineral rights, or who directs or assists in the procuring of prospects or in the negotiation or closing of any transaction which does, or is calculated to, result in a sale, exchange, or leasing thereof, and who receives, expects, or is promised any compensation or valuable consideration, directly or indirectly therefor; and all persons who advertise rental property information or lists. A broker renders a professional service and is a professional within the meaning of s. 95.11(4)(a). Where the term "appraise" or "appraising" appears in the definition of the term "broker," it specifically excludes those appraisal services which must be performed only by a statelicensed or state-certified appraiser, and those appraisal services which may be performed by a registered trainee assistant appraiser as defined in part II. The term "broker" also includes any person who is a general partner, officer, or director of a partnership or corporation which acts as a broker. The term "broker" also includes any person or entity who undertakes to list or sell one or more timeshare periods per year in one or more timeshare plans on behalf of any number of persons, except as provided in ss. 475.011 and 721.20.

Section 2. Subsections (7) and (9) of section 475.011, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

475.011 Exemptions. -- This part does not apply to:

(7) Any full-time graduate student who is enrolled in a commission-approved degree program in appraising at a college or university in this state, if the student is acting under the direct supervision of a licensed broker or a licensed or certified appraiser and is engaged only in appraisal activities related to the approved degree program. Any appraisal report by

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the student must be issued in the name of the supervising individual.

- (9) Any person registered, licensed, or certified by the department under part II as an appraiser or trainee assistant appraiser performing appraisals in accordance with that part.
- Section 3. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 475.611, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

475.611 Definitions.--

- (1) As used in this part, the term:
- (a) "Appraisal" or "appraisal services" means the services provided by certified or licensed appraisers or registered trainee assistant appraisers, and includes:
- 1. "Appraisal assignment" denotes an engagement for which a person is employed or retained to act, or could be perceived by third parties or the public as acting, as an agent or a disinterested third party in rendering an unbiased analysis, opinion, review, or conclusion relating to the nature, quality, value, or utility of specified interests in, or aspects of, identified real property.
- 2. "Analysis assignment" denotes appraisal services that relate to the employer's or client's individual needs or investment objectives and includes specialized marketing, financing, and feasibility studies as well as analyses, opinions, and conclusions given in connection with activities such as real estate brokerage, mortgage banking, or real estate consulting.
- 3. "Appraisal review assignment" denotes an engagement for which an appraiser is employed or retained to develop and communicate an opinion about the quality of another appraiser's



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appraisal, appraisal report, or work. An appraisal review may or may not contain the reviewing appraiser's opinion of value.

- (b) "Appraisal Foundation" or "foundation" means the Appraisal Foundation established on November 20, 1987, as a not-for-profit corporation under the laws of Illinois.
- (c) "Appraisal report" means any <u>communication</u>, written or oral, of an appraisal, appraisal review, appraisal consulting <u>service</u>, analysis, opinion, or conclusion <u>issued by an appraiser</u> relating to the nature, quality, value, or utility of a specified interest in, or aspect of, identified real property, and includes <u>any</u> a report communicating an appraisal analysis, opinion, or conclusion of value, regardless of title. However, in order to be recognized in a federally related transaction, an appraisal report must be written.
- (d) "Appraisal review" means the act or process of developing and communicating an opinion about the quality of another appraiser's appraisal, appraisal report, or work.
- $\underline{\text{(e)}(d)}$ "Appraisal subcommittee" means the designees of the heads of the federal financial institutions regulatory agencies established by the Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council Act of 1978 (12 U.S.C. ss. 3301 et seq.), as amended.
- $\underline{(f)(e)}$ "Appraiser" means any person who is a registered $\underline{\text{trainee}}$ assistant real estate appraiser, licensed real estate appraiser, or a certified real estate appraiser. An appraiser renders a professional service and is a professional within the meaning of s. 95.11(4)(a).
- $\underline{(g)(f)}$ "Board" means the Florida Real Estate Appraisal Board established under this section.



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 $\underline{\text{(h)}(g)}$ "Certified general appraiser" means a person who is certified by the department as qualified to issue appraisal reports for any type of real property.

- (i)(h) "Certified residential appraiser" means a person who is certified by the department as qualified to issue appraisal reports for residential real property of one to four residential units, without regard to transaction value or complexity, or real property as may be authorized by federal regulation.
- $\underline{(j)}(i)$ "Department" means the Department of Business and Professional Regulation.
- $\frac{(k)(j)}{(j)}$ "Federally related transaction" means any real estate-related financial transaction which a federal financial institutions regulatory agency or the Resolution Trust Corporation engages in, contracts for, or regulates, and which requires the services of a state-licensed or state-certified appraiser.
- (k) "Licensed appraiser" means a person who is licensed by the department as qualified to issue appraisal reports for residential real property of one to four residential units or on such real estate or real property as may be authorized by federal regulation.
- (1) "Registered trainee assistant appraiser" means a person who is registered with the department as qualified to perform appraisal services only under the direct supervision of a licensed or certified appraiser. A registered trainee appraiser may accept appraisal assignments only from her or his primary or secondary supervisor.
- (m) "Supervisory appraiser" means a certified residential appraiser or a certified general appraiser responsible for the



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direct supervision of one or more registered trainee appraisers and fully responsible for appraisals and appraisal reports prepared by those registered trainee appraisers. The board, by rule, shall determine the responsibilities of a supervisory appraiser, the geographic proximity required, and the maximum number of registered trainee appraisers to be supervised by an individual supervisory appraiser.

- $\underline{(n)}$ "Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice" means the most recent standards approved and adopted by the Appraisal Standards Board of the Appraisal Foundation.
- (o) "Valuation services" means services pertaining to aspects of property value and includes such services performed by certified appraisers, registered trainee appraisers, and others.
- (p) "Work file" means the documentation necessary to support an appraiser's analysis, opinions, and conclusions.
- (2) Wherever the word "operate" or "operating" appears in this part with respect to a registered trainee assistant appraiser, licensed appraiser, or certified appraiser; in any order, rule, or regulation of the board; in any pleading, indictment, or information under this part; in any court action or proceeding; or in any order or judgment of a court, it shall be deemed to mean the commission of one or more acts described in this part as constituting or defining a registered trainee assistant appraiser, licensed appraiser, or certified appraiser, not including, however, any of the exceptions stated therein. A single act is sufficient to bring a person within the meaning of this subsection, and each act, if prohibited herein, constitutes a separate offense.



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Section 4. Section 475.612, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 475.612 Certification, licensure, or registration required.--
- (1) A person may not use the title "certified real estate appraiser," "licensed real estate appraiser," or "registered trainee assistant real estate appraiser," or any abbreviation or words to that effect, or issue an appraisal report in connection with any federally related transaction, unless such person is certified, licensed, or registered by the department under this part. However, the work upon which an appraisal report is based may be performed by a person who is not a certified or licensed appraiser or registered trainee assistant appraiser if the report is approved and signed by a certified or licensed appraiser.
- (2) This section does not preclude a broker, salesperson, or broker-salesperson who is not a certified or licensed real estate appraiser or registered trainee assistant real estate appraiser from providing valuation services appraising real estate for compensation. Such persons may continue to provide valuation appraisals and appraisal services for compensation so long as they do not represent themselves as certified, licensed, or registered under this part.
- (3) This section does not apply to a real estate broker or salesperson who, in the ordinary course of business, performs a comparative market analysis, gives a broker price opinion, or gives an opinion of the value of real estate for the purpose of advising a bona fide buyer or seller. However, in no event may this comparative market analysis, broker price opinion, or



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opinion of value of real estate be referred to or construed as an appraisal.

- (4) This section does not prevent any state court or administrative law judge from certifying as an expert witness in any legal or administrative proceeding an appraiser who is not certified, licensed, or registered; nor does it prevent any appraiser from testifying, with respect to the results of an appraisal.
- (5) This section does not apply to any full-time graduate student who is enrolled in a degree program in appraising at a college or university in this state, if the student is acting under the direct supervision of a certified or licensed appraiser or licensed broker and is engaged only in appraisal activities related to the approved degree program. Any appraisal report by the student must be issued in the name of the supervising individual.
- (6) This section does not apply to any employee of a local, state, or federal agency who performs appraisal services within the scope of her or his employment. However, this exemption does not apply where any local, state, or federal agency requires an employee to be registered, licensed, or certified to perform appraisal services.
- Section 5. Section 475.613, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
 - 475.613 Florida Real Estate Appraisal Board. --
- (1) There is created the Florida Real Estate Appraisal Board, which shall consist of seven members appointed by the Governor, subject to confirmation by the Senate. Four members of the board must be real estate appraisers who have been engaged in the general practice of appraising real property in this

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HB 1395 2003 state for at least 5 years immediately preceding appointment. In appointing real estate appraisers to the board, while not excluding other appraisers, the Governor shall give preference to real estate appraisers who are not primarily engaged in real estate brokerage or mortgage lending activities. One member of the board must represent organizations that use appraisals for the purpose of eminent domain proceedings, financial transactions, or mortgage insurance. Two members of the board shall be representatives of the general public and shall not be connected in any way with the practice of real estate appraisal, real estate brokerage, or mortgage lending. The appraiser members shall be as representative of the entire industry as possible, and membership in a nationally recognized or staterecognized appraisal organization shall not be a prerequisite to membership on the board. To the extent possible, no more than two members of the board shall be primarily affiliated with any one particular national or state appraisal association. After July 1, 1992, Two of the members must be licensed or certified residential real estate appraisers and two of the members must be certified general real estate appraisers at the time of their appointment.

(a) Initially, four members of the board shall be appointed for 3-year terms, and three members shall be appointed for 4-year terms. Thereafter, all Members of the board shall be appointed for 4-year terms. Any vacancy occurring in the membership of the board shall be filled by appointment by the Governor for the unexpired term. Upon expiration of her or his or her term, a member of the board shall continue to hold office until the appointment and qualification of the member's



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successor. A member may not be appointed for more than two consecutive terms. The Governor may remove any member for cause.

- (b) The headquarters for the board shall be in Orlando.
- (c) The board shall meet at least once each calendar quarter to conduct its business.
- (d) The members of the board shall elect a chairperson at the first meeting each year.
- (e) Each member of the board is entitled to per diem and travel expenses as set by legislative appropriation for each day that the member engages in the business of the board.
- (2) The board shall have, through its rules, full power to regulate the issuance of licenses, certifications, registrations, and permits; to discipline appraisers in any manner permitted under this section; to establish qualifications for licenses, certifications, registrations, and permits consistent with this section; to regulate approved courses; and to establish standards for real estate appraisals; and to establish standards for and regulate supervisory appraisers.
- Section 6. Section 475.6147, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

475.6147 Fees.--

(1) The board by rule may establish fees to be paid for application, licensing and renewal, certification and recertification, registration and reregistration, reinstatement, and recordmaking and recordkeeping. The fee for initial application may not exceed \$150, and the combined cost of the application and examination may not exceed \$300. The initial certification or registration license fee and the certification or registration license fee may not exceed \$150 for each year of the duration of the certification or registration

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license. The board may also establish by rule a late renewal penalty. The board shall establish fees which are adequate to ensure its continued operation. Fees shall be based on estimates made by the department of the revenue required to implement this part and other provisions of law relating to the regulation of real estate appraisers.

- (2) Application and certification and registration license fees shall be refunded upon a determination by the board that the state is not entitled to the fees or that only a portion of the resources have been expended in the processing of the application or shall be refunded if for any other reason the application is not completely processed. The board shall implement this subsection by rule.
- Section 7. Section 475.615, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 475.615 Qualifications for registration, licensure, or certification.--
- (1) Any person desiring to act as a registered <u>trainee</u> assistant appraiser or as a licensed or certified appraiser must make application in writing to the department in such form and detail as the board shall prescribe. Each applicant must be at least 18 years of age and hold a high school diploma or its equivalent. At the time of application, a person must furnish evidence of successful completion of required education and evidence of required experience, if any.
- (2) The board is authorized to waive or modify any education, experience, or examination requirements established in this section in order to conform with any such requirements established by the Appraisal Qualifications Board of the



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Appraisal Foundation and recognized by the Appraisal Subcommittee or any successor body recognized by federal law.

- Appropriate fees, as set forth in the rules of the board pursuant to s. 475.6147, and a fingerprint card must accompany all applications for registration or, certification, or licensure. The fingerprint card shall be forwarded to the Division of Criminal Justice Information Systems within the Department of Law Enforcement for purposes of processing the fingerprint card to determine if the applicant has a criminal history record. The fingerprint card shall also be forwarded to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for purposes of processing the fingerprint card to determine if the applicant has a criminal history record. The information obtained by the processing of the fingerprint card by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement and the Federal Bureau of Investigation shall be sent to the department for the purpose of determining if the applicant is statutorily qualified for registration orcertification, or licensure.
- (4) In the event that the applicant is currently a registered <u>trainee</u> assistant appraiser or a licensed or certified appraiser and is making application to obtain a different status of appraisal licensure, should such application be received by the department within 180 days prior to through 180 days after the applicant's scheduled renewal, the charge for the application shall be established by the rules of the board pursuant to s. 475.6147.
- (5) At the time of filing a notarized application for registration, licensure, or certification, the applicant must sign a pledge to comply with the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice upon registration, licensure, or

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certification, and must indicate in writing that she or he understands the types of misconduct for which disciplinary proceedings may be initiated. The application shall expire 1 year from the date received, if the applicant for registration, licensure, or certification fails to take the appropriate examination.

- All applicants must be competent and qualified to make real estate appraisals with safety to those with whom they may undertake a relationship of trust and confidence and the general public. If any applicant has been denied registration, licensure, or certification, or has been disbarred, or the applicant's registration, license, or certificate to practice or conduct any regulated profession, business, or vocation has been revoked or suspended by this or any other state, any nation, or any possession or district of the United States, or any court or lawful agency thereof, because of any conduct or practices which would have warranted a like result under this part, or if the applicant has been guilty of conduct or practices in this state or elsewhere which would have been grounds for disciplining her or his registration, license, or certification under this part had the applicant then been a registered trainee assistant appraiser or a licensed or certified appraiser, the applicant shall be deemed not to be qualified unless, because of lapse of time and subsequent good conduct and reputation, or other reason deemed sufficient, it appears to the board that the interest of the public is not likely to be endangered by the granting of registration, licensure, or certification.
- (7) No applicant seeking to become registered, licensed, or certified under this part may be rejected solely by virtue of



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membership or lack of membership in any particular appraisal organization.

Section 8. Section 475.616, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 475.616 Examination requirements.--To be licensed or certified as an appraiser, the applicant must demonstrate, by passing a written examination, that she or he possesses:
- (1) A knowledge of technical terms commonly used in real estate appraisal.
- (2) An understanding of the principles of land economics, real estate appraisal processes, reliable sources of appraising data, and problems likely to be encountered in the gathering, interpreting, and processing of data in carrying out appraisal disciplines.
- (3) An understanding of the standards for the development and communication of real estate appraisals as provided in this part.
- (4) An understanding of the types of misconduct for which disciplinary proceedings may be initiated against a licensed or certified appraiser, as set forth in this part.
- (5) Knowledge of the theories of depreciation, cost estimating, methods of capitalization, and the mathematics of real estate appraisal that are appropriate for the licensure or certification for which application is made.
- Section 9. Section 475.617, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
 - 475.617 Education and experience requirements. --
- (1) To be registered as <u>a trainee</u> an assistant appraiser, an applicant must present evidence satisfactory to the board that she or he has successfully completed at least 75 hours of

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hour basis.

approved academic courses in subjects related to real estate appraisal, which shall include coverage of the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice from a nationally recognized or state-recognized appraisal organization, area technical center, accredited community college, college, or university, state or federal agency or commission, or proprietary real estate school that holds a permit pursuant to s. 475.451. The board may increase the required number of hours to not more than 100 hours. A classroom hour is defined as 50 minutes out of each 60-minute segment. Past courses may be approved on an hour-for-

- (2) To be licensed as an appraiser, an applicant must present evidence satisfactory to the board that she or he:
- (a) Has 2 years of experience in real property appraisal as defined by rule.
- (b) Has successfully completed at least 90 classroom hours, inclusive of examination, of approved academic courses in subjects related to real estate appraisal, which shall include coverage of the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice from a nationally recognized or state-recognized appraisal organization, area technical center, accredited community college, college, or university, state or federal agency or commission, or proprietary real estate school that holds a permit pursuant to s. 475.451. The board may increase the required number of hours to not more than 120 hours. A classroom hour is defined as 50 minutes out of each 60-minute segment. Past courses may be approved by the board and substituted on an hour-for-hour basis.



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 $\underline{(2)}$ To be certified as a residential appraiser, an applicant must present satisfactory evidence to the board that she or he:

- (a) Has <u>at least</u> 2,500 hours of experience obtained over a 24-month period in real property appraisal as defined by rule.
- (b) Has successfully completed at least 120 classroom hours, inclusive of examination, of approved academic courses in subjects related to real estate appraisal, which shall include coverage of the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice from a nationally recognized or state-recognized appraisal organization, area technical center, accredited community college, college, or university, state or federal agency or commission, or proprietary real estate school that holds a permit pursuant to s. 475.451. The board may increase the required number of hours to not more than 165 hours. A classroom hour is defined as 50 minutes out of each 60-minute segment. Past courses may be approved by the board and substituted on an hour-for-hour basis.
- $\underline{(3)}$ (4) To be certified as a general appraiser, an applicant must present evidence satisfactory to the board that she or he:
- (a) Has <u>at least</u> 3,000 hours of experience obtained over a 30-month period in real property appraisal as defined by rule.
- (b) Has successfully completed at least 180 classroom hours, inclusive of examination, of approved academic courses in subjects related to real estate appraisal, which shall include coverage of the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice from a nationally recognized or state-recognized appraisal organization, area technical center, accredited community college, college, or university, state or federal

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agency or commission, or proprietary real estate school that holds a permit pursuant to s. 475.451. The board may increase the required number of hours to not more than 225 hours. A classroom hour is defined as 50 minutes out of each 60-minute segment. Past courses may be approved by the board and substituted on an hour-for-hour basis.

(4)(5) Each applicant must furnish, under oath, a detailed statement of the experience for each year of experience she or he claims. Upon request, the applicant shall furnish to the board, for its examination, copies of appraisal reports or file memoranda to support the claim for experience.

Section 10. Section 475.618, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

475.618 Renewal of registration, license, certification, or instructor permit; continuing education.--

- (1)(a) The department shall renew a registration, license, certification, or instructor permit upon receipt of the renewal application and proper fee. Such application shall include proof satisfactory to the board that the individual has satisfactorily completed any continuing education that has been prescribed by the board.
- (b) A distance learning course or courses may shall be approved by the board as an option to classroom hours as satisfactory completion of the course or courses as required by this section. The schools authorized by this section have the option of providing classroom courses, distance learning courses, or both. However, satisfactory completion of a distance learning course requires the satisfactory completion of a timed distance learning course examination. Such examination shall not be required to be monitored or given at a centralized location.



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(c) The board in its discretion may authorize independent certification organizations to certify or approve the delivery method of distance learning courses. Certification from such authorized organizations must be provided at the time a distance learning course is submitted to the board by an accredited college, university, community college, area technical center, proprietary real estate school, or board-approved sponsor for content approval.

- (2) The department shall adopt rules establishing a procedure for the renewal of registration, licenses, certifications, and instructor permits at least every 4 years. A registered trainee appraiser registration may be renewed for two biennial terms only. After 6 years, the registered trainee appraiser is not eligible for renewal but must qualify as a new applicant.
- (3) Any registration, license, certification, or instructor permit which is not renewed at the end of the registration, license, certification, or instructor permit period prescribed by the department shall automatically revert to inactive status.
- (4) At least 60 days prior to the end of the registration, license, certification, or instructor permit period, the department shall cause to be mailed a notice of renewal and possible reversion to the last known address of the registered trainee assistant, licensee, certificateholder, or permitholder.
- Section 11. Section 475.619, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

475.619 Inactive status.--

(1) A registration, license, or certification which has become inactive may be renewed upon application to the

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department. The board shall prescribe by rule continuing education requirements for each year the registration, license, or certification was inactive, as a condition of renewing an inactive registration, license, or certification.

- (2) Any registration, license, or certification which has been inactive for more than 4 years shall automatically expire. Once a registration, license, or certification expires, it becomes null and void without any further action by the board or department. Two years prior to the expiration of the registration, license, or certification, the department shall give notice by mail to the registered trainee assistant, licensee, or certificateholder at her or his last known address. The board shall prescribe by rule a fee not to exceed \$100 for the late renewal of an inactive registration, license, or certification. The department shall collect the current renewal fee for each renewal period in which the registration, license, or certification was inactive, in addition to any applicable late renewal fee.
- (3) The board shall adopt rules relating to inactive registrations, licenses, and certifications and for the renewal of such registrations, licenses, and certifications.
- Section 12. Section 475.620, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 475.620 Corporations and partnerships ineligible for licensure or certification.--
- (1) A license or certification may not be issued under this part to a corporation, partnership, firm, or group. However, an appraiser licensed or certified under this part may provide an appraisal report for or on behalf of a corporation, partnership, firm, or group, if the report is prepared by, or

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CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.



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under the personal direction of, such appraiser and is reviewed and signed by her or him.

- appraiser," "state-licensed appraiser," or "state-certified appraiser" may only be used to refer to an individual who is registered, licensed, or certified under this part and may not be used following or immediately in connection with the name or signature of a corporation, partnership, firm, or group, or in such manner that it could be interpreted as implying registration, licensure, or certification under this part of a corporation, partnership, firm, or group, or anyone other than an individual appraiser. Corporations, partnerships, firms, or groups which employ certified or licensed appraisers or registered trainee assistant appraisers who provide appraisal reports, as defined by this part, may represent to the public and advertise that they offer appraisals performed by registered, licensed, or certified appraisers.
- Section 13. Section 475.621, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
 - 475.621 Registry of licensed and certified appraisers.--
- (1) The department shall transmit to the appraisal subcommittee, no less than annually, a roster listing individuals who hold a valid state license or certification as an appraiser.
- (2) The department shall collect from such individuals who perform or seek to perform appraisals in federally related transactions, an annual fee as set by the appraisal subcommittee to be transmitted to the Federal Financial Institutions Examinations Council on an annual basis.



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Section 14. Section 475.622, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

475.622 Display and disclosure of licensure, certification, or registration.--

- (1) Each appraiser registered, licensed, or certified under this part shall place her or his registration, license, or certification number adjacent to or immediately beneath the designation "state-registered trainee assistant real estate appraiser," "state-licensed real estate appraiser," "state-certified residential real estate appraiser," or "state-certified general real estate appraiser," or their appropriate abbreviations as defined by rule, as applicable, when such term is used in an appraisal report or in a contract or other instrument used by the appraiser in conducting real property appraisal activities. The applicable designation shall be included in any newspaper, telephone directory, or other advertising medium, as defined by rule, used by the appraiser.
- er certified appraiser may not sign any appraisal report or certification or communicate same without disclosing in writing that she or he is a state-registered trainee assistant appraiser or state-licensed, state-certified residential, or state-certified general appraiser, as applicable, even if the appraisal performed is outside of the scope of the appraiser's registration, licensure, or certification as an appraiser.
- (3) The primary or secondary supervising licensed or certified appraiser of a registered <u>trainee</u> assistant real estate appraiser must sign <u>each</u> appraisal report <u>and</u> certification signed by the registered trainee assistant.



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(4) The supervising appraiser of a registered <u>trainee</u> assistant real estate appraiser must disclose <u>her or</u> his or her appropriate designation and number any time the registered <u>trainee</u> assistant is required to make such disclosures.

Section 15. Section 475.6221, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

475.6221 Employment of registered <u>trainee</u> assistant real estate appraisers.--

- A registered trainee assistant real estate appraiser (1)must perform appraisal services under the direct supervision of a licensed or certified appraiser who is designated as the primary supervisor. The primary supervisor may also designate additional licensed or certified appraisers as secondary supervisors. A secondary supervisor must be affiliated with the same firm or business as the primary supervisor and the primary or secondary supervisor must have the same business address as the registered trainee assistant real estate appraiser. The primary supervisory A registered assistant real estate appraiser must notify the Division of Real Estate of the name and address of any primary and secondary supervisor for whom the registered trainee assistant will perform appraisal services, and must also notify the division within 10 days after terminating such relationship. Termination of the relationship with a primary supervisor automatically terminates the relationship with the secondary supervisor.
- (2) A registered <u>trainee</u> assistant real estate appraiser may <u>only</u> not receive <u>compensation through or from payment</u> directly from the recipient of an appraisal report, unless the primary supervising <u>licensed or</u> certified appraiser agrees to the payment arrangement.

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Section 16. Section 475.6222, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

475.6222 Supervision of registered trainee
appraisers.--The primary or secondary supervisor of a registered
trainee appraiser must provide direct supervision to the
registered trainee appraiser. The role and responsibility of the
supervising appraiser shall be determined by rule of the board.

Section 17. Section 475.623, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

475.623 Registration of office location.--Each appraiser registered, licensed, or certified under this part shall furnish in writing to the department each business address from which she or he operates in the performance of appraisal services. Each appraiser must notify the department of any change of address within 10 days on a form provided by the department.

Section 18. Section 475.624, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

475.624 Discipline.—The board may deny an application for registration, licensure, or certification; may investigate the actions of any appraiser registered, licensed, or certified under this part; may reprimand or impose an administrative fine not to exceed \$5,000 for each count or separate offense against any such appraiser; and may revoke or suspend, for a period not to exceed 10 years, the registration, license, or certification of any such appraiser, or place any such appraiser on probation, if it finds that the registered trainee assistant, licensee, or certificateholder:

(1) Has violated any provisions of this part or s. 455.227(1); however, certificateholders and registrants



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licensees under this part are exempt from the provisions of s. 455.227(1)(i).

- (2) Has been guilty of fraud, misrepresentation, concealment, false promises, false pretenses, dishonest conduct, culpable negligence, or breach of trust in any business transaction in this state or any other state, nation, or territory; has violated a duty imposed upon her or him by law or by the terms of a contract, whether written, oral, express, or implied, in an appraisal assignment; has aided, assisted, or conspired with any other person engaged in any such misconduct and in furtherance thereof; or has formed an intent, design, or scheme to engage in such misconduct and committed an overt act in furtherance of such intent, design, or scheme. It is immaterial to the guilt of the registered trainee assistant, licensee, or certificateholder that the victim or intended victim of the misconduct has sustained no damage or loss; that the damage or loss has been settled and paid after discovery of the misconduct; or that such victim or intended victim was a customer or a person in confidential relation with the registered trainee assistant, licensee, or certificateholder, or was an identified member of the general public.
- (3) Has advertised services in a manner which is fraudulent, false, deceptive, or misleading in form or content.
- (4) Has violated any of the provisions of this section or any lawful order or rule issued under the provisions of this section or chapter 455.
- (5) Has been convicted or found guilty of, or entered a plea of nolo contendere to, regardless of adjudication, a crime in any jurisdiction which directly relates to the activities of a registered trainee assistant appraiser or licensed or



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certified appraiser, or which involves moral turpitude or fraudulent or dishonest conduct. The record of a conviction certified or authenticated in such form as admissible in evidence under the laws of the state shall be admissible as prima facie evidence of such quilt.

- (6) Has had a registration, license, or certification as an appraiser revoked, suspended, or otherwise acted against, or has been disbarred, or has had her or his registration, license, or certificate to practice or conduct any regulated profession, business, or vocation revoked or suspended by this or any other state, any nation, or any possession or district of the United States, or has had an application for such registration, licensure, or certification to practice or conduct any regulated profession, business, or vocation denied by this or any other state, any nation, or any possession or district of the United States.
- (7) Has become temporarily incapacitated from acting as an appraiser with safety to those in a fiduciary relationship with her or him because of drunkenness, use of drugs, or temporary mental derangement; however, suspension of a license, certification, or registration in such cases shall only be for the period of such incapacity.
- (8) Is confined in any county jail, postadjudication; is confined in any state or federal prison or mental institution; or, through mental disease or deterioration, can no longer safely be entrusted to deal with the public or in a confidential capacity.
- (9) Has failed to inform the board in writing within 30 days after pleading guilty or nolo contendere to, or being convicted or found guilty of, any felony.



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(10) Has been found guilty, for a second time, of any misconduct that warrants disciplinary action, or has been found guilty of a course of conduct or practice which shows that she or he is incompetent, negligent, dishonest, or untruthful to an extent that those with whom she or he may sustain a confidential relationship may not safely do so.

- (11) Has made or filed a report or record, either written or oral, which the registered <u>trainee</u> assistant, licensee, or certificateholder knows to be false; has willfully failed to file a report or record required by state or federal law; has willfully impeded or obstructed such filing, or has induced another person to impede or obstruct such filing. However, such reports or records shall include only those which are signed or presented in the capacity of a registered <u>trainee</u> assistant appraiser or <u>licensed or</u> certified appraiser.
- (12) Has obtained or attempted to obtain a registrationlicense, or certification by means of knowingly making a false
 statement, submitting false information, refusing to provide
 complete information in response to an application question, or
 engaging in fraud, misrepresentation, or concealment.
- (13) Has paid money or other valuable consideration, except as required by this section, to any member or employee of the board to obtain a registration, license, or certification under this section.
- (14) Has violated any standard for the development or communication of a real estate appraisal or other provision of the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice.
- (15) Has failed or refused to exercise reasonable diligence in developing an appraisal or preparing an appraisal report.



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- (16) Has failed to communicate an appraisal without good cause.
- (17) Has accepted an appraisal assignment if the employment itself is contingent upon the appraiser reporting a predetermined result, analysis, or opinion, or if the fee to be paid for the performance of the appraisal assignment is contingent upon the opinion, conclusion, or valuation reached upon the consequences resulting from the appraisal assignment.
- (18) Has failed to timely notify the department of any change in business location, or has failed to fully disclose all business locations from which she or he operates as a registered trainee assistant real estate appraiser or licensed or certified real estate appraiser.
- Section 19. Section 475.626, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
 - 475.626 Violations and penalties .--
 - (1) VIOLATIONS.--
- (a) No person shall operate or attempt to operate as a registered <u>trainee</u> assistant appraiser or licensed or certified appraiser without being the holder of a valid and current registration, license, or certification.
- (b) No person shall violate any lawful order or rule of the board which is binding upon her or him.
- (c) No person shall commit any conduct or practice set forth in s. 475.624.
- (d) No person shall make any false affidavit or affirmation intended for use as evidence by or before the board or any member thereof, or by any of its authorized representatives, nor shall any person give false testimony under



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oath or affirmation to or before the board or any member thereof in any proceeding authorized by this section.

- (e) No person shall fail or refuse to appear at the time and place designated in a subpoena issued with respect to a violation of this section, unless such failure to appear is the result of facts or circumstances that are sufficient to excuse appearance in response to a subpoena from the circuit court; nor shall a person who is present before the board or a member thereof or one of its authorized representatives acting under authority of this section refuse to be sworn or to affirm or fail or refuse to answer fully any question propounded by the board, the member, or such representative, or by any person by the authority of such officer or appointee.
- (f) No person shall obstruct or hinder in any manner the enforcement of this section or the performance of any lawful duty by any person acting under the authority of this section, or interfere with, intimidate, or offer any bribe to any member of the board or any of its employees or any person who is, or is expected to be, a witness in any investigation or proceeding relating to a violation of this section.
- (g) No person shall knowingly conceal any information relating to violations of this section.
- (2) PENALTIES.--Any person who violates any of the provisions of subsection (1) commits is guilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083, except when a different punishment is prescribed by this section. Nothing in this section shall prohibit the prosecution under any other criminal statute of this state of any person for an act or conduct prohibited by this section; however, in such cases, the state may prosecute under this



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section or under such other statute, or may charge both offenses in one prosecution, but the sentence imposed shall not be a greater fine or longer sentence than that prescribed for the offense which carries the more severe penalties. A civil case, criminal case, or a denial, revocation, or suspension proceeding may arise out of the same alleged state of facts, and the pendency or result of one such case or proceeding shall not stay or control the result of either of the others.

Section 20. Section 475.627, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

475.627 Appraisal course instructors.--

- (1) Where the course or courses to be taught are prescribed by the board or approved precedent to registration, licensure, certification, or renewal as a registered trainee assistant appraiser, licensed appraiser, or certified residential appraiser, before commencing to instruct noncredit college courses in a college, university, or community college, or courses in an area technical center or proprietary real estate school, a person must certify her or his competency by meeting one of the following requirements:
- (a) Hold a valid certification as a residential real estate appraiser in this or any other state.
- (b) Pass an appraiser instructor's examination which shall test knowledge of residential appraisal topics.
- (2) Where the course or courses to be taught are prescribed by the board or approved precedent to registration, licensure, certification, or renewal as a registered trainee assistant appraiser, licensed appraiser, or certified appraiser, before commencing to instruct noncredit college courses in a college, university, or community college, or courses in an area

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technical center or proprietary real estate school, a person must certify her or his competency by meeting one of the following requirements:

- (a) Hold a valid certification as a general real estate appraiser in this or any other state.
- (b) Pass an appraiser instructor's examination which shall test knowledge of residential and nonresidential appraisal topics.
- (3) Possession of a permit to teach prescribed or approved appraisal courses does not entitle the permitholder to teach any courses outside the scope of the permit.

Section 21. Section 475.628, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

475.628 Professional standards for appraisers registered, licensed, or certified under this part.--Each appraiser registered, licensed, or certified under this part shall comply with the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice. Statements on appraisal standards which may be issued for the purpose of clarification, interpretation, explanation, or elaboration through the Appraisal Foundation shall also be binding on any appraiser registered, licensed, or certified under this part.

Section 22. Section 475.629, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

475.629 Retention of records.--An appraiser registered, licensed, or certified under this part shall retain, for at least 5 years, original or true copies of any contracts engaging the appraiser's services, appraisal reports, and supporting data assembled and formulated by the appraiser in preparing appraisal reports. The period for retention of the records applicable to

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each engagement of the services of the appraiser runs from the date of the submission of the appraisal report to the client. These records must be made available by the appraiser for inspection and copying by the department on reasonable notice to the appraiser. If an appraisal has been the subject of or has served as evidence for litigation, reports and records must be retained for at least 2 years after the trial.

Section 23. Section 475.6295, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

475.6295 Authority to inspect.--Duly authorized agents and employees of the department shall have the power to inspect in a lawful manner at all reasonable hours any appraiser or appraisal office certified or registered licensed under this chapter, for the purpose of determining if any of the provisions of this chapter, chapter 455, or any rule promulgated under authority of either chapter is being violated.

Section 24. Section 475.631, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

475.631 Nonresident licenses and certifications.--

(1) Notwithstanding the requirements for certification set forth in ss. 475.615 and 475.616, the board in its discretion may enter into written agreements with similar licensing or certification authorities of other states, territories, or jurisdictions of the United States to ensure for state-certified appraisers nonresident licensure or certification opportunities comparable to those afforded to nonresidents by this section.

Whenever the board determines that another jurisdiction does not offer nonresident licensure or certification to state-certified appraisers substantially comparable to those afforded to certified appraisers or licensees of that jurisdiction by this

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CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.



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section, the board shall require certified appraisers or licensees of that jurisdiction who apply for nonresident certification to meet education, experience, and examination requirements substantially comparable to those required by that jurisdiction with respect to state-certified appraisers who seek nonresident licensure or certification, not to exceed such requirements as are prescribed in ss. 475.615 and 475.616.

- (2)(a) An applicant who is not a resident of this state shall file an irrevocable consent that suits and actions may be commenced against her or him in any county of this state in which a plaintiff having a cause of action or suit against her or him resides and that service of any process or pleading in suits or actions against her or him may be made by delivering the process or pleading to the director of the Division of Real Estate by certified mail, return receipt requested, and also to the certified appraiser or licensee by registered mail addressed to the certified appraiser or licensee at her or his designated principal place of business. Service, when so made, must be taken and held in all courts to be as valid and binding upon the certified appraiser or licensee as if made upon her or him in this state within the jurisdiction of the court in which the suit or action is filed. The irrevocable consent must be in a form prescribed by the department and be acknowledged before a notary public.
- (b) Any resident state-certified appraiser who becomes a nonresident shall, within 60 days, notify the board of the change in residency and comply with nonresident requirements.

 Failure to notify and comply is a violation of the license law, subject to the penalties in s. 475.624.



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(c) All nonresident applicants, certified appraisers, and licensees shall comply with all requirements of board rules and this part. The board may adopt rules pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 necessary for the regulation of nonresident certified appraisers and licensees.

Section 25. Subsection (1) of section 655.60, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

655.60 Appraisals.--

The department is authorized to cause to be made appraisals of real estate or other property held by any state financial institution, subsidiary, or service corporation or securing the assets of the state financial institution, subsidiary, or service corporation when specific facts or information with respect to real estate or other property held, secured loans, or lending, or when in its opinion the state financial institution's policies, practices, operating results, and trends give evidence that the state financial institution's appraisals or evaluations of ability to make payments may be excessive, that lending or investment may be of a marginal nature, that appraisal policies and loan practices may not conform with generally accepted and established professional standards, or that real estate or other property held by the state financial institution, subsidiary, or service corporation or assets secured by real estate or other property are overvalued. In lieu of causing such appraisals to be made, the department may accept any appraisal caused to be made by an appropriate state or federal regulatory agency or other insuring agency or corporation of a state financial institution. Unless otherwise ordered by the department, an appraisal of real estate or other property pursuant to this section must be made by a



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licensed or certified appraiser or appraisers selected by the department, and the cost of such appraisal shall be paid promptly by such state financial institution, subsidiary, or service corporation directly to such appraiser or appraisers upon receipt by the state financial institution of a statement of such cost bearing the written approval of the department. A copy of the report of each appraisal caused to be made by the department pursuant to this section shall be furnished to the state financial institution, subsidiary, or service corporation within a reasonable time, not exceeding 60 days, following the completion of such appraisal and may be furnished to the insuring agency or corporation or federal or state regulatory agency.

Section 26. This act shall take effect July 1, 2003.

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