

MAINE ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®  
LEGAL SERVICES PROGRAM

- REALTOR® LEGAL HOTLINE POLICY -

The REALTOR® LEGAL HOTLINE is a liability risk reduction service for Association members. Through the hotline, REALTORS® are able to obtain legal advice on real estate practice and business-related matters.

All State Association legal services, including the REALTOR® HOTLINE, are provided by and through Linda Gifford Law Offices & Central Maine Title Company of Augusta. Attorney Linda B. Gifford is the Association's designated and named Legal Counsel.

There is no charge for using the REALTOR® HOTLINE provided the following terms and conditions are met:

1. All HOTLINE calls must be directed through the MAR Office unless otherwise instructed by the Executive Vice President or by Counsel Gifford. HOTLINE NUMBER: 622-7501
2. REALTORS® must provide the following information when they place their calls into Counsel's voice mailbox at the MAR Office. Voice Mail is to allow you to leave a complete message for our attorney.
  - a. name
  - b. company/agency name and board
  - c. telephone number where caller can be reached
  - d. best time to reach caller
  - e. brief statement describing the nature of the call (i.e., question, problem, information needed)
3. Counsel will return HOTLINE calls on a "priority return call" basis. Counsel Gifford usually returns the calls between 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. the same day or the following day. Counsel Gifford personally responds to HOTLINE calls. In her absence, Counsel Gifford will designate an associate attorney to answer HOTLINE calls on her behalf.
4. If a REALTOR® places a HOTLINE call directly to the law firm (rather than through the MAR office) neither the firm nor Counsel is obligated to honor the "priority return call" agreement and may construe the return call as a "for-fee legal service" provided to and payable by the individual REALTOR®.
5. Counsel is authorized to respond only to questions and requests which are relevant to broad-based business practices and applications (i.e., interpretation and applications of the Code of Ethics; interpretation and applications of state and federal laws and regulations; general business policies and practices). Counsel is not authorized to respond to questions and requests which involve personal or unique business and/or company and corporate matters or and/or other communications executed on behalf of an individual member or agency.

**Approved: August 19, 1987; Effective September 1, 1987**