

April 3, 2020

Dear Tennessee REALTORS®,

As you know, Gov. Bill Lee issued a stronger stay-at-home order yesterday (view it [HERE](#)). Real estate remains an “essential service” as defined in the governor’s previous order, so it is still permissible for us to conduct business.

There has been a lot of discussion on social media regarding the order, and we wanted to provide the following points for you to keep in mind:

1. Real estate is listed as essential; however, you must be in route to, or in the process of conducting, business when traveling under the real estate “umbrella.” Being in real estate is not an overarching exemption to go wherever we wish for any reason. Business cards should be the proof needed if you are ever questioned, but it is also advisable to have a copy of your real estate license with you if possible.
2. We encourage you to follow CDC guidelines on precautions related to COVID-19. Please remember that as REALTORS®, we are leaders in the community; we have the opportunity, and the responsibility, to set a positive example for others.
3. The governor left it up to local law enforcement to apply the stay-at-home order. Please be mindful and respectful of local officials as they work to keep our communities safe.
4. In addition, some local governments have established their own orders and definitions of essential business. Be aware of those local regulations, since they are enforceable.
5. We join NAR in strongly discouraging open houses and advocating online tools such as virtual tours when showing properties. Agents should refer to their brokers for specific office policies on these and other topics.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to let us know. Our staff is available to help (see the Contact Us page [HERE](#)) and our Legal & Hotline remains open ([HERE](#)) for you to submit questions.

Thank you! Stay safe and healthy!

Hagan Stone
2020 President

Angela Shields
Chief Executive Officer

