



BRIGHT Off-MLS Policy: Enforcement Date Postponed to February 1st

In order to encourage maximum compliance and minimum confusion for MLS Participants regarding the BRIGHT Off-MLS policy, the team at BRIGHT decided to postpone the issuing of fines from December 1, 2019 to February 1, 2020.

The practice of pocket listings remains one of the most pressing issues facing the real estate industry today. It withholds information from consumers, stifles competition in the marketplace, and disrupts cooperation between professionals - while also challenging the spirit of fair housing laws.

The policy, which requires listings be entered into the MLS within one business day of public marketing, was put into effect October 16th and it remains active today. BRIGHT is currently monitoring the situation and people considered in violation are being notified. However, during this busy year-end time, BRIGHT decided to concentrate on providing extra training and communication, while holding off on enforcement for two months.

This additional access to tools and information, combined with a wider window to gain working experience with the policy, should help achieve the goal of implementation with as few penalties as possible.

Learn more about the Off-MLS Policy at www.brightmls.com/offmls.

BRIGHT's policy was created to address Pocket Listings, or listings sold off the MLS. The policy encourages access to maximum information. Consumers selling property benefit from the largest possible marketplace, and those buying encounter the largest selection of options.

The BRIGHT Accuracy and Policy team is available to help answer questions about this new policy. You can reach them Monday through Friday at (301) 838-7140 or OFFMLS LISTINGS@BrightMLS.com.