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**OREGON REAL ESTATE AGENCY
COMMISSIONER'S BULLETIN
June 2007**

What's new at the Oregon Real Estate Agency?

OREGON'S NEW COMMISSIONER IS GENE BENTLEY!

Governor Kulongoski has appointed Gene Bentley as the new Oregon Real Estate Commissioner. Mr. Bentley began his real estate career in 1979 with Norris, Beggs and Simpson. He most recently held the position of Senior Vice President of the Capital Markets Group for the Trammell Crow Company in Portland. A Certified Commercial Investment Member (CCIM), Mr. Bentley specialized in investment sales. The Commercial Association of Realtors® Oregon/Southwest Washington (CAR) named him Commercial Realtor® of the Year in 1999, and Most Valuable Broker in 2000. He is a past president of CAR and was a public member of the Oregon State Bar's disciplinary board. In addition, he participated on an Oregon Real Estate Agency task force that recommended changes to Oregon Real Estate License Law.

CHANGE IN CONTINUING EDUCATION CERTIFICATION SIGNATURE CARD PROCEDURE

The procedure for the Continuing Education Signature Card retention changed in 2006. It is NO LONGER necessary to mail it to the Agency with your license renewal application. The Signature Card should now be kept in your office with your continuing education documentation. If you are associated with a Principal Broker, the documents should be retained in their office.

Your Signature Card and continuing education documentation must be retained for **six years** and must be available upon request for Agency review. If your Signature Card is erroneously mailed to the Agency, it will not be returned to you or retained in our office. Questions? Call 503-378-4170.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING LANDSCAPE CONTRACTORS

Landscape construction work (not maintenance) is regulated in the State of Oregon and law requires this work to be done by licensed landscape businesses. Landscape Construction work includes: the installation of lawns, trees, shrubs and other nursery stock; plus the installation of irrigation and drainage systems for landscape plantings. The construction and installation of decks, fences, arbors, walkways, driveways, patios, landscape edging, retaining walls and water features can be done by either a licensed landscaping business (LCB) or a licensed construction contractor (CCB).

Referring clients to unlicensed persons to perform licensed work puts the person performing the work at risk of significant civil penalties and possible injunctions and the consumer at risk for personal injury suits, property damage issues as well as not providing protection against breach of contract or negligent or improper work. Licensing requires proper bonding, liability insurance and worker's compensation coverage to protect consumers who are also your clients. Your clients are dealing with you because you are a licensed professional and they deserve to be served well by your professional referrals. Failure to know these laws creates enforcement issues that can easily be avoided by checking the license before making the referral. Check the LCB website: www.lcb.state.or.us and follow the link to "verify a business license". Please make sure the business is properly licensed before referring persons to perform landscape construction work. For more information, call 503-986-6561.

Michael A. Snyder, CLP, Landscape Construction Board Administrator

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR LICENSE ONLINE YET? It's easy, fast and convenient...

Any licensees who are scheduled to renew in June and aren't making any changes to your license have the option of renewing on-line! Go to the agency's website, www.oregon.gov/REA and click on the "Online License Renewals" link in the left hand column of the page.

If you have any questions, you may email us at orea.info@state.or.us. Your question will be forwarded to the appropriate staff person for response.

Gene Bentley, Commissioner, Oregon Real Estate Agency