



[REDACTED]



FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

[REDACTED]

JUSTICE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
20530 Washington, DC 20530

July 11, 2002

Mr. Parnell
President, North Carolina State Bar

[REDACTED]

Re: [REDACTED]

Dear Mr. Parnell:

The United States Department of Justice and Federal Trade Commission, with the North
[REDACTED]

¹ As we said in our December 14, 2001 joint letter, parties should also be able to conduct their closings unrepresented by counsel if they so choose. Any opinion declaring real estate closings to be the

[REDACTED]

North Carolinians are likely to pay lower prices for real estate closings for at least two

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

The Justice Department and FTC (and the North Carolina State Bar) have

our December 14 letter to apply not only to Opinions 2001-4 and 2001-8 but also to the general issue of lay closings, which we understood the North Carolina State Bar was considering addressing in an

[REDACTED]

²See DOJ/FTC Letter (Dec. 14, 2001).

³*Id.*

[REDACTED]

⁵See DOJ/FTC Letter (Dec. 14, 2001).

in view of the fact that the Commission has no authority to use its resources to conduct such a study.

[Redacted]

Free and unfettered competition is at the heart of the American economy. The United

[Redacted]

The Justice Department and FCC appreciate this opportunity to present comments and

[Redacted]

Sincerely yours,

[Redacted signature]

[Redacted signature]

Chairman

[Redacted signature]

Jessica N. Butler-Arkow
Attorney
United States Department of Justice



Ted Cruz
Director
Office of Policy Planning

cc: [Redacted]

cc: Everett J. Bowman, Esquire

[Redacted]

[Redacted]