

## **NAR MEMBER CODE OF CONDUCT**

This NAR Member Code of Conduct (Code) applies to all (1) NAR-related activities, meetings, and events, whether held in public or private facilities (including those sponsored by organizations other than NAR and held in conjunction with NAR activities, meetings, or events), and member conduct during such activities, meetings and events, and (2) NAR member communications, whether written or verbal (including, but not limited to, email, text, social media platforms, NAR communication platforms, and media publications), related to NAR business or with NAR staff. NAR takes a broad view of activity that is related to NAR or to NAR business; purely private conduct is not governed by this Code, but when an NAR member's conduct reasonably relates to that member's participation in NAR and has the potential to impact NAR members or staff, this Code applies.

### **NAR Commitment:**

NAR is committed to providing a productive and welcoming environment that is free from abusive conduct, discrimination, harassment, and retaliation. Members are expected to act toward each other, NAR staff, service providers, speakers, and event participants in a manner that is consistent with this policy and with applicable law.

### **Abusive Conduct:**

NAR prohibits any form of abusive conduct by a member towards NAR staff. Abusive conduct means physical, verbal, or nonverbal conduct undertaken with malice, meaning the intention of harming someone, that a reasonable person would find hostile, offensive, humiliating, intimidating, and unrelated to NAR's legitimate business interests. Members are expected to set a positive example, and treat NAR staff with professionalism, courtesy, civility, and respect in all interactions. NAR welcomes member feedback, including disagreement and complaints, provided that such feedback is delivered in compliance with this Code.

Abusive conduct may take various forms including, but not limited to, the following examples:

- Use of profanity or harsh, insulting, or derogatory words, remarks, insults or epithets.
- Screaming or shouting, particularly in the presence of others.
- Threatening or intimidating behavior or words.
- Making disparaging remarks about a person's looks, lifestyle, family, or work.
- Taunting, jeering, mocking, humiliating another through acts or words, or trying to make someone the target of mischief or gags.
- Distributing communications with or from NAR staff with a malicious and non business-related purpose or with the intention of humiliating, threatening, or embarrassing.
- Providing commentary that is untruthful or insulting.
- Sabotaging or undermining of NAR staff's work performance and employment.

Abusive conduct does not include one single act unless the conduct is determined to be severe and egregious; however, even if the conduct does not rise to the level of abusive conduct under its meaning in this Code, a member may nonetheless receive a warning in order to prevent the conduct from reoccurring and becoming more severe.

**Discrimination:**

NAR prohibits discrimination based on an individual's race, color, religion, sex, gender, pregnancy, breastfeeding and pregnancy-related conditions, sexual orientation, gender identity and/or expression, age (40 and over), national origin, ancestry, physical or mental disability, genetic information, marital status, military or veteran status, political affiliation, personal appearance, and any other characteristic protected by applicable law.

**Harassment:**

NAR prohibits the harassment of its members, NAR staff, service providers, speakers, and event participants, based on an individual's race, color, religion, sex, gender, pregnancy, breastfeeding and pregnancy-related conditions, sexual orientation, gender identity and/or expression, age (40 and over), national origin, ancestry, physical or mental disability, genetic information, marital status, military or veteran status, political affiliation, personal appearance, and any other characteristic protected by applicable law. Prohibited harassment includes all unwelcome behavior based on a protected characteristic where the purpose or effect of the behavior is to create a hostile, abusive or intimidating environment, or where the behavior otherwise adversely affects an individual's ability to participate in or at NAR-related activities, or adversely affects an NAR staff member's employment in violation of this Code.

Prohibited harassment may take various forms, including, but not limited to, the following examples:

- Verbal conduct, such as epithets, derogatory comments, slurs, or jokes, or unwanted sexual advances, solicitations, or comments.
- Visual conduct, such as derogatory or sexually oriented posters, cartoons, drawings, or gestures.
- Physical conduct, such as assault, impeding, or blocking movement.
- Via technology or computers, including to transmit, communicate or receive derogatory, inappropriate pornographic, sexually suggestive, or explicit pictures, cartoons, messages, jokes, or material.
- Threats and demands.
- Requests for sexual favors, such as unwanted sexual advances, which condition a benefit upon an exchange of sexual favors.
- Violence or threats of violence.

Harassment includes inappropriate conduct, comment, display, action, or gesture based on another person's sex, color, race, religion, national origin, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, and any other protected characteristic.

Examples of harassment include, but are not limited to: epithets, slurs or negative stereotyping; threatening, intimidating or hostile acts; denigrating jokes; and the display or circulation of written or graphic material that denigrates or shows hostility toward an individual or group based on a protected characteristic.

## **Sexual Harassment:**

Sexual harassment is one form of prohibited harassment. Sexual harassment includes but is not limited to 1) unwelcome sexual advances and other unwelcome verbal, visual or physical conduct of a sexual nature, or 2) requests for sexual favors or conduct of a sexual nature when (a) submission to or rejection of such advances, requests, or conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of membership, a benefit associated with membership, or employment; (b) an individual's submission to or rejection of such conduct is used as a basis for a decision affecting that individual; or (c) the purpose or the effect of such conduct is to substantially interfere with the affected individual's membership or employment or to create an intimidating, hostile or offensive work environment; or 3) sexual misconduct, which means any behavior of a sexual nature which also involves coercion, abuse of authority, or misuse of an individual's leadership position.

Harassing conduct, including sexually harassing conduct, can be committed by a person of either the same sex or gender, or the opposite sex or gender (or any other protected category) of the person subjected to the harassment. A person may be the victim of harassment even though the offensive conduct has not been directed at the person alleging harassment, regardless of the sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, or other class status of the perpetrator. Additionally, sexually harassing conduct need not be intentional or motivated by sexual desire.

The following are examples, but do not represent an inclusive list of conduct that may constitute prohibited sexual harassment:

- Unwelcome sexual flirtations or propositions.
- Unwanted physical touching or closeness, such as massaging a person's back, neck or shoulders, hugging, kissing, patting, pinching, fondling, or touching/pulling an individual's clothing or hair.
- Physical gestures that imply a sexual act or sexual anatomy, touching oneself in a sexual nature.
- Brushing up against another person, standing too close, or lingering.
- Using vulgar words of a sexual nature, describing body parts, or sexual acts.
- Discussions or inquiries about sexual fantasy, preferences, history, or sex life about self or others.
- Displaying sexually suggestive or demeaning objects, pictures or cartoons, or other materials on a personal or company-owned device shared in the workplace.
- Giving personal gifts that imply an intimate relationship.
- Repeated invitations and/or pressuring/coercion for dates or sexual favors; harassing phone calls, emails, texts, social media posts, or other communication.
- Any suggestion that an individual's committee assignment, leadership position, job security, project assignment, or the terms or conditions of employment depend at all on the submission to or rejection of requests for sexual favors or relations.

## **How to Report Incidents of Harassment or Inappropriate Behavior:**

Any person who believes they experienced or witnessed abusive conduct, discrimination, harassment, or retaliation in violation of this Code should promptly report the incident to the Member Accountability Committee at [memberconduct@nar.realtor](mailto:memberconduct@nar.realtor) or to the NAR Chief Legal Officer, General Counsel, Senior Vice President of Talent Development Resources, or Chief Executive Officer, who will promptly refer such report to the Member Accountability Committee.

Leadership Team members must promptly report to NAR any possible violation of this Code they observe or become aware of, and failure to do so will generally be deemed to be a violation of this Code and the Leadership Pledge.

## **Investigation and Discipline**

Upon receipt of a report of possible abusive conduct, discrimination, harassment, or retaliation in violation of this Code, the Member Accountability Committee, using an outside independent investigator, will promptly conduct an investigation. Members have a duty to cooperate with and participate in an investigation into any reported violation of this Code when asked by NAR, to do so in good faith, and to provide complete and truthful information to NAR. During the investigation, NAR will involve only those deemed necessary to the investigation, and disclosures will only be made on an as-needed basis. The disclosure of personal or private information learned by any participant by virtue of their participation in the investigation and made without a lawful or legitimate purpose will generally be deemed a violation of this Code and the Leadership Pledge.

If the investigation substantiates a violation of this Code, the Member Accountability Committee, in consultation with the outside investigator and outside legal counsel, will determine the outcome of the investigation and any disciplinary action. All decisions, including disciplinary action taken, by the Member Accountability Committee are final and not appealable.

The Member Accountability Committee may communicate the outcome of any investigation under this Code, including any disciplinary action, to NAR's Chief Legal Officer, General Counsel, Senior Vice President of Talent Development Resources or Chief Executive Officer, and Leadership Team, as necessary.

NAR reserves the right to take any necessary and appropriate action against a member who engages in any form of abusive conduct, discrimination, harassment, or retaliation in violation of this Code. Such actions may include, but are not limited to, prohibition from attendance at future NAR meetings or events, suspension from NAR-related travel, removal from a leadership or committee appointment, referral of a request for removal of an officer to the Credentials and Campaign Rules Committee, expulsion from membership, or any other action deemed appropriate by NAR.

NAR strictly prohibits all individuals from retaliating against any person who in good faith reports, or participates in the investigation of, possible abusive conduct, discrimination, harassment, or retaliation in violation of this Code.

To the greatest extent allowed by law, NAR is not and will not be held responsible for any member's alleged violation of this Code or otherwise inappropriate or unlawful act.