



# MARKET CONDITIONS ADVISORY

(C.A.R. Form MCA, 11/08)

**A. MARKET CONDITIONS:** Real estate markets are cyclical and can change over time. It is impossible to predict future market conditions with accuracy. In a competitive or "hot" real estate market, there are generally more buyers than sellers. This will often lead to multiple buyers competing for the same property. As a result, in order to make their offers more attractive, some buyers may offer more than originally planned or eliminate certain contingencies in their offers. In a less competitive or "cool" market there are generally more sellers than buyers, often causing real estate prices to level off or drop, sometimes precipitously. The sales prices of homes being sold as foreclosures and short sales are difficult to anticipate and can affect the value of other homes in the area. Brokers, appraisers, sellers and buyers take these "distressed" property sales and listings into consideration when valuing property. In light of the real estate market's cyclical nature it is important that buyers understand the potential for little or no appreciation in value, or the actual loss in value, of the property they purchase. This Advisory discusses some of the potential risks inherent in changing market conditions.

**B. OFFERING PRICE: AS A BUYER, YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR DETERMINING THE PRICE YOU WANT TO OFFER FOR A PROPERTY.** Although Brokers may provide you with comparable sales data, generally from information published in the local multiple listing service, you should know that the reporting of this data is often delayed and prices may change, up or down, faster than reported sales indicate. All buyers should be sure they are comfortable with the price they are offering or the price they are accepting in a counter offer. You should be aware of and think about the following: (i) If your offer is accepted, the property's value may not increase and may even decrease. (ii) If your offer is accepted, you may have "buyer's remorse" that you paid too much. (iii) If your offer is rejected there can be no guarantee that you will find a similar property at the same price. (iv) If your offer is rejected, you may not be satisfied that the amount you offered was right for you. Only you can determine that your offer was reasonable and prudent in light of the property and your circumstances.

**C. NON-CONTINGENT OFFERS:** Most residential purchase agreements contain contingencies allowing a Buyer within a specified period of time to cancel a purchase if: (i) the Buyer cannot obtain a loan; (ii) is dissatisfied with the property's condition after an inspection; or (iii) if the property does not appraise at a certain value. To make their offers more attractive, buyers will sometimes write offers with few or no contingencies or offer to remove contingencies within a short period of time. In a "hot" market, sellers will sometimes insist that buyers write offers with no contingencies. Broker recommends that buyers do not write non-contingent offers and if you do so, you are acting against Broker's advice. However, if you do write a non-contingent offer these are some of the contractual rights you may be giving up:

1. **LOAN CONTINGENCY:** If you give up your loan contingency, and you cannot obtain a loan, whether through your fault or the fault of your lender, and as a result, you do not or cannot purchase the property, you may legally be in default under the contract and required to pay damages or forfeit your deposit to the seller.

2. **APPRAISAL CONTINGENCY:** If you give up your appraisal contingency, and if your lender's (or your own) appraiser or review appraiser does not believe the property is worth what you have agreed to pay for it or your lender will not loan the full amount needed for the purchase because of a low appraisal and as a result, you do not or cannot purchase the property, you may legally be in default under the contract and required to pay damages or forfeit your deposit to the seller. The seller is not obligated to reduce the purchase price to match the appraised value.

3. **INSPECTION CONTINGENCY:** If you give up your inspection contingency, and you disapprove of the condition and as a result, you do not or cannot purchase the property, you may legally be in default under the contract and required to pay damages or forfeit your deposit to the seller. However, even if you give up your inspection contingency, the Seller may still be obligated to provide you with certain disclosures and information addressing the condition of the property. In some cases, once you receive that information the law gives you an independent right to cancel for a limited period of time.

There is inherent risk in writing a non-contingent offer. Only you, after careful consultation and deliberation with your attorney, accountant, or financial advisor can decide how much risk you are willing to take. IT IS YOUR DECISION ALONE AND CANNOT BE MADE BY YOUR BROKER OR REAL ESTATE AGENT.

**D. BROKER RECOMMENDATIONS:** Broker recommends that you do not write a non-contingent offer, even if you are planning on paying all cash for the property. If you intend to write a non-contingent offer, Broker recommends that, prior to writing the offer, you: (i) review all available seller reports, disclosures, information and documents; (ii) have an appropriate professional inspect the property (even if it is being sold "as is" in its present condition); and (iii) carefully assess your financial position, and risk with your attorney, accountant or financial advisor.

**Buyer acknowledges Buyer has read, understands and has received a copy of this Market Condition Advisory.**

Buyer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Buyer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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