| 1  | MINUTES   |
|--|---|
| 2  | South Carolina Real Estate Commission   |
| 3  | Synergy Business Park, Kingstree Building,  |
| 4  | 110 Centerview Drive, Columbia, South Carolina 29210  |
| 5  | Wednesday, October 20, 2021, 10:13 a.m.   |
| 6  |   |
| 7  | Meeting Called to Order   |
| 8<br>9<br>10<br>11<br>12<br>13<br>14               | Chairman Lee called the meeting of the South Carolina Real Estate Commission to order at 10:00 a.m. and announced that public notice of this Meeting had been properly posted at the S.C. Real estate Commission Office, Synergy Business Park, Kingstree Building the Commission's website, and was provided to all requesting persons, organizations, and news media in compliance with Section 30-4-80 of the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act. |
| 15<br>16   | Roll Call of Commission Members and Staff   |
| 17   | Non Can of Commission Members and Staff   |
| 18   | Commission Members and staff participating in the meeting included:   |
| 19<br>20<br>21                                     | Commission Members  |
| 22<br>23<br>24<br>25<br>26<br>27<br>28<br>29<br>30 | Andy Lee - Chair - 3 <sup>rd</sup> Congressional District David C. Lockwood, III - Vice Chair - 2 <sup>nd</sup> Congressional District Candace Pratt - 1 <sup>st</sup> Congressional District David Burnett - 4 <sup>th</sup> Congressional District John Rinehart - 5 <sup>th</sup> Congressional District Janelle Mitchell - 6 <sup>th</sup> Congressional District Johnathan Stackhouse - Public Member Gary A. Pickren - At Large Member                |
| 31<br>32   | Invocation  |
| 33<br>34   | Mr. Rinehart gave the invocation.   |
| 35<br>36   | Pledge of Allegiance  |
| 37<br>38   | The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.  |
| 39<br>40   | Approval of Excused Absences  |
| 41<br>42<br>43<br>44<br>45                         | MOTION On the motion of Mr. Rinehart, seconded by Ms. Pratt, the Commission voted unanimously in favor to excuse the absence of Commissioner Brown Bethune.   |

## **Staff Members**

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- Staff members participating during the meeting included Roderick Atkinson, Board
- 49 Administrator; Gina Sams, Administrative Assistant; Kyle Tennis, Office of Advice
- 50 Counsel; Christa Bell and Rodney Pigford with the Office of Investigations and
- 51 Enforcement; and Rowland Alston with the Office of Disciplinary Counsel.

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### Approval of Agenda

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### **MOTION**

55 56 On the motion of Ms. Pratt, seconded by Ms. Mitchell, the Commission voted 57 unanimously in favor to approve the October 20, 2021 agenda. The motion passed.

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## **Approval of Minutes- September 15, 2021**

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### **MOTION**

On the motion of Mr. Lockwood, seconded by Ms. Pratt, the Commission voted unanimously in favor to approve the Commission's September 15, 2021 meeting minutes.

64 The motion passed.

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### Chair's Remarks- (Andy Lee)

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Chairman Lee forewent providing remarks.

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# Administrator's Remarks- (Roderick Atkinson)

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Mr. Atkinson recognized Mr. Pigford to present the IRC Report.

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# IRC Report- October 14, 2021 (Rodney Pigford)

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Mr. Pigford presented the October 14, 2021 IRC meeting recommendations. The IRC's recommendations were for the Commission to approve 16 cases, which consisted of 10 Dismissals, 1 Formal Complaint, and 5 Letters of Caution.

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#### **MOTION**

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On the motion of Mr. Stackhouse, seconded by Ms. Pratt, the Commission voted in favor to approve all categories of the October 14, 2021 IRC recommendations. The motion passed.

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# ARELLO Annual Conference and Regulatory Investigator's Seminar reports (John **Rinehart and Rodney Pigford)**

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Mr. Atkinson acknowledged Rodney Pigford and Commissioner Rinehart, and stated both would be providing independent reports from their attendance of the ARELLO Annual Conference and Regulatory Investigator's Seminar, which was held from October 15 to October 19, 2021.

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For informational purposes, Mr. Pigford provided a brief overview on the discussions held and the insight given at the ARELLO Conference and Regulatory Investigator's Seminar. Discussions were held and there were no actions taken. Commissioner Rinehart presented an overview of the topics discussed during the ARELLO Annual Conference. On behalf of the Commission, Mr. Lockwood acknowledged and commended Mr. Rinehart for his serving as Chair of an ARELLO Committee, and thanked him for his

participation and reporting back to the Commission.
Discussions were held and there were no actions taken.

# Criminal Background Check Update

Mr. Atkinson briefly updated the Commission on the social security and name-based criminal background check topic. Mr. Atkinson reported the solicitation of bids had begun and responses were being drafted for the questions presented by various vendors.

**RECESS**- 11:07 a.m. until 11:19 a.m.

Chairman Lee called for recess and thereafter resumed the meeting in accordance with the agenda.

# **Application Hearings**

Chairman Lee opened the application hearings.

## **Jada Denise Thompson**

The Commission held the application hearing regarding Ms. Jada Denise Thompson's application to take the South Carolina Property Managers Exam. Ms. Thompson appeared before the Commission where her identity was affirmed by the Court Reporter via Government-Issued ID. Ms. Thompson confirmed her legal counsel would not be present, but she could provide her testimony, and there would not be any witness testimony presented.

Ms. Thompson was sworn in, and thereafter upon discussions with the Commission, Ms. Thompson's application was withdrawn and her hearing was deferred until a future date when she could have the assistance of her attorney.

## **Troy Washington**

# **MOTION**

Pursuant to state and federal confidentiality laws, Chairman Lee called for a motion to have a closed hearing. On the motion of Ms. Pratt, seconded by Mr. Rinehart, the 141 Commission voted unanimously in favor to enter into a closed application hearing. The motion passed.

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144 Chairman Lee called the application hearing to order, and the following action was taken:

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The Commission held a closed application hearing regarding Mr. Troy Washington's application to take the South Carolina Property Managers Examination. Mr. Washington appeared before the Commission where his identity was affirmed by the Court Reporter via Government-Issued ID. Mr. Washington confirmed he would not be represented by

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Mr. Washington was sworn in and thereafter testified before the Commission. Upon discussions the following actions were taken:

legal counsel, and there would not be any witness testimony presented.

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155 Executive Session- Convened 11:49 a.m.

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## 157 **MOTION**

On the motion of Mr. Pickren, seconded by Ms. Pratt, the Commission voted unanimously in favor to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of receiving legal advice.

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Meeting reconvened 12:05 p.m.

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## **MOTION**

On the motion of Mr. Rinehart, seconded by Ms. Pratt, the Commission voted unanimously in favor to exit from Executive Session where legal advice was received, and no actions were taken.

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Upon discussions, Mr. Roderick Atkinson was sworn in to testify regarding his communications and correspondence with the applicant.

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**Executive Session- Convened 12:31 p.m.** 

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### **MOTION**

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On the motion of Mr. Pickren, seconded by Ms. Mitchell, the Commission voted unanimously in favor to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of receiving legal advice.

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181182 Meeting reconvened 12:42 p.m.

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### **184 MOTION**

On the motion of Mr. Rinehart, seconded by Ms. Pratt, the Commission voted unanimously in favor to exit from Executive Session where legal advice was received, and no actions were taken.

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# 189 **MOTION**

- 190 On the motion of Mr. Lockwood, seconded by Ms. Pratt, the Commission voted
- unanimously in favor to deny Mr. Troy Washington's application to take the SC Real
- 192 Estate Property Managers Exam. The motion passed.

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### **MOTION**

On the motion of Ms. Pratt, seconded by Ms. Mitchell, the Commission voted unanimously in favor to return to open session.

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### Marcus Jermail Henderson

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The Commission held an application hearing regarding Mr. Marcus Jermail Henderson's application to take the South Carolina Salesperson Examination. Mr. Henderson appeared before the Commission where his identity was affirmed by the Court Reporter via Government-Issued ID. Mr. Henderson confirmed he would not be represented by legal counsel, and there would not be any witness testimony presented.

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Mr. Henderson was sworn in and thereafter testified before the Commission.

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Mr. Atkinson was sworn in to give his testimony on receiving communication via email regarding the character of Mr. Henderson.

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211 Upon discussions the following action was taken:

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## 213 **MOTION**

On the motion of Mr. Pickren, seconded by Mr. Lockwood, the Commission voted unanimously in favor to approve Mr. Henderson's application to take the South Carolina Salesperson Examination. The motion passed.

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**Emily Tholen** 

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The Commission held an application hearing regarding Ms. Emily Tholen's application to take the South Carolina Salesperson Examination. Ms. Tholen appeared before the Commission where her identity was affirmed by the Court Reporter via Government-Issued ID. Ms. Tholen confirmed she would not be represented by legal counsel, and there would not be any witness testimony presented.

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Upon discussions the following action was taken:

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# 228 **MOTION**

- On the motion of Mr. Pickren, seconded by Ms. Pratt, the Commission voted unanimously in favor to approve Ms. Tholen's application to take the South Carolina Salesperson Examination with the condition that Ms. Tholen must appear before the Commission before upgrading her license to Broker or Property Manager. The motion
- passed.

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## Logan Marie Kokszka

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# 237 **MOTION**

- 238 Pursuant to state and federal confidentiality laws, Chairman Lee called for a motion to
- have a closed hearing. On the motion of Mr. Rinehart, seconded by Mr. Lockwood, the
- 240 Commission voted unanimously in favor to enter into a closed application hearing. The

241 motion passed.

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Chairman Lee called the application hearing to order, and the following action was taken:

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- The Commission held a closed application hearing regarding Ms. Kokoszka's application
- 246 to take the South Carolina Property Managers Examination. Ms. Kokoszka appeared
- 247 before the Commission where her identity was affirmed by the Court Reporter via
- Government-Issued ID. Ms. Kokoszka confirmed she would not be represented by legal
- counsel, and there would not be any witness testimony presented.

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- Ms. Kokoszka was sworn in, and thereafter testified before the Commission. Upon
- discussions the following actions were taken:

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- 254 **MOTION**
- 255 On the motion of Mr. Lockwood, seconded by Ms. Pratt, the Commission voted
- unanimously in favor to approve Ms. Kokoszka's application to take the South Carolina
- 257 Property Managers Examination. The motion passed.

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- 259 MOTION
- On the motion of Ms. Pratt, seconded by Ms. Mitchell, the Commission voted
- unanimously in favor to return to open session.

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263 Sarah Louise Shattuck

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- MOTION
- Pursuant to state and federal confidentiality laws, Chairman Lee called for a motion to
- 267 have a closed hearing. On the motion of Mr. Rinehart, seconded by Ms. Pratt, the
  - Commission voted unanimously in favor to enter into a closed application hearing. The
- 269 motion passed.

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271 Chairman Lee called the application hearing to order, and the following action was taken:

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- The Commission held a closed application hearing regarding Ms. Shattuck's application
- to take the South Carolina Salesperson Examination. Ms. Shattuck appeared before the
- 275 Commission where her identity was affirmed by the Court Reporter via Government-
- Issued ID. Ms. Shattuck confirmed she would not be represented by legal counsel, and
- there would not be any witness testimony presented.

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Ms. Shattuck was sworn in, and thereafter testified before the Commission. Upon discussions the following actions were taken:

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**Executive Session- Convened 2:17 p.m.** 

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284 **MOTION** 

285 286 On the motion of Mr. Rinehart, seconded by Mr. Pickren, the Commission voted 287 unanimously in favor to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of receiving legal 288 advice. 289 290 Meeting reconvened 2:40 p.m. 291 292 **MOTION** 293 On the motion of Mr. Lockwood, seconded by Ms. Pratt, the Commission voted 294 unanimously in favor to exit from Executive Session where legal advice was received, 295 and no actions were taken. 296 297 Discussions were held and the following actions were taken: 298 299 **MOTION** 300 On the motion of Mr. Lockwood, seconded by Ms. Pratt, the Commission voted unanimously in favor to approve Ms. Shattuck's application to take the South Carolina 301 302 Salesperson Examination with the condition that she cannot upgrade to Broker or 303 Property Manager without coming back before the Commission. The motion passed. 304 305 **MOTION** 306 On the motion of Mr. Lockwood, seconded by Ms. Pratt, the Commission voted 307 unanimously in favor to return to open session. 308 309 **New Business** 310 311 **Effective date of listing agreement** 312 313 Mr. Burnett requested the Commission's consideration to clarify via a newsletter what 314 constitutes the effective date of a listing agreement. 315 316 Upon discussions, Mr. Atkinson suggested doing an E-blast if needed. He also stated he 317 would be drafting a newsletter towards the end of the year. There were no actions taken 318 on this matter. 319 320 SC Attorney General's Opinion dated October 8, 2021 321 322 **Executive Session- Convened 2:59 p.m.** 323 324 **MOTION** 325 326 On the motion of Mr. Rinehart, seconded by Ms. Mitchell, the Commission voted 327 unanimously in favor to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of receiving legal 328 advice.

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Meeting reconvened 3:08 p.m.

332 **MOTION** 333 On the motion of Ms. Pratt, seconded by Ms. Mitchell, the Commission voted unanimously in favor to exit from Executive Session where legal advice was received, 334 and no actions were taken. 335 336 337 Discussions were held and the following action was taken: 338 339 **MOTION** 340 341 On the motion of Mr. Rinehart, seconded by Ms. Mitchell, the Commission voted 342 unanimously in favor of the Commission's Advice Counsel drafting a letter on behalf of 343 the Commission to the South Carolina Attorney General's Office asking for the Attorney 344 General's Office to reconsider its interpretation of S.C. Code Ann. § 40-57-5 et. seq. in 345 its opinion dated October 8, 2021. 346 347 **Executive Session** 348 349 Executive Session was not required. 350 351 **Public Comments**. 352 353 There were no public comments presented. 354 355 **Adjournment** 356 **MOTION** 357 358 On the motion of Ms. Pratt, seconded by Mr. Lockwood, the Commission voted 359 unanimously in favor to adjourn. Time of adjournment was 3:11 p.m.