



TREC to its License Holders: Please Update Your Email Address

To reduce its operating costs, the Texas Real Estate Commission is asking all licensees to go online and update their primary email address with the agency

IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 6, 2010

CONTACT: Betsy Bird
512-465-3402

As part of operating cost savings and expense reductions requested by the Governor, Lt. Governor, and Speaker of the House, the Texas Real Estate Commission (TREC) is methodically reducing the volume of printed letters and other materials produced and mailed through the post office to license holders. This will include the efficient delivery of most official communications via electronic mail (email), beginning with license certificates. The agency has been testing this license delivery method since December, 2009 and has received very positive feedback from almost all licensees, who appreciate getting their certificates immediately upon renewal – no longer waiting for a license to be printed, proofed, and delivered through United States mail.

Based on these tests, TREC is confident this process has maximum reliability and positive impact, with minimal negatives, so it is expanding the method steadily to include additional communications and services. To make this process most effective, it is crucial that the agency have a current, unique email address for every license holder - the same email address cannot be shared among two or more license holders, even a husband and wife team. TREC currently requires every license holder to maintain a permanent mailing address on file with the agency and provides a secure online method for every licensee to update it as often as necessary. The ability to update and maintain a primary email address has been added to that same webpage.

“In light of the tough budgets ahead, I can not stress enough how important it is that the agency have a current email address for each and every licensee,” TREC Chairman John Eckstrum said. “Not only is the agency realizing cost savings, but in today’s business environment, and especially in the real estate service industry, electronic communication is much more efficient and effective. Go online and check your address right away.”

Once a licensee logs-in online (www.trec.state.tx.us/permaddress.asp), the system will show which permanent mailing address and primary email address the agency has on file for that individual. Changes can be made and submitted securely from that same page – absolutely free of charge. Furthermore, each email address is currently treated as confidential and is not subject to public disclosure under the Open Records Act.

The mission of TREC is to assist and protect consumers of real estate services and foster economic growth in Texas. Through its programs of education, licensing and industry regulation, the Commission ensures the availability of capable and honest real estate service providers. More information at: www.trec.state.tx.us

###