

# **ADVANCED INFORMED CONSENT TO DUAL AGENCY**

**For residential real property, the use of this form is optional and is to be used as a supplement to the agency disclosure form found in Real Property Law section 443. Licensees who elect to use this form for residential real property must also complete an agency disclosure form.**

Seller or Buyer \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Brokerage Firm (Broker) \_\_\_\_\_

Salesperson \_\_\_\_\_

1. By consenting to Dual Agency, the Seller or Buyer acknowledge and agree that the Broker and all associated Associate Brokers and Salespersons are potential Dual Agents. Seller or Buyer have been informed of the possibility of a dual agency arising if a buyer client becomes interested in a seller client's property. Seller or Buyer have consented to this Dual Agency representation in advance and hereby confirm their consent by signing below after reading the following description of the type of representation to be provided.

2. Description of Broker's Role: Confidentiality and Disclosure of Information:

In Dual Agency, the Broker is acting as agent for both Seller and Buyer in the transaction. Broker shall make every reasonable effort to remain impartial to Seller and Buyer. Seller or Buyer acknowledge that, prior to Dual Agency arising, Broker acted as (exclusive) agent of the Seller and acted as (exclusive) agent of the Buyer. In those separate roles, Broker may have obtained information which, if disclosed, could harm the bargaining position of the party providing such information to Broker. Seller or Buyer agree that Broker shall not be liable to either party for refusing or failing to disclose information which in the sole discretion of Broker would harm one party's bargaining position but would benefit the other party.

Nothing contained herein shall prevent Broker from disclosing to Buyer any known material defects that affect the property value. Broker agrees not to disclose confidential information to the other party, such as (a) to Buyer information about what price or terms Seller will accept other than the listing price and terms or (b) to Seller information about what price or terms Buyer will agree to other than any written offering price.

3. Description of Seller's and Buyer's Role:

Seller or Buyer acknowledge that they are aware of the implications and consequences of Broker's Dual Agency role to facilitate a transaction, rather than act as an advocate for one party over the other and agent, and that they have determined that the benefits of entering into a transaction, with the Broker acting as a Dual Agent outweigh said implications and consequences.

4. Consequences of Dual Agency:

Seller or Buyer are giving up their right to have Broker's undivided loyalty to act at all times solely in their individual best interests to the exclusion of all other interests. Dual agency may thus adversely affect Buyer's and Seller's best interests to the exclusion of all other interests, and may deprive them of benefits

they may have otherwise received in a single agency relationship. For example, as a Seller represented by an Agent, Seller has the right to expect that Seller's agent will attempt to obtain the full asking price for the property. As a Buyer, represented by an Agent, Buyer has the right to expect the Agent to work toward bringing about a transaction at the lowest possible price. A Dual Agent will not work on behalf of either party regarding price.

5. In theory, a Dual Agent owes both the Buyer and Seller the same fiduciary duties as if the Agent represented each alone. These duties include loyalty, obedience, disclosure, confidentiality, reasonable care, diligence and the duty to account. By consenting to dual agency, the conflicting duties to Buyer and Seller are reconciled by mutual agreement to modify or forego them. The duty of undivided loyalty is forfeited in a dual agency relationship. In addition, most of the other fiduciary obligations are affected because of the contrasting motivations of Buyer and Seller, who have agreed that the consensual Dual Agent will not favor the interests of one over those of the other.

6. In the event a conflict arises between Buyer and Seller, Broker may elect to withdraw from the transaction because Broker is unable to adequately represent each interest. Where one client discloses confidential information to the Broker which is of such a nature that the Broker cannot fairly give advice to the other without disclosing it, the Broker cannot continue to act as advisor.

7. Buyer and Seller have the absolute right to refuse to consent to a Dual Agency relationship and the representation of an adverse interest by Broker.

8. Buyer and Seller have the right to consent to a Dual Agency relationship, with or without an adjustment in the amount of compensation to the Broker.

9. Buyer and Seller each have the right to retain their own Agent to represent only their interest in a single agency relationship (i.e. Designated Agent, Buyer's Agent or Seller's Agent).

10. Description of Limited Agency Services:

**WHAT BROKER AND ITS SALESPERSONS CAN DO FOR SELLERS AND BUYERS WHEN ACTING AS A DUAL AGENT:**

We will treat the Seller and Buyer honestly.

We will provide helpful information about the property and neighborhood to the Buyer.

We will respond accurately to questions about the property.

We will disclose all material facts about the property that are known to us.

We will disclose financial qualifications of the Buyer to the Seller.

We can explain real estate terms and procedures.

We can help the Buyer to arrange for property inspections.

We can help the Buyer compare financing alternatives.

