21 NCAC 58A .1709 is amended with changes as published in 28:15 NCR 1744 as follows:

3 21 NCAC 58A .1709 EXTENSIONS OF TIME TO COMPLETE CONTINUING EDUCATION

- 4 (a) A licensee broker on active status may request and be granted an extension of time to satisfy the continuing
- 5 education requirement for a particular license period if the licensee broker provides evidence satisfactory to the
- 6 Commission that he or she was unable to obtain the necessary education due to an incapacitating illness illness, military
- 7 <u>deployment,</u> or other circumstance—which that existed for a substantial portion of the license period and—which that
- 8 constituted a severe and verifiable hardship evidenced by supporting documentation, such as a written physician's
- 9 <u>statement, deployment orders, or other corroborative evidence,</u> such that to <u>comply</u> <u>compliance</u> with the continuing
- 10 education requirement would have been impossible or-unreasonably burdensome.
- 11 (b) The Commission shall-in no case not grant an extension of time to satisfy the continuing education requirement for
- reasons of business or personal conflicts.
- 13 (c) The Commission also shall not grant such an extension of time when when when the opinion of the Commission, the
- 14 principal reason for the licensee's broker's inability to obtain the required education in a timely manner was
- unreasonable delay on the part of the licensee broker in obtaining such education.
- 16 (d) If an extension of time is granted, the licensee broker shall be permitted to renew his or her license on active status
- but the license shall be automatically changed to inactive status at the end of the extension period unless the licensee
- 18 <u>broker</u> satisfies the continuing education requirement prior to that time.
- 19 (e) If an extension of time is not granted, the licensee broker may either satisfy the continuing education requirement
- 20 prior to expiration of the license period or renew his or her license on inactive status.
- 21 (f) The length of any extension of time granted and the determination of the specific courses which shall be accepted by
- 22 the Commission as equivalent to the continuing education the licensee [broker] would have been required to have
- 23 completed had the licensee [broker] not been granted the extension is wholly discretionary on the part of the
- 24 Commission. In no event shall an extension of time be granted that extends the continuing education deadline beyond
- June 10 of the license year following the license year in which the request is made.
- 26 (g) The licensee's broker's request for an extension of time must shall be submitted on a form prescribed by the
- 27 Commission. Commission and must be received by the Commission on or before June 10 of the license year for which
- 28 the extension is sought. The form for requesting an extension of time to satisfy the continuing education requirement
- shall include the broker's name, mailing address, license number, telephone number, email address, and a description of
- 30 the incapacitating illness or other circumstance upon which the request for extension of time is based. The form can be
- 31 <u>obtained on the Commission's website at www.ncrec.gov, or upon request to the Commission.</u>

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- 33 *History Note: Authority G.S. 93A-3(c)*; *93A-4.1*;
- 34 Eff. July 1, 1994;
- 35 Amended Eff. August 1, 2014; [July 1, 2014;] October 1, 2000.



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

Mailing address: 6714 Mail Service Center Raleigh, NC 27699-6714 Street address: 1711 New Hope Church Rd Raleigh, NC 27609-6285

June 19, 2014

Curtis E. Aldendifer North Carolina Real Estate Commission Sent via email to Curtis@ncrec.gov

Re: Objection to Rule 21 NCAC 58A .1709

Dear Mr. Aldendifer:

At its meeting yesterday, the Rules Review Commission objected to the above-captioned rule in accordance with G.S. 150B-21.10.

The Commission objected to the Rule, finding it was ambiguous. Specifically, in the language on lines 17 through 20 of the Rule, it states that the length of any extension granted and the requirements for education would be "wholly discretionary" on the behalf of the agency. The language gives no guidance to the regulated public regarding the possible lengths of time or requirements.

Further, the Commission determined the language stating that the decisions will be made outside of rulemaking is beyond the statutory authority of the agency.

Please respond to this letter in accordance with the provisions of G.S. 150B-21.12. If you have any questions regarding the Commission's actions, please let me know.

Amanda J. Reeder

Commission Counsel

21 NCAC 58A .1709 is amended as published in 28:15 NCR 1744 as follows:

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21 NCAC 58A .1709 EXTENSIONS OF TIME TO COMPLETE CONTINUING EDUCATION

A licensee broker on active status may request and be granted an extension of time to satisfy the continuing education requirement for a particular license period if the licensee broker provides evidence satisfactory to the Commission that he or she was unable to obtain the necessary education due to an incapacitating illness or other circumstance which existed for a substantial portion of the license period and which constituted a severe and verifiable hardship such that to comply with the continuing education requirement would have been impossible or unreasonably burdensome. The Commission shall in no case grant an extension of time to satisfy the continuing education requirement for reasons of business or personal conflicts. The Commission also shall not grant such an extension of time when, in the opinion of the Commission, the principal reason for the licensee's broker's inability to obtain the required education in a timely manner was unreasonable delay on the part of the licensee broker in obtaining such education. If an extension of time is granted, the licensee broker shall be permitted to renew his or her license on active status but the license shall be automatically changed to inactive status at the end of the extension period unless the licensee broker satisfies the continuing education requirement prior to that time. If an extension of time is not granted, the licensee broker may either satisfy the continuing education requirement prior to expiration of the license period or renew his or her license on inactive status. The length of any extension of time granted and the determination of the specific courses which shall be accepted by the Commission as equivalent to the continuing education the licensee broker would have been required to have completed had the licensee broker not been granted the extension is wholly discretionary on the part of the Commission. The licensee's broker's request for an extension of time must shall be submitted on a form prescribed by the Commission. Commission and must be received by the Commission on or before June 10 of the license year for which the extension is sought.

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24 *History Note: Authority G.S. 93A-3(c)*; *93A-4.1*;

25 Eff. July 1, 1994;

26 Amended Eff. <u>July 1, 2014</u>; October 1, 2000.