

Michigan Realtors® Letter to Governor Whitmer

On Thursday, Michigan Realtors® sent a letter to Governor Gretchen Whitmer urging her to declare real estate services as essential services during the COVID -19 epidemic. Michigan Realtors® is concerned about the impact that we are already seeing on homeowners and businesses in the process of buying and selling property.

Real estate is one of the primary drivers of Michigan's economy. We are seeking to limit interruptions to the transfer and sale of property with the potential of more shutdowns and limitations on local and state government. The services we would like declared essential include, but are not limited to: permitting, financial, appraisal, inspections, construction, title work, and especially the transfer and recording of deeds and other instruments.

We applaud the Governor and her administration for their tireless work dealing with this health crisis. We look forward to the opportunity to work together to protect the health of Michigan citizens and our economy.

[Read Letter](#)

COVID-19 Event Addendum to Purchase Agreement

The purpose of MR's COVID-19 Addendum is to enable a buyer and seller to agree, at the time the purchase agreement is signed, about what will happen if there is some COVID-19 event that delays the transaction. Examples of such a COVID-19 event would include the situation where a register of deeds is not accepting recordings or where a title company is suspending loan closings. Without such an addendum, if a COVID-19 event delays the transaction, there will be a great deal of uncertainty as to whether the contract is still binding, and if so, for how long. We thought it might be helpful to address some of the questions that have come up in connection with the new form.

[The Addendum can be downloaded here.](#)

[Addendum Q&A](#)

Document Recording and Closing Updates

We have been talking to a number of registers of deeds and title companies about the effect of county office closures on real estate closings. Currently, it would appear that while county registers of deeds are closed to the public, most are accepting documents for recording via mail and overnight and/or electronic delivery. While title insurance companies are continuing to insure title as of the date of closing, given the uncertainty as to the ultimate recording date, many are requiring sellers to sign something at closing stating that they have not done and will not do anything that will affect title to the property. We will continue to monitor this situation, and we invite members to let us know of any different experiences from your part of the State.



Broker Summit Cancelled for 2020

It is with great disappointment that we must cancel the Michigan Realtors® Broker Summit for 2020. With the current Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines that urge no group gatherings for two months, this is the right thing to do. Please know that we will be processing refunds to all attendees shortly. Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to the [Michigan Realtors® event staff](#).

April Michigan Realtors® Leadership Academy Postponed

The April Michigan Realtors® Leadership Academy Session will be postponed for a later date. Michigan Realtors® staff will be reaching out to the 2020 participants to notify them of the new date in the coming days.



Continuing Education with CEMIWAY.com

With the many event cancellations, please note that Michigan Realtors® has developed online continuing education offerings built around the popular "Letter of the Law" video series and the work of technology expert Craig Grant. Both the legal and general-ed lessons are simple, easy to follow, range from 1 to 3 hours in length, and are only available at [CEMIWay.com](#). Use promo code March20 to receive 20% off your entire order!

Coronavirus: A Guide For Realtors®

In response to the growing concerns about COVID-19, commonly referred to as coronavirus, NAR is providing this guidance to help REALTOR® associations respond to the coronavirus's impact on the real estate industry.

[View Guide](#)



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