

The Voice of Real Estate In Atlanta



June 19, 2020

Vince Malta, President National Association of REALTORS[®]

President Malta,

At this important time in our history, Americans are coming together to express outrage and grief for the senseless murder of George Floyd and other victims of injustice. We must not be silent, but speak out against racism and in support of equal rights for all Americans. The diversity of the REALTOR® Organization is one of our greatest strengths, and we need to stand with our members, partners, staff, and communities, ready to be a part of the solution.

This process starts with looking internally at our membership and identifying issues that do not represent the ideals and values of our organization. The hate rhetoric, discriminatory language, practices, and actions by members on social media and other avenues, while at the same time promoting the REALTOR brand should not be allowed to continue. With all of the effort we have made to promote professionalism in the industry, we cannot continue to allow the REALTOR brand to be damaged by these hateful few. This must be stopped.

As the professional trade association for the industry, now is the time for us to make the necessary changes to create consequences for these actions. We ask that NAR, 1) identify potential changes or additions that can be made to the Code of Ethics, and 2) identify potential changes to the qualifications for REALTOR[®] membership. As REALTORS[®], we need to ensure that we continue to promote Fair Housing and Equality, not just in our business practices, but in everything we do.

The Atlanta REALTORS[®] stand ready to support you and NAR in any way possible. We understand the need and the urgency and hope we can work together for positive, enduring solutions that can be a legacy of hope for future generations.

Respectfully,

Jennifer Pino, President Atlanta REALTORS® Association