

## OPEN HOUSE FEATURE TEMPORARILY DISABLED ON MLS

On Tuesday evening, March 24th, Gov. Beshear issued an <u>Executive Order</u> allowing REALTORS® to continue to operate while taking recommended precautions.

Gov. Beshear made the point of emphasizing that real estate professionals <u>must</u> implement telecommuting and remote work to the <u>fullest extent possible</u>, and should only use in-person interaction to support Minimum Basic Operations or where telecommuting is impossible. During his press conference on March 25th, Governor Beshear specifically stated that Realtors® should NOT be holding open houses where multiple people are circulating through a home at the same time. <u>Following that guidance, the decision has been made to temporarily disable the open house feature on the MLS.</u>

We know that there are parts of doing business in real estate when interactions with others need to be done "face-to-face". However, for the safety of you and your clients, all REALTORS® must abide by the guidelines published by the CDC with regard to having contact with others during this period of time: <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html">https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html</a>

We've been given the privilege and the opportunity to continue to run our businesses during these challenging times, however, we still have a responsibility and an obligation to abide by these rules. Failure to do so may result in the restricting of our ability to conduct real estate business.

Thank you for your adherence to these guidelines and representing our industry as a good example for others to follow.



**Real Estate Business Continue During Pandemic** 

On Monday, March 23rd, Kentucky REALTORS® penned a letter to the Governor asking that Real Estate and its ancillary services be considered essential and allowed to continue. The letter was delivered to the Governor's office and we are pleased to announce that on Tuesday evening, March 24th, Gov. Beshear issued an <a href="Executive Order">Executive Order</a> allowing REALTORS® to continue to operate while taking recommended precautions. Section O. of the order reads as follows:

## O. Professional services.

Professional services, such as legal services, accounting services, insurance services, real estate services (including appraisal and title services). Professional services firms must implement telecommuting and remote work to the fullest extent possible, and should only use in-person interaction to support Minimum Basic Operations or where telecommuting is impossible.

It is important that you read the order carefully and understand it. Some media outlets have misreported that real estate must be conducted by individuals only from home. That is not the case. Much of our business can be done on-line or virtually and to the extent possible, we must do so. There are parts of doing business in real estate when we must interact with others "face-to-face". For the safety of our clients and our own, all REALTORS® must abide by the guidelines published by the CDC with regard to having contact with others during this period of time: <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html">https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html</a>. There is also guidance for REALTORS® provided by NAR, which is updated

regularly: <a href="https://www.nar.realtor/coronavirus-a-guide-for-realtors">https://www.nar.realtor/coronavirus-a-guide-for-realtors</a>

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