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Commonwealth of Virginia  
COMMON INTEREST COMMUNITY BOARD



# CONDOMINIUM REGULATIONS

Last Updated June 1, 2020

STATUTES  
Title 55.1, Chapter 19



Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation

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Richmond, VA 23233  
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## SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT CHANGES

Included in this document are relevant excerpts from the Virginia Administrative Code. Please note that the Common Interest Community Board is responsible for promulgating regulations in accordance with the Administrative Process Act (§ 2.2-4000 et seq.), and the Virginia Code Commission is responsible for compiling and codifying all of the administration regulations of state agencies into the Virginia Administrative Code.

It is your responsibility to stay informed and follow all regulations and statutes governing condominium projects. As a regulant of the Board, you should read and become familiar with all regulations applicable to condominium projects. You can stay informed of regulatory actions that may result in changes to the regulations at Virginia Regulatory Town Hall ([www.townhall.virginia.gov](http://www.townhall.virginia.gov)).

This document is a complete, edited (unofficial) copy of the Condominium Regulations (18 VAC 48-30). Please refer to the Virginia Administrative Code for an official copy of the regulations applicable to your profession or occupation. You can access the Virginia Administrative Code online at <http://law.lis.virginia.gov/admincode>.

The following is a brief summary of the significant changes to the Condominium Regulations effective June 1, 2020, but does not include all changes made to the regulations.

- Registration requirements for condominiums were changed to remove the requirement that declarants register a trade or fictitious name with the clerk of the circuit court in the locality where business is conducted. The change was made to conform the regulations to a change in state law that became effective on January 1, 2020.

## STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

This booklet contains the information you will need to complete the registration of your condominium project with the Common Interest Community Board. The law that governs the registration process is found in **Title 55.1, Chapter 19 of the Code of Virginia**. That law permits the board to issue regulations that explain to you, in greater detail, what is expected of the condominium declarant, the condominium instruments, and other aspects of the Virginia Condominium Act. This booklet contains a copy of the regulations that you will need to know and obey in order to initially file and maintain your registration.

**BE SURE YOU READ AND UNDERSTAND THE REQUIREMENTS SET FORTH IN THESE REGULATIONS. FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THESE REQUIREMENTS COULD RESULT IN THE REVOCATION OF YOUR REGISTRATION.**

It is the goal of the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation to provide the information you need to comply with the law and regulations. If you have a question and cannot find the answer in this booklet, please write to:

Common Interest Community Board  
Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation  
9960 Mayland Drive  
Richmond, VA 23233

Or call the Agency at (804) 367-8500.

Or e-mail at [cic@dpor.virginia.gov](mailto:cic@dpor.virginia.gov).

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## Part I

### General

#### 18VAC48-30-10. Purpose.

This chapter governs the exercise of powers granted to and the performance of duties imposed upon the Common Interest Community Board by the Virginia Condominium Act ([§ 55.1-1900](#) et seq. of the Code of Virginia) as the act pertains to the registration of condominiums.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015; amended Virginia Register Volume 36, Issue 6, eff. December 31, 2019.*

#### 18VAC48-30-20. Definitions.

- A. Section [54.1-2345](#) of the Code of Virginia provides definitions of the following terms and phrases as used in this chapter:

"Association"

"Board"

- B. Section [55.1-1900](#) of the Code of Virginia provides definitions of the following terms and phrases as used in this chapter:

"Common elements"

"Common expenses"

"Condominium"

"Condominium instruments"

"Condominium unit"

"Conversion condominium"

"Convertible land"

"Convertible space"

"Declarant"

"Dispose" or "disposition"

"Executive board"

"Expandable condominium"

"Identifying number"

"Land"

"Leasehold condominium"

"Limited common element"

"Nonbinding reservation agreement"

"Offer"

"Person"

"Purchaser"

"Special declarant rights"

"Unit"

"Unit owner"

- C. The following words, terms, and phrases when used in this chapter shall have the following meanings unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

"Annual report" means a completed, board-prescribed form and required documentation submitted in compliance with [§ 55.1-1979](#) of the Code of Virginia.

"Application" means a completed, board-prescribed form submitted with the appropriate fee and other required documentation in compliance with [§ 55.1-1975](#) of the Code of Virginia.

"Class of physical assets" means two or more physical assets that are substantially alike in function, manufacture, date of construction or installation, and history of use and maintenance.

"Department" means the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation.

"Expected useful life" means the estimated number of years from the date on which such estimate is made until the date when, because of the effects of time, weather, stress, or wear, a physical asset will become incapable of performing its intended function and will have to be replaced.

"Firm" means a sole proprietorship, association, partnership, corporation, limited liability company, limited liability partnership, or any other form of business organization recognized under the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

"Full and fair disclosure" means the degree of disclosure necessary to ensure reasonably complete and materially accurate representation of the condominium in order to protect the interests of purchasers.

"Limited common expense" means any common expense against one or more, but less than all, of the units.

"Major utility installation" means a utility installation or portion thereof that is a common element or serves more than one unit.

"Material change" means a change in any information or document disclosed in the application for registration, including the public offering statement or an attachment thereto, that renders inaccurate, incomplete, or misleading any information or document in such a way as to affect substantially a purchaser's rights or obligations or the nature of a unit or appurtenant limited common element or the amenities of the project available for the purchaser's use as described in the public offering statement.

"Offering" means the continuing act of the declarant in making condominium units owned by the declarant within a particular condominium available for acquisition by purchasers or, where appropriate, to the aggregate of the condominium units thus made available.

"Offering literature" means any written promise, assertion, representation, or statement of fact or opinion made in connection with a condominium marketing activity mailed or delivered directly to a specific prospective purchaser, except that information printed in a publication shall not be deemed offering literature solely by virtue of the fact that the publication is mailed or delivered directly to a prospective purchaser.

"Personal communication" means a communication directed to a particular prospective purchaser that has not been and is not intended to be directed to any other prospective purchaser.

"Physical asset" means either a structural component or a major utility installation.

"Present condition" means condition as of the date of the inspection by means of which condition is determined.

"Registration file" means the application for registration, supporting materials, annual reports, and amendments that constitute all information submitted and reviewed pertaining to a particular condominium registration. A document that has not been accepted for filing by the board is not part of the registration file.

"Regular common expense" means a common expense apportioned among and assessed to all of the condominium units pursuant to subsection D of [§ 55.1-1964](#) of the Code of Virginia or similar law or condominium instrument provision.

"Replacement cost" means the expenditure that would be necessary to replace a physical asset with an identical or substantially equivalent physical asset as of the date on which replacement cost is determined and includes all costs of (i) removing the physical asset to be replaced, (ii) obtaining its replacement, and (iii) erecting or installing the replacement.

"Structural component" means a component constituting any portion of the structure of a unit or common element.

"Structural defect" shall have the meaning given in subsection B of [§ 55.1-1955](#) of the Code of Virginia.

"Substituted public offering statement" means a document originally prepared in compliance with the laws of another jurisdiction and modified in accordance with the provisions of this chapter to fulfill the disclosure requirements established for public offering statements by subsection A of [§ 55.1-1976](#) of the Code of Virginia and, if applicable, subsection B of [§ 55.1-1982](#) of the Code of Virginia.

"Virginia Condominium Act" means Chapter 19 ([§ 55.1-1900](#) et seq.) of Title 55.1 of the Code of Virginia.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015; amended Virginia Register Volume 36, Issue 6, eff. December 31, 2019.*

**18VAC48-30-30. Explanation of terms.**

Each reference in this chapter to a "declarant," "purchaser," and "unit owner" or to the plural of those terms shall be deemed to refer, as appropriate, to the masculine and the feminine, to the

singular and the plural, and to natural persons and organizations. The term "declarant" shall refer to any successors to the persons referred to in [§ 55.1-1900](#) of the Code of Virginia who come to stand in the same relation to the condominium as their predecessors in that they assumed rights reserved for the benefit of a declarant that (i) offers to dispose of his interest in a condominium unit not previously disposed of, (ii) reserves or succeeds to any special declarant right, or (iii) applies for registration of the condominium.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015; amended Virginia Register Volume 36, Issue 6, eff. December 31, 2019.*

#### **18VAC48-30-40. Condominiums located outside of Virginia.**

- A. In any case involving a condominium located outside of Virginia in which the laws or practices of the jurisdiction in which such condominium is located prevent compliance with a provision of this chapter, the board shall prescribe, by order, a substitute provision to be applicable in such case that is as nearly equivalent to the original provision as is reasonable under the circumstances.
- B. The words "declaration," "bylaws," "plats," and "plans," when used in this chapter with reference to a condominium located outside of Virginia, shall refer to documents, portions of documents, or combinations thereof, by whatever name denominated, that have a content and function identical or substantially equivalent to the content and function of their Virginia counterparts.
- C. The words "recording" or "recordation," when used with reference to condominium instruments of a condominium located outside of Virginia, shall refer to a procedure that, in the jurisdiction in which such condominium is located, causes the condominium instruments to become legally effective.
- D. This chapter shall apply to a contract for the disposition of a condominium unit located outside of Virginia only to the extent permissible under the provisions of subsection B of [§ 55.1-1901](#) of the Code of Virginia.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015; amended Virginia Register Volume 36, Issue 6, eff. December 31, 2019.*

#### **18VAC48-30-50. Exemptions from registration.**

- A. The exemption from registration of condominiums in which all units are restricted to nonresidential use provided in subsection B of [§ 55.1-1972](#) of the Code of Virginia shall not be deemed to apply to any condominium as to which there is a substantial possibility that a unit therein other than a unit owned by the declarant or the unit owners' association will be used as permanent or temporary living quarters or as a site upon which vehicular

or other portable living quarters will be placed and occupied. Residential use for the purposes of this chapter includes transient occupancy.

- B. Nothing in this chapter shall apply in the case of a condominium exempted from registration by [§ 55.1-1972](#) of the Code of Virginia or condominiums located outside of Virginia as provided in subsection B of [§ 55.1-1901](#) of the Code of Virginia for which no contracts are to be signed in Virginia.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015; amended Virginia Register Volume 36, Issue 6, eff. December 31, 2019.*

**18VAC48-30-60. Preregistration offers prohibited.**

No condominium marketing activity shall be deemed an offer unless, by its express terms, it induces, solicits, or encourages a prospective purchaser to execute a contract of sale of the condominium unit or lease of a leasehold condominium unit or perform some other act that would create or purport to create a legal or equitable interest in the condominium unit other than a security interest in or a nonbinding reservation of the condominium unit.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015.*

## Part II

### Marketing

#### **18VAC48-30-70. Condominium marketing activities.**

Condominium marketing activities shall include every contact for the purpose of promoting disposition of a condominium unit. Such contacts may be personal, by telephone, by mail, by electronic means including, but not limited to, social media, or by advertisement. A promise, assertion, representation, or statement of fact or opinion made in connection with a condominium marketing activity may be oral, written, or graphic.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015.*

#### **18VAC48-30-80. Offering literature.**

- A. Offering literature mailed or delivered prior to the registration of the condominium that is the subject of the offering literature shall bear a conspicuous legend containing the substance of the following language:

"The condominium has not been registered by the Common Interest Community Board. A condominium unit may be reserved on a nonbinding reservation agreement, but no contract of sale or lease may be entered into prior to registration."

- B. Offering literature or marketing activities violative of the Virginia Fair Housing Law ([§ 36-96.1](#) et seq. of the Code of Virginia) and subsection C of [§ 55.1-1914](#) of the Code of Virginia is prohibited.
- C. Offering literature shall indicate that the property being offered is under the condominium form of ownership. The requirement of this subsection is satisfied by including the full name of the condominium in all offering literature.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015; amended Virginia Register Volume 36, Issue 6, eff. December 31, 2019.*

## Part III

### Application for Registration

#### **18VAC48-30-90. Application procedures.**

A declarant seeking registration of a condominium pursuant to Chapter 19 ([§ 55.1-1900](#) et seq.) of Title 55.1 of the Code of Virginia shall submit an application on the appropriate form provided by the board, along with the appropriate fee specified in 18VAC48-30-100.

By submitting the application to the board, the declarant certifies that the declarant has read and understands the applicable statutes and the board's regulations.

The receipt of an application and the deposit of fees by the board do not indicate approval or acceptance of the application by the board.

The board may make further inquiries and investigations to confirm or amplify information supplied. All applications shall be completed in accordance with the instructions contained in this section and on the application. Applications will not be considered complete until all required documents are received by the board.

Applications that are not approved within 12 months after receipt of the application in the board's office will be purged and a new application and fee must be submitted in order to be reconsidered for registration.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015; amended Virginia Register Volume 36, Issue 6, eff. December 31, 2019.*

#### **18VAC48-30-100. Fee requirements.**

All fees are nonrefundable and shall not be prorated. The date on which the fee is received by the board or its agent will determine whether the fee is timely. Checks or money orders shall be made payable to the Treasurer of Virginia.

1. Each application for registration of a condominium shall be accompanied by a fee in an amount equal to \$35 per unit, except that the fee shall not be less than \$1,750 or more than \$3,500.
2. Each phase filing application shall be accompanied by a fee in an amount equal to \$35 per unit, except that the fee for each phase filing shall not be less than \$875 or more than \$3,500.

*Historical Notes:*

**18VAC48-30-110. Review of application for registration.**

- A. Upon receipt of an application for registration, the board shall issue the notice of filing required by subsection A of [§ 55.1-1978](#) of the Code of Virginia.
- B. Upon the review of the application for registration, if the requirements of [§§ 55.1-1975](#) and [55.1-1977](#) of the Code of Virginia have not been met, the board shall notify the applicant as required by subsection C of [§ 55.1-1978](#) of the Code of Virginia.
- C. A request for an extension of the 60-day application review period described in [§ 55.1-1978](#) of the Code of Virginia shall be in writing and shall be delivered to the board prior to the expiration of the period being extended. The request shall be for an extension of definite duration. The board may grant in writing a request for an extension of the application review period, and it may limit the extension to a period not longer than is reasonably necessary to permit correction of the application. An additional extension of the application review period may be obtained, subject to the conditions applicable to the initial request. A request for an extension of the application review period shall be deemed a consent to delay within the meaning of subsection A of [§ 55.1-1978](#) of the Code of Virginia.
- D. If the requirements for registration are not met within the application review period or a valid extension thereof, the board shall, upon the expiration of such period, enter an order rejecting the registration as required by subsection C of [§ 55.1-1978](#) of the Code of Virginia.
- E. An applicant may submit a written request for an informal conference in accordance with [§ 2.2-4019](#) of the Code of Virginia at any time between receipt of a notification pursuant to subsection B of this section and the effective date of the order of rejection entered pursuant to subsection D of this section. A request for such proceeding shall be deemed a consent to delay within the meaning of subsection A of [§ 55.1-1978](#) of the Code of Virginia.
- F. The board shall receive and act upon corrections to the application for registration at any time prior to the effective date of an order rejecting the registration. If the board determines after review of the corrections that the requirements for registration have not been met, the board may proceed with an informal conference in accordance with [§ 2.2-4019](#) of the Code of Virginia to allow reconsideration of whether the requirements for registration are met. If the board does not opt to proceed with an informal conference, the applicant may submit a written request for an informal conference in accordance with [§ 2.2-4019](#) of the Code of Virginia to reconsider whether the requirements for registration are met. If the board does not proceed with an informal conference and no request for an informal conference is received from the applicant, an amended order of rejection stating

the factual basis for the rejection shall be issued. A new 20-day period for the order of rejection to become effective shall commence.

- G. At such time as the board affirmatively determines that the requirements of [§§ 55.1-1975](#) and [55.1-1977](#) of the Code of Virginia have been met, the board shall enter an order registering the condominium and shall designate the form, content, and effective date of the public offering statement, substituted public offering statement, or prospectus to be used.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015; amended Virginia Register Volume 36, Issue 6, eff. December 31, 2019.*

**18VAC48-30-120. Prerequisites for registration.**

The following provisions are prerequisites for registration and are supplementary to the provisions of [§ 55.1-1977](#) of the Code of Virginia.

1. The declarant shall own or have the right to acquire an estate in the land constituting or to constitute the condominium that is of at least as great a degree and duration as the estate to be conveyed in the condominium units.
2. The condominium instruments must be adequate to bring a condominium into existence upon recordation except that the certification requirements of § 55.1-1920 of the Code of Virginia need not be complied with as a prerequisite for registration. This subsection does not apply to condominium instruments that may be recorded after the condominium has been created.
3. The declarant shall have filed with the board reasonable evidence of its financial ability to complete all proposed improvements on the condominium. Such evidence may include (i) financial statements and a signed affidavit attesting that the declarant has sufficient funds to complete all proposed improvements on the condominium and that the funds will be used for completion of the proposed improvements or (ii) proof of a commitment of an institutional lender to advance construction funds to the declarant and, to the extent that any such commitments will not furnish all the necessary funds, other evidence, satisfactory to the board, of the availability to the declarant of necessary funds. A lender's commitment may be subject to such conditions, including registration of the condominium units and presale requirements, as are normal for loans of the type and as to which nothing appears to indicate that the conditions will not be complied with or fulfilled.
  - a. In the case of a condominium located in Virginia, "proposed improvements" are improvements that are not yet begun or not yet complete and that the declarant is affirmatively and unconditionally obligated to complete under [§§ 55.1-1920](#) and [55.1-1930 B](#) of the Code

of Virginia and applicable provisions of the condominium instruments or that the declarant would be so obligated to complete if plats and plans filed with the board in accordance with 18VAC48-30-140 A were recorded.

- b. In the case of a condominium located outside of Virginia, "proposed improvements" are improvements that are not yet begun or not yet complete and that the declarant represents, without condition or limitation, will be built or placed in the condominium.
4. The current and planned condominium marketing activities of the declarant shall comply with § 18.2-216 of the Code of Virginia, 18VAC48-30-80, and 18VAC48-30-660.
5. The declarant shall have filed with the board (i) a proposed public offering statement that complies with this chapter and subsection A of § 55.1-1976 of the Code of Virginia and, if applicable, subsection B of § 55.1-1982 of the Code of Virginia; (ii) a substituted public offering statement that complies with this chapter; or (iii) a prospectus that complies with this chapter.
6. Declarants may be organized as individuals or firms. Firms shall be organized as business entities under the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia or otherwise authorized to transact business in Virginia. Firms shall register any trade or fictitious names with the State Corporation Commission in accordance Chapter 5 of Title 59.1 ([§ 59.1-69](#) et seq.) of the Code of Virginia before submitting an application to the board.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015; amended Virginia Register Volume 36, Issue 6, eff. December 31, 2019; Volume 36, Issue 17, eff. June 1, 2020.*

**18VAC48-30-130. Minimum requirements for registration.**

Applications for registration shall include the following:

1. The documents and information contained in [§ 55.1-1975](#) of the Code of Virginia.
2. The application fee specified in 18VAC48-30-100.
3. The following documents shall be included as exhibits. All exhibits shall be labeled as indicated and submitted in hardcopy form and electronically in a format acceptable to the board.

- a. Exhibit A: A copy of the certificate of incorporation or certificate of authority to transact business in Virginia issued by the Virginia State Corporation Commission or other entity formation documents.
- b. Exhibit B: A copy of the title opinion, title policy, or a statement of the condition of the title to the condominium project including encumbrances as of a specified date within 30 days of the date of application by a title company or licensed attorney who is not a salaried employee, officer, or director of the declarant or owner, in accordance with subdivision A 5 of [§ 55.1-1975](#) of the Code of Virginia.
- c. Exhibit C: A copy of the instruments that will be delivered to a purchaser to evidence the purchaser's interest in the unit and of the contracts and other agreements that a purchaser will be required to agree to or sign.
- d. Exhibit D: A narrative description of the promotional plan for the disposition of the condominium units.
- e. Exhibit E: A copy of documentation demonstrating the declarant's financial ability to complete the project in accordance with 18VAC48-30-120.
- f. Exhibit F: A copy of the proposed public offering statement that complies with subsection A of [§ 55.1-1976](#) and subsection B of [§ 55.1-1982](#) of the Code of Virginia, as applicable, and this chapter. A substitute public offering statement or a prospectus pursuant to 18VAC48-30-370 and 18VAC48-30-380 respectively may be submitted for a condominium formed in another jurisdiction.
- g. Exhibit G: Copies of bonds required by [§§ 55.1-1921](#), [55.1-1968](#), and [55.1-1983](#) of the Code of Virginia, as applicable.
- h. Exhibit H: A list with the name of every officer of the declarant who is directly responsible for the project or person occupying a similar status within, or performing similar functions for, the declarant. The list must include each individual's address, principal occupation for the past five years, and extent and nature of the individual's interest in the condominium as of a specified date within 30 days of the filing of the application.
- i. Exhibit I: Plats and plans of the condominium that (i) comply with the provisions of [§ 55.1-1920](#) of the Code of Virginia and 18VAC48-30-140 other than the certification requirements and (ii) show all units and buildings containing units to be built anywhere within the submitted land other than within the boundaries of any convertible lands. Hardcopy submittals of plats and plans must be no larger than 11 inches by 17 inches.

j. Exhibit J: Conversion condominiums must attach (i) a copy of the general notice provided to tenants of the condominium at the time of application pursuant to subsection C of [§ 55.1-1982](#) of the Code of Virginia, (ii) a copy of the formal notice to be sent at the time of registration to the tenants, if any, of the building or buildings, and (iii) the certified statement required in accordance with subsection D of [§ 55.1-1982](#) of the Code of Virginia.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015; amended Virginia Register Volume 36, Issue 6, eff. December 31, 2019.*

**18VAC48-30-140. Requirements for plats and plans.**

- A. Except as provided in subsection C of this section, all plats and plans submitted with the application for registration shall comply with [§ 55.1-1920](#) of the Code of Virginia but the certification need not be signed until recordation. The plats and plans filed with the application for registration shall be the same as the plats and plans the declarant intends to record. A material change to the plats and plans shall be submitted to the board in accordance with Part VI (18VAC48-30-460 et seq.) of this chapter. Once recorded, copies of plats and plans as recorded shall be filed with the board in accordance with Part VI of this chapter.
- B. In the case of units that are substantially identical, the requirement to show the location and dimensions (within normal construction tolerances) of the boundaries of each unit pursuant to subsection B of [§ 55.1-1920](#) of the Code of Virginia may be deemed satisfied by depiction of the location and dimensions of the vertical boundaries and horizontal boundaries, if any, of one such unit. The identifying numbers of all units represented by such depiction shall be indicated. Each structure within which any such units are located shall be depicted so as to indicate the exact location of each such unit within the structure.
- C. In the case of a condominium located outside Virginia, certain materials may be filed with the application for registration in lieu of plats and plans complying with the provisions of [§ 55.1-1920](#) of the Code of Virginia. Such materials shall contain, as a minimum, (i) a plat of survey depicting all existing improvements, and all improvements that the declarant represents, without condition or limitation, will be built or placed in the condominium; and (ii) legally sufficient descriptions of each unit. Any improvements whose completion is subject to conditions or limitations shall be appropriately labeled to indicate that such improvements may not be completed. Unit descriptions may be written or graphic, shall demarcate each unit vertically and, if appropriate, horizontally, and shall indicate each unit's location relative to established points or datum.
- D. The plats and plans must bear the form of the certification statement required by subsections A and B [§ 55.1-1920](#) of the Code of Virginia. However, as stated in subsection A of this section, the statement need not be executed prior to recordation. The

certification statement may appear in a separate document that is recorded, or to be recorded.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015; amended Virginia Register Volume 36, Issue 6, eff. December 31, 2019.*

**18VAC48-30-150. Application for registration of expandable condominium.**

The declarant may include in the application for registration all units for which development rights have been reserved.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015.*

## Part IV

### Public Offering Statement

#### **18VAC48-30-160. Public offering statement requirements, generally.**

In addition to the provisions of [§ 55.1-1976](#) of the Code of Virginia, the following will be considered, as applicable, during review of the public offering statement.

1. The public offering statement shall provide full and fair disclosure in accordance with 18VAC48-30-170.
2. The public offering statement shall pertain to a single offering and to the entire condominium in which the condominium units being offered are located.
3. The public offering statement shall be clear, organized, and legible.
4. Except for brief excerpts, the public offering statement may refer to, but should not incorporate verbatim, portions of the condominium instruments, the Virginia Condominium Act, or this chapter. This does not preclude compliance with 18VAC48-30-180.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015; amended Virginia Register Volume 36, Issue 6, eff. December 31, 2019.*

#### **18VAC48-30-170. Full and fair disclosure.**

- A. The provisions of [§ 55.1-1976](#) and subsection B of [§ 55.1-1982](#) of the Code of Virginia and this chapter shall be strictly construed to promote full and fair disclosure in the public offering statement. In addition, the following will be considered, as applicable, during review to assure full and fair disclosure:
  1. The information shall be presented in a manner that is clear and understandable to a reasonably informed consumer, while maintaining consistency with the requirements of this chapter and the Virginia Condominium Act.
  2. In addition to specific information required by this chapter and the Virginia Condominium Act, the public offering statement shall disclose any other information necessary for full and fair disclosure.
  3. No information shall be incorporated by reference to an outside source that is not reasonably available to a prospective purchaser.

- 4. If required information is not known or not reasonably available, such fact shall be stated and explained in the public offering statement.
- B. The board has the sole discretion to require additional information or amendment of existing information as it finds necessary to ensure full and fair disclosure.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015; amended Virginia Register Volume 36, Issue 6, eff. December 31, 2019.*

**18VAC48-30-180. Contents of public offering statement.**

- A. A cover, if used, must be blank or bear identification information only.
- B. The first page of the public offering statement shall be substantially as follows.

**PURCHASER SHOULD READ THIS DOCUMENT FOR THE PURCHASER'S PROTECTION**

**PUBLIC OFFERING STATEMENT**

NAME OF  
CONDOMINIUM:

LOCATION OF  
CONDOMINIUM:

NAME OF  
DECLARANT:

ADDRESS OF  
DECLARANT:

EFFECTIVE  
DATE OF  
PUBLIC  
OFFERING  
STATEMENT:

REVISED:

**THE PURCHASER SHOULD READ THIS DOCUMENT FOR THE PURCHASER'S OWN PROTECTION.** Living in a common interest community carries with it certain rights, responsibilities, and benefits, including certain financial obligations, rights, and restrictions

concerning the use and maintenance of units and common elements, and decision-making authority vested in the unit owners' association. The purchaser will be bound by the provisions of the condominium instruments and should review the Public Offering Statement, the condominium instruments, and other exhibits carefully prior to purchase.

This Public Offering Statement presents information regarding condominium units being offered for sale by the declarant. Virginia law requires that a Public Offering Statement be given to every Purchaser in order to provide full and fair disclosure of the significant features of the condominium units being offered. The Public Offering Statement is not intended, however, to be all-inclusive. The Purchaser should consult other sources for details not covered by the Public Offering Statement.

The Public Offering Statement summarizes information and documents furnished by the declarant to the Virginia Common Interest Community Board. The Board has carefully reviewed the Public Offering Statement to ensure that it contains required disclosures, but the Board does not guarantee the accuracy or completeness of the Public Offering Statement. In the event of any inconsistency between the Public Offering Statement and the material it is intended to summarize, the latter will control.

Under Virginia law a purchaser of a condominium unit is afforded a 5-day period during which the purchaser may cancel the purchase contract of sale and obtain a full refund of any sums deposited in connection with the purchase contract. The 5-day period begins on the purchase contract date or the date of delivery of a Public Offering Statement, whichever is later. The purchaser may, if practicable, inspect the condominium unit and the common elements and obtain professional advice. If the purchaser elects to cancel, the purchaser must deliver notice of cancellation to the declarant pursuant to [§ 55.1-1974](#) of the Code of Virginia.

Allegations of violation of any law or regulation contained in the Virginia Condominium Act or the Condominium Regulations should be reported to the Virginia Common Interest Community Board, Perimeter Center, Suite 400, 9960 Mayland Drive, Richmond, Virginia 23233.

- C. A summary of important considerations shall immediately follow the first page for the purpose of reinforcing the disclosure of significant information. The summary shall be titled as such and shall be introduced by the following statement:

"Following are important matters to be considered in acquiring a condominium unit. They are highlights only. The Public Offering Statement should be examined in its entirety to obtain detailed information."

Appropriate modifications shall be made to reflect facts and circumstances that may vary. The summary shall consist of, but not be limited to, the following, as applicable:

1. A statement on the governance of the condominium wherein unit owners are allocated votes for certain decisions of the association. In addition, the statement

shall include that all unit owners will be bound by the decisions made by the association, even if the individual unit owner disagrees.

2. A statement concerning the decision-making authority of the executive board of the unit owners' association.
3. A statement regarding the payment of expenses of the association on the basis of a periodic budget, to include a disclosure of any provision for reserves, including a statement if there are no reserves.
4. A statement detailing the requirement for each unit owner to pay a periodic assessment and the inability to reduce the amount of an assessment by refraining from the use of the common elements.
5. A statement of the unit owner's responsibility to pay additional assessments, if any.
6. A statement regarding the consequences for failure to pay an assessment when due. The statement shall include reference to the enforcement mechanisms available to the association, including obtaining a lien against the condominium unit, pursuing civil action against the unit owner, and certain other penalties.
7. A statement that the declarant must pay assessments on unsold condominium units.
8. A statement indicating whether the declarant, its predecessors, or principal officer have undergone a debtor's relief proceeding.
9. A statement that the declarant will retain control of the unit owners' association for an initial period.
10. A statement indicating whether a managing agent will perform the routine operations of the unit owners' association. The statement shall include whether the managing agent is related to the declarant, director, or officer of the unit owners' association.
11. A statement indicating whether the declarant may lease unsold condominium units and a statement indicating whether the right of a unit owner to lease that owner's unit to another is subject to restrictions.
12. A statement indicating whether the declarant may expand or contract the condominium or convert convertible land or space without the consent of any unit owner.

13. A statement indicating whether the right of the unit owner to resell the owner's condominium unit is subject to restrictions.
  14. A statement indicating whether the units are restricted to residential use and whether the units may be utilized for commercial, retail, or professional use. The statement shall provide detail if units have different voting rights. Further, the statement shall also detail whether the allocation of rights and responsibilities among commercial, retail, professional, or residential use units are the same.
  15. A statement indicating whether approval of the declarant or unit owners' association is necessary in order for a unit owner to alter the structure of the unit or modify the exterior of the unit.
  16. A statement regarding the obligation of the unit owners' association to obtain certain insurance benefiting the unit owner, along with the necessity for a unit owner to obtain other insurance.
  17. A statement regarding the unit owner's obligation to pay real estate taxes.
  18. A statement regarding any limits the declarant asserts on the association or the unit owner's right to bring legal action against the declarant. Nothing in this statement shall be deemed to authorize such limits where those limits are otherwise prohibited by law.
  19. A statement that the association or unit owners are members of another association or obligated to perform duties or pay fees or charges to that association or entity.
  20. A statement indicating whether the condominium is subject to development as a time-share.
  21. A statement affirming that marketing and sale of condominium units will be conducted in accordance with the Virginia Fair Housing Law ([§ 36-96.1](#) et seq. of the Code of Virginia) and the Virginia Condominium Act (Chapter 19 ([§ 55.1-1900](#) et seq.) of Title 55.1 of the Code of Virginia).
- D. The content after the summary of important considerations shall include the narrative sections in 18VAC48-30-190 through 18VAC48-30-360. Supplementary sections may be included as necessary.
- E. Clear and legible copies of the following documents shall be attached as exhibits to the public offering statement:
1. The declaration;

2. The bylaws;
  3. The projected budget;
  4. Rules and regulations of the unit owners' association, if available;
  5. Master association documents, if applicable;
  6. Any management contract, along with the license number of the common interest community manager, if applicable;
  7. Depiction of unit layouts;
  8. Any lease of recreational areas;
  9. Any contract or agreement affecting the use, maintenance, or access of all or any portion of the condominium, the nature, duration, or expense of which has a material impact on the operation and administration of the condominium;
  10. Warranty information, if applicable; and
  11. Other documents obligating the association or unit owner to perform duties or obligations or pay charges or fees.
- F. Other information and documentation may be included as necessary to ensure full and fair disclosure. The board may also require additional information as necessary to ensure full and fair disclosure.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015; amended Virginia Register Volume 36, Issue 6, eff. December 31, 2019.*

**18VAC48-30-190. Narrative sections; condominium concept.**

The public offering statement shall contain a section captioned "The Condominium Concept." The section shall consist of a brief discussion of the condominium form of ownership. The section shall discuss the distinction among units, common elements and limited common elements, if any, and shall explain ownership of an undivided interest in the common elements. Attention shall be directed to any features of ownership of the condominium units being offered that are different from typical condominium unit ownership.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015.*

**18VAC48-30-200. Narrative sections; creation of condominium.**

The public offering statement shall contain a section captioned "Creation of the Condominium." The section shall briefly explain the manner in which the condominium was or will be created, the locality wherein the condominium instruments will be or have been recorded, and each of the condominium instruments, their functions, and the procedure for their amendment. The section shall indicate where each of the condominium instruments or copies thereof may be found. In the case of a condominium located in Virginia or in a jurisdiction having a law similar to [§ 55.1-1984](#) of the Code of Virginia, the section shall indicate that the purchaser will receive copies of the recorded declaration and bylaws, including amendments, as appropriate, within the time provided in the applicable statute.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015; amended Virginia Register Volume 36, Issue 6, eff. December 31, 2019.*

**18VAC48-30-210. Narrative sections; description of condominium.**

- A. The public offering statement shall contain a section captioned "Description of the Condominium." The description shall include statements of (i) the land area of the condominium to include either the square footage or the acreage, (ii) the number of units in the condominium, (iii) the number of units in the offering, (iv) the number of units in the condominium planned to be rented, and (v) the percentage of units the declarant intends to sell to persons who do not intend to occupy the units as their primary residence.
- B. If the condominium is contractable, expandable, or includes convertible land or space, the section shall contain a brief description of each such feature, including the land area to include either the square footage or acreage, and the maximum number of units or maximum number of units per acre that may be added, withdrawn, or converted, as applicable, together with a statement of the declarant's plans for the implementation of each such feature. In the case of a contractable or expandable condominium, the section shall contain the substance of the following statement:

"At the declarant's option, the construction and development of the condominium may be abandoned or altered prior to completion, and land or buildings originally intended for condominium development may be put to other uses or sold."

In the case of a condominium including convertible land, the section shall contain the substance of the following statements:

"Until such time as the declarant converts the convertible land into units or limited common elements, the declarant is required by the Virginia Condominium Act to pay for the upkeep of the convertible land. Once the

convertible land has been converted, maintenance and other financial responsibilities associated with the land so designated become the responsibility of the unit owners and, therefore, may be reflected in the periodic assessment for the condominium."

If the common expense assessments are expected to increase should convertible land be converted, this section shall also disclose an estimate of the approximate percentage by which such assessments are expected to increase as a result of such conversion.

- C. The section shall state whether the units are restricted solely to residential use and shall identify where use and occupancy restrictions are found in the condominium instruments. If nonresidential use is permitted, the section shall identify the types of units and proportion of each, if known or reasonably anticipated.
- D. The section shall state whether the project, as of the effective date of the public offering statement, is intended to comply with the underwriting guidelines of the secondary mortgage market agencies, including but not limited to the Federal National Mortgage Association, the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, and the Virginia Housing Development Authority.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015.*

**18VAC48-30-220. Narrative sections; individual units.**

The public offering statement shall contain a section captioned "Individual Units." The section shall contain a general description of the various types of units being offered to include the square footage, or number of bedrooms, or both, together with the dates on which substantial completion of unfinished units is anticipated. The section shall state any restrictions regarding changes unit owners may make to the structure or exterior of the units, regardless of whether the exterior is a portion of the common elements.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015.*

**18VAC48-30-230. Narrative sections; common elements.**

- A. The public offering statement shall contain a section captioned "Common Elements." The section shall contain a general description of the common elements.
- B. For any common elements that are not completed or not expected to be substantially complete when the units are complete, a statement of the anticipated completion dates of unfinished common elements shall be included.

- C. In the case of a condominium located in Virginia, if common elements are not expected to be substantially complete when the units are completed, the section shall state the nature, source, and extent of the obligation to complete such common elements that the declarant has incurred or intends to incur upon recordation of the condominium instruments pursuant to [§§ 55.1-1920](#) and [55.1-1930 B](#) of the Code of Virginia and applicable provisions of the condominium instruments. In addition the section shall state that pursuant to [§ 55.1-1921](#) of the Code of Virginia, the declarant has filed with the board a bond to insure completion of improvements to the common elements that the declarant is obligated as stated in the declaration.
- D. In the case of a condominium located outside of Virginia, a description of the nature, source, and extent of the obligation to complete such common elements that the declarant has incurred or intends to incur under the law of the jurisdiction in which the condominium is located shall be included.
- E. The section shall describe any limited common elements that are assigned or that may be assigned and shall indicate the reservation of exclusive use. In the case of limited common elements that may be assigned, the section shall state the manner of such assignment or reassignment.
- F. The section shall indicate the availability of vehicular parking spaces including the number of spaces available per unit and restrictions on or charges for the use of spaces.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015; amended Virginia Register Volume 36, Issue 6, eff. December 31, 2019.*

#### **18VAC48-30-240. Narrative sections; maintenance, repair, and replacement responsibilities.**

The public offering statement shall contain a section captioned "Maintenance, Repair, and Replacement Responsibilities." The section shall describe the basic allocation of maintenance, repair, and replacement responsibilities between the unit owner and the association as well as any unusual items to be maintained by the unit owner. The section shall refer to the location of the maintenance, repair, and replacement responsibility requirements in the condominium instruments.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015.*

#### **18VAC48-30-250. Narrative sections; declarant.**

- A. The public offering statement shall contain a section captioned "The Declarant." The section shall contain a brief history of the declarant with emphasis on its experience in condominium development.

- B. The following information shall be stated with regard to persons immediately responsible for the development of the condominium: (i) name, (ii) length of time associated with the declarant, (iii) role in the development of the condominium, and (iv) experience in real estate development. If different from the persons immediately responsible for the development of the condominium, the principal officers of the declarant shall also be identified.
- C. The section shall describe the type of legal entity of the declarant and explain if any other entities have any obligation to satisfy the financial obligations of the declarant.
- D. If the declarant or its parent or predecessor organization has, during the preceding 10 years, been adjudicated as bankrupt or has undergone any proceeding for the relief of debtors, such facts shall be stated. If any of the persons identified pursuant to subsection B of this section has, during the preceding three years, been adjudicated a bankrupt or undergone any proceeding for the relief of debtors, such facts shall be stated.
- E. The section shall indicate any final action taken against the declarant, its principals, or the condominium by an administrative agency, civil court, or criminal court where the action reflected adversely upon the performance of the declarant as a developer of real estate projects. The section shall also indicate any current or past proceedings brought against the declarant by any condominium unit owners' association or by its executive board or any managing agent on behalf of such association or that has been certified as a class action on behalf of some or all of the unit owners. For the purposes of the previous sentence with respect to past proceedings, if the ultimate disposition of those proceedings was one that reflected adversely upon the performance of the declarant, that disposition shall be disclosed. If the ultimate disposition was resolved favorably towards the declarant, its principals, or the condominium, the final action does not need to be disclosed. The board has the sole discretion to require additional disclosure of any proceedings where it finds such disclosure necessary to assure full and fair disclosure.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015; amended Virginia Register Volume 36, Issue 6, eff. December 31, 2019.*

**18VAC48-30-260. Narrative sections; terms of the offering.**

- A. The public offering statement shall contain a section captioned "Terms of the Offering." The section shall discuss the expenses to be borne by a purchaser in acquiring a condominium unit and present information regarding the settlement of purchase contracts as provided in subsections B through H of this section.
- B. The section shall indicate the offering prices for condominium units or a price range for condominium units, if either is established.

- C. The section shall set forth the significant terms of any financing offered by or through the declarant to purchasers. Such discussion shall include the substance of the following statement:

"Financing is subject to additional terms and conditions stated in the loan commitment or instruments."

- D. The section shall discuss in detail any costs collected by or paid to the declarant, association, or master association that are not normal for residential real estate transactions including, without limitation, any contribution to the initial or working capital of the unit owners' association, including any master association, to be paid by a purchaser.
- E. The section shall discuss any penalties or forfeitures to be incurred by a purchaser upon default in performance of a purchase contract that are not normal for residential real estate transactions. Penalties or forfeitures to be discussed include, without limitation, the declarant's right to retain sums deposited in connection with a purchase contract in the event of a refusal by a lending institution to provide financing to a purchaser who has made proper application for same.
- F. The section shall discuss the right of the declarant to cancel a purchase contract upon failure of the declarant to obtain purchase contracts on a given number or percentage of condominium units being offered or upon failure of the declarant to meet other conditions precedent to obtaining necessary financing.
- G. The section shall discuss the process for cancellation of a purchase contract by a purchaser in accordance with subdivision 2 of [§ 55.1-1974](#) of the Code of Virginia. The section shall include a statement as to whether deposits will be held in an escrow fund or if a bond or letter of credit will be filed with the board in lieu of escrowing deposits, all in accordance with [§ 55.1-1983](#) of the Code of Virginia.
- H. The section shall set forth any restrictions in the purchase contract that limit the unit owner's right to bring legal action against the declarant or the association. The section shall set forth the paragraph or section and page number of the purchase contract where such provision is located. Nothing in this statement shall be deemed to authorize such limits where those limits are otherwise prohibited by law.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015; amended Virginia Register Volume 36, Issue 6, eff. December 31, 2019.*

**18VAC48-30-270. Narrative sections; encumbrances.**

- A. The public offering statement shall contain a section captioned "Encumbrances" that shall include the significant terms of any encumbrances, easements, liens, and matters of title

affecting the condominium other than those contained in the condominium instruments and disclosed elsewhere in the public offering statement, as provided in subsections B through J of this section.

- B. Except to the extent that such encumbrances are required to be satisfied or released by subsection A of [§ 55.1-1908](#) of the Code of Virginia, or a similar law, the section shall describe every mortgage, deed of trust, other perfected lien, or choate mechanics' or materialmen's lien affecting all or any portion of the condominium other than those placed on condominium units by their purchasers or owners. Such description shall (i) identify the lender secured or the lienholder, (ii) state the nature and original amount of the obligation secured, (iii) identify the party having primary responsibility for performance of the obligation secured, and (iv) indicate the practical effect upon unit owners of failure of the party to perform the obligation.
- C. Normal easements for utilities, municipal rights-of-way, and emergency access shall be described only as such, without reference to ownership, location, or other details.
- D. Easements reserved to the declarant to facilitate conversion, expansion, or sales shall be briefly described.
- E. Easements reserved to the declarant or to the unit owners' association or to either entity's representatives or agents for access to units shall be briefly described. In the event that access to a unit may be had without notice to the unit owner, such fact shall be stated.
- F. Easements across the condominium reserved to the owners or occupants of land located in the vicinity of the condominium, or across adjacent land benefitting the condominium including, without limitation, easements for the use of recreational areas shall be briefly described.
- G. Covenants, servitudes, or other devices that create an actual restriction on the right of any unit owner to use and enjoy the unit or any portion of the common elements other than limited common elements shall be briefly described.
- H. Any matter of title that is not otherwise required to be disclosed by the provisions of this section and that has or may have a substantial adverse impact upon unit owners' interests in the condominium shall be described. Under normal circumstances, normal and customary utility easements, easements for encroachments, and easements running in favor of unit owners for ingress and egress across the common elements shall be deemed not to have a substantial adverse impact upon unit owners' interest in the condominium.
- I. The section need not include any information required to be disclosed by 18VAC48-30-210 C, 18VAC48-30-220, or 18VAC48-30-280.
- J. In addition to the description of easements required in this section, pertinent easements that can be located shall be shown on the condominium plats and plans.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015; amended Virginia Register Volume 36, Issue 6, eff. December 31, 2019.*

**18VAC48-30-280. Narrative sections; restrictions on transfer.**

The public offering statement shall include a section captioned "Restrictions on Transfer." The section shall describe and explain any rights of first refusal, preemptive rights, limitations on leasing, or other restraints on free alienability created by the condominium instruments or the rules and regulations of the unit owners' association that affect the unit owners' right to resell, lease, or otherwise transfer an interest in the condominium unit.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015.*

**18VAC48-30-290. Narrative sections; unit owners' association.**

- A. The public offering statement shall contain a section captioned "Unit Owners' Association." The section shall discuss the manner in which the condominium is governed and administered and shall include the information required by subsections B through K of this section.
- B. The section shall summarize the functions of the unit owners' association.
- C. The section shall describe the organizational structure of the unit owners' association. Such description shall indicate (i) the existence of or provision for an executive board, officers, and managing agent, if any; (ii) the relationships between such persons or bodies; (iii) the manner of election or appointment of such persons or bodies; and (iv) the assignment or delegation of responsibility for the performance of the functions of the unit owners' association.
- D. The section shall describe the method of allocating votes among the unit owners.
- E. The section shall describe any retention by the declarant of control over the unit owners' association, including the time period of declarant control. The section shall state that the association shall register with the Common Interest Community Board upon transition of declarant control by filing the required annual report in accordance with [§ 55.1-1980](#) of the Code of Virginia.
- F. The managing agent, if any, shall be identified. If a managing agent is to be employed in the future, the criteria, if any, for selection of the managing agent shall be briefly stated. The section shall indicate any relationship between the managing agent and the declarant or a member of the executive board or an officer of the unit owners' association. The duration of any management agreement shall be stated.

- G. Except to the extent otherwise disclosed in connection with discussion of a management agreement, the significant terms of any lease of recreational areas or similar contract or agreement affecting the use, maintenance, or access of all or any part of the condominium shall be stated. The section shall include a brief narrative statement of the effect of each such agreement upon a purchaser.
- H. Rules and regulations of the unit owners' association and the authority to promulgate rules and regulations shall be discussed. Particular provisions of the rules and regulations need not be discussed except as required by other provisions of this chapter. The purchaser's attention shall be directed to the copy of rules and regulations, if any, attached to the public offering statement.
- I. Any standing committees established or to be established to perform functions of the unit owners' association shall be discussed. Such committees include, without limitation, architectural control committees and committees having the authority to interpret condominium instruments, rules, and regulations or other operative provisions.
- J. Unless required to be disclosed by 18VAC48-30-270 E, any power of the declarant or of the unit owners' association or its representatives or agents to enter units shall be discussed. To the extent each is applicable, the following facts shall be stated (i) a unit may be entered without notice to the unit owner, (ii) the declarant or the unit owners' association or its representatives or agents are empowered to take actions or perform work in a unit without the consent of the unit owner, and (iii) the unit owner may be required to bear the costs of actions so taken or work so performed.
- K. The section shall state whether the condominium is part of a master or other association and briefly describe such relationship and the responsibilities of and obligations to the master association, including any charges for which the unit owner or the unit owners' association may be responsible. The disclosures required by this subsection may be contained in this narrative section or another narrative section. The section shall also describe any other obligation of the association or unit owners arising out of any agreements, easements, deed restrictions, or proffers, including the obligation to pay fees or other charges.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015; amended Virginia Register Volume 36, Issue 6, eff. December 31, 2019.*

**18VAC48-30-300. Narrative sections; display of flag.**

The public offering statement shall include a section captioned "Display of Flag." This section shall describe any restrictions, limitations, or prohibitions on the right of a unit owner to display the flag of the United States in accordance with [§ 55.1-1951](#) of the Code of Virginia.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015; amended Virginia Register Volume 36, Issue 6, eff. December 31, 2019.*

**18VAC48-30-310. Narrative sections; surrounding area.**

The public offering statement shall contain a section captioned "Surrounding Area." The section shall briefly describe the zoning of the immediate neighborhood of the condominium and the current uses.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015.*

**18VAC48-30-320. Narrative sections; financial matters.**

- A. The public offering statement shall contain a section captioned "Financial Matters." The section shall discuss the expenses incident to the ownership of a condominium unit, excluding certain taxes, in the manner provided in subsections B through I of this section.
- B. The section shall distinguish, in general terms, the following categories of costs of operation, maintenance, repair, and replacement of various portions of the condominium:
  - (i) common expenses apportioned among and assessed to all of the condominium units pursuant to subsection D of [§ 55.1-1964](#) of the Code of Virginia or similar law or condominium instrument provision; (ii) common expenses, if any, apportioned among and assessed to less than all of the condominium units pursuant to subsections A and B of [§ 55.1-1964](#) of the Code of Virginia or similar law or condominium instrument provisions; and (iii) costs borne directly by individual unit owners. The section need not discuss taxes assessed against individual condominium units and payable directly by the unit owners.
- C. A budget shall show projected common expenses for the first year of the condominium's operation or, if different, the latest year for which a budget is available. The projected budget shall be attached to the public offering statement as an exhibit and the section shall direct the purchaser's attention to such exhibit. The section shall describe the manner in which the projected budget is established. If the condominium is phased, the budget shall project future years until all phases are projected to be developed and all common elements that must be built have been completed. The budget shall include an initial working capital budget showing sources and uses of initial working capital and a reserve table showing amounts to be collected to fund those reserves. The budget shall show regular individual assessments by unit type. The budget shall note that the figures are not guaranteed and may vary.
- D. The section shall describe the manner in which regular common expenses are apportioned among and assessed to the condominium units. The section shall include the substance of the following statement, if applicable:

"A unit owner cannot obtain a reduction of the regular common expenses assessed against the unit by refraining from use of any of the common elements."

- E. The section shall describe budget provisions for reserves for capital expenditures in accordance with [§ 55.1-1965](#) of the Code of Virginia and for contingencies, if any. If there are no reserves, the section shall so state.
- F. The section shall describe provisions for additional assessments to be levied in accordance with subsection E of [§ 55.1-1964](#) of the Code of Virginia in the event that budgeted assessments provide insufficient funds for operation of the unit owners' association. The section shall also describe the provisions for an assessment against an individual unit owner.
- G. The section shall discuss any common expenses actually planned to be specially assessed pursuant to subsections A and B of [§ 55.1-1964](#) of the Code of Virginia or similar law or condominium instrument provisions.
- H. The section shall indicate any fee, rent, or other charge to be payable by unit owners other than through common expense assessments to any party for use of the common elements or for use of recreational or parking facilities in the vicinity of the condominium. As an exception to the provisions of this subsection, the section need not discuss any fees provided for in subsection H of [§ 55.1-1966](#) and [§ 55.1-1969](#) of the Code of Virginia, or similar laws or condominium instrument provisions or any costs for certificates for resale.
- I. The section shall discuss the effect of failure of a unit owner to pay the assessments levied against the condominium unit. Such discussion shall indicate provisions for charges or other remedies that may be imposed to be applied in the case of overdue assessments and for acceleration of unpaid assessments. The section shall indicate the existence of a lien for unpaid assessments and where applicable the bond or letter of credit conditioned on the payment of assessments filed with the board in accordance with [§ 55.1-1968](#) of the Code of Virginia. The section shall include, to the extent applicable, the substance of the following statement:

"The unit owners' association may obtain payment of overdue assessments by bringing legal action against the unit owner or by foreclosure of the lien resulting in a forced sale of the condominium unit."

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015; amended Virginia Register Volume 36, Issue 6, eff. December 31, 2019.*

**18VAC48-30-330. Narrative sections; insurance.**

- A. The public offering statement shall contain a section captioned "Insurance." The section shall describe generally the insurance on the condominium to be maintained by the unit owners' association. The section shall state, with respect to such insurance, each of the following circumstances, to the extent applicable: (i) property damage coverage will not insure personal property belonging to unit owners; (ii) property damage coverage will not insure improvements to a unit that increase its value beyond the limits of coverage provided in the unit owners' association's policy, and (iii) liability coverage will not insure against liability arising from an accident or injury occurring within a unit or as a result of the act or negligence of a unit owner. The section shall include a statement whether the unit owner is obligated to obtain coverage for any or all of the coverages described. The section shall also include a statement that the unit owner should consult with an insurance professional to determine the appropriate coverage.
- B. The section shall indicate any conditions imposed by the condominium instruments or the rules and regulations to which insurance obtained directly by unit owners will be subject. Such indication may be made by reference to pertinent provisions of the condominium instruments or the rules and regulations.
- C. The section shall explain that the association is the only party that can make a claim under the master policy and is the sole decision-maker as to whether to make a claim, including a statement as to the circumstances under which a unit owner could be responsible for payment of the deductible.
- D. The section shall state that the unit owners' association is required to obtain and maintain a blanket fidelity bond or employee dishonesty insurance policy in accordance with subsection B of [§ 55.1-1963](#) of the Code of Virginia.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015; amended Virginia Register Volume 36, Issue 6, eff. December 31, 2019.*

**18VAC48-30-340. Narrative sections; taxes.**

- A. The public offering statement shall contain a section captioned "Taxes." The section shall describe all existing or pending taxes to be levied against condominium units individually including, without limitation, real property taxes, sewer connection charges, and other special assessments.
- B. With respect to real property taxes, the section shall state the current tax rate or provide information for obtaining the current tax rate. The section shall also state a procedure or formula by means of which the taxes may be estimated.

- C. With respect to other taxes, the section shall describe each tax in sufficient detail as to indicate the time at which the tax will be levied and the actual or estimated amount to be levied, or a procedure or formula by means of which the taxes may be estimated.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015.*

**18VAC48-30-350. Narrative sections; governmental reviews.**

The public offering statement shall contain a section captioned "Governmental Reviews." The section shall discuss governmental reviews applicable to the condominium property and the status of any governmental approvals required for the development of the condominium. In addition, the section shall discuss approval of the zoning application and site plan and issuance of building permits by appropriate governmental authorities. The section shall state the current zoning classification for the condominium property. The section shall also include a statement regarding any zoning, subdivision, or land use obligations or proffers that would be imposed on the unit owner or the association, but need not disclose any zoning, subdivision, or land use obligations or proffers that do not impose any obligation on the association.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015.*

**18VAC48-30-360. Narrative sections; warranties.**

The public offering statement shall contain a section captioned "Warranties." The section shall describe any warranties provided by or through the declarant on the units or the common elements and a summary of the process for commencement of an action for breach of warranty in accordance with subsection C of [§ 55.1-1955](#) of the Code of Virginia. The section shall describe the structural defect warranty required by and described in subsection B of [§ 55.1-1955](#) of the Code of Virginia. The section shall also include the substance of the following statement:

"Nothing contained in the warranty provided by the declarant shall limit the protection afforded by the statutory warranty."

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015; amended Virginia Register Volume 36, Issue 6, eff. December 31, 2019.*

**18VAC48-30-370. Documents from other jurisdictions.**

- A. A substituted public offering statement shall only be permitted for a condominium located outside of Virginia.

- B. The substituted public offering statement shall be prepared by deleting from the original disclosure document (i) references to any governmental agency of another jurisdiction to which application has been made or will be made for registration or related action; (ii) references to the action of such governmental agency relative to the condominium; (iii) statements of the legal effect in another jurisdiction of delivery, failure to deliver, acknowledgment of receipt, or related events involving the disclosure document; (iv) the effective dates in another jurisdiction of the disclosure document; and (v) all other information that is untrue, inaccurate, or misleading with respect to marketing, offers, or disposition of condominium units in Virginia.
- C. The substituted public offering statement shall incorporate all information not otherwise included that is necessary to effect fully and accurately the disclosures required by subsection A of [§ 55.1-1976](#) of the Code of Virginia and, if applicable, subsection B of [§ 55.1-1982](#) of the Code of Virginia. The substituted disclosure document shall clearly explain any nomenclature that is different from the definitions provided in [§ 55.1-1900](#) of the Code of Virginia.
- D. The substituted public offering statement shall include as the first item of the summary of important considerations a statement that includes the following information: (i) the designation by which the original disclosure document is identified in the original jurisdiction, (ii) the governmental agency of such other jurisdiction where the original disclosure document is or will be filed, and (iii) the jurisdiction of such filing.
- E. The provisions of subdivision 2 of [§ 55.1-1974](#), [§ 55.1-1976](#), and subsection B of [§ 55.1-1982](#) of the Code of Virginia and 18VAC48-30-160, 18VAC48-30-170, and 18VAC48-30-180 shall apply to substituted public offering statements in the same manner and to the same extent that they apply to public offering statements.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015; amended Virginia Register Volume 36, Issue 6, eff. December 31, 2019.*

**18VAC48-30-380. Condominium securities.**

A prospectus filed in compliance with the securities laws of a state or federal agency used in lieu of a public offering statement shall contain or have attached thereto copies of documents, other than the projected budget required to be attached to a public offering statement by subsection E of 18VAC48-30-180. Such prospectus shall be deemed to satisfy all of the disclosure requirements of subsections C and D of 18VAC48-30-180 and 18VAC48-30-190 through 18VAC48-30-360. In the case of a conversion condominium, the prospectus shall have attached thereto, in suitable form, the information required by 18VAC48-30-420, subsections C and D of 18VAC48-30-430, and 18VAC48-30-440 to be disclosed in public offering statements for conversion condominiums. The provisions of subdivision 2 of [§ 55.1-1974](#) of the Code of Virginia shall apply to the delivery of the prospectus in the same manner and to the same extent that they apply to the delivery of a public offering statement.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015; amended Virginia Register Volume 36, Issue 6, eff. December 31, 2019.*

**18VAC48-30-390. Board oversight of public offering statement.**

The board at any time may require a declarant to alter or amend the public offering statement to assure full and fair disclosure to prospective purchasers and to ensure compliance with the Virginia Condominium Act and this chapter.

In accordance with subsection B of [§ 55.1-1976](#) of the Code of Virginia, the board does not approve or recommend the condominium or disposition thereof. The board's issuance of an effective date for a public offering statement shall not be construed to (i) constitute approval of the condominium, (ii) represent that the board asserts that either all facts or material changes or both concerning the condominium have been fully or adequately disclosed, or (iii) indicate that the board has made judgment on the value or merits of the condominium.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015; amended Virginia Register Volume 36, Issue 6, eff. December 31, 2019.*

## Part V

### Conversion Condominiums

#### **18VAC48-30-400. Public offering statement for conversion condominium; general instructions.**

The public offering statement for a conversion condominium shall conform in all respects to the requirements of 18VAC48-30-160 through 18VAC48-30-380. In addition, the public offering statement for a conversion condominium shall (i) contain special disclosures in the narrative sections captioned "Description of the Condominium," "Terms of the Offering," and "Financial Matters"; and (ii) incorporate narrative sections captioned "Present Condition of the Condominium" and "Replacement Requirements." Provisions for such additional disclosure are set forth in 18VAC48-30-410 through 18VAC48-30-440.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015.*

#### **18VAC48-30-410. Description of conversion condominium.**

In addition to the information required by 18VAC48-30-210, the section captioned "Description of the Condominium" shall indicate that the condominium is a conversion condominium. The term conversion condominium shall be defined and the particular circumstances that bring the condominium within the definition shall be stated. The nature and inception date of prior occupancy of the property being converted shall be stated.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015.*

#### **18VAC48-30-420. Financial matters, conversion condominium.**

- A. The provisions for capital reserves described in the section captioned "Financial Matters" shall conform with 18VAC48-30-320 and shall be supplemented by the information set forth in subsections B and C of this section.
- B. The section shall state the aggregate replacement cost of all physical assets whose replacement costs will constitute regular common expenses and whose expected useful lives are 10 years or less. For the purposes of this subsection, an expected useful life that is stated as being within a range of years pursuant to subsection E of 18VAC48-30-440 shall be deemed to be 10 years or less, if the lower limit of such range is 10 years or less. The total common expense assessments per unit that would be necessary in order to accumulate an amount of capital reserves equal to such aggregate replacement cost shall be stated.

- C. The section shall state the amount of capital reserves that will be accumulated by the unit owners' association during the period of declarant control together with any provisions of the condominium instruments specifying the rate at which reserves are to be accumulated thereafter. If any part of the capital reserves will or may be obtained other than through regular common expense and limited common expense assessments, such fact shall be stated.
- D. The actual expenditures made over a three-year period on operation, maintenance, repair, or other upkeep of the property prior to its conversion to condominium shall be set forth in tabular form as an exhibit immediately preceding or following the budget attached to the public offering statement pursuant to subsection C of 18VAC48-30-320, and shall be presented in a manner that is not misleading. Distinction shall be made between expenditures that would have constituted regular common expenses and limited common expenses, and expenditures that would have been borne by unit owners individually if the property had been converted to a condominium prior to the commencement of the three-year period. To the extent that it is impossible or impracticable to so distinguish the expenditures it shall be assumed that they would have constituted regular common expenses or limited common expenses.

Both types of expenditures shall be cumulatively broken down on a per unit basis in the same proportion that common expenses are or will actually be assessed against the condominium units. The three-year period to which this subsection refers shall be the most recent three-year period prior to application for registration during which the property was occupied and for which expenditure information is available. The expenditure information shall indicate the years for which expenditures are stated. If any portion of the property being converted to condominium was not occupied for the full three-year period, expenditure information shall be set forth only for the entire time period that portion of the property was occupied. The "Financial Matters" section shall direct the purchaser's attention to the expenditure information.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015.*

**18VAC48-30-430. Present condition of conversion condominium.**

- A. The section captioned "Present Condition of the Condominium" shall contain a statement of the approximate dates of original construction or installation of all physical assets in the condominium. A single construction or installation date may be stated for all of the physical assets (i) in the condominium, (ii) within a distinctly identifiable portion of the condominium, or (iii) within a distinctly identifiable category of physical assets. A statement made pursuant to the preceding sentence shall include a separate reference to the construction or installation date of any physical asset within a stated group of physical assets that was constructed or installed significantly earlier than the construction or installation date indicated for the group generally. No statement shall be made that a

physical asset or portion thereof has been repaired, altered, improved, or replaced subsequent to its construction or installation unless the approximate date, nature, and extent of such repair, alteration, improvement, or replacement is also stated.

- B. Subject to the exceptions provided in subsections D, E, and F of this section, the section captioned "Present Condition of the Condominium" shall contain a description of the present condition of all physical assets within the condominium. The description of present condition shall disclose all structural defects and incapacities of major utility installations to perform their intended functions as would be observable, detectable, or deducible by means of standard inspection and investigative techniques employed by architects or professional engineers, as the case may be.
- C. The section shall indicate the dates of inspection by means of which the described present condition was determined; provided, however, that such inspections shall have been conducted not more than one year prior to the date of filing the application for registration. The section shall identify the party by whom present condition was ascertained and shall indicate the relationship of such party to the declarant.
- D. A single statement of the present condition of a class of physical assets shall suffice to disclose the present condition of each physical asset within the class; provided, however, that, unless subsection F of this section applies, such statement shall include a separate reference to the present condition of any physical asset within the class that is significantly different from the present condition indicated for the class generally.
- E. The description of present condition may include a statement that all structural components in the condominium or in a distinctly identifiable portion thereof are in sound condition except those for which structural defects are noted.
- F. In a case in which there are numerous physical assets within a class of physical assets and inspection of each such physical asset is impracticable, the description of present condition of all the physical assets within the class may be based upon an inspection of a number of them selected at random, provided that the number selected is large enough to yield a reasonably reliable sample and that the total number of physical assets within the class and the number selected are disclosed.
- G. The section shall include statements disclosing any environmental issues pertaining to the building and the surrounding area, to include:
  - 1. The presence of any asbestos-containing material following an inspection of each building completed prior to July 1, 1978, as well as whether any response actions have been or will need to be taken as required by [§ 55.1-1982 B 5](#) of the Code of Virginia;

2. Any known information on lead-based paint and lead-based paint hazards in each building constructed prior to 1978 pursuant to the Residential Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Act of 1992 - Title X (42 USC § 4851 et seq.); and
3. Any obligations related to the declarant's participation in voluntary or nonvoluntary remediation activities.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015; amended Virginia Register Volume 36, Issue 6, eff. December 31, 2019.*

**18VAC48-30-440. Replacement requirements in conversion condominium.**

- A. Subject to the exceptions provided in subsections B and H of this section, the section captioned "Replacement Requirements" shall state the expected useful lives of all physical assets in the condominium. The section shall state that expected useful lives run from the date of the inspection by means of which the expected useful lives were determined. Such inspection date shall be stated.
- B. A single statement of the expected useful life of a class of physical assets shall suffice to disclose the expected useful life of each physical asset within the class; provided, however, that such statement shall include a separate reference to the expected useful life of any physical asset within such class that is significantly shorter than the expected useful life indicated for the class generally.
- C. An expected useful life may be qualified. A qualified expected useful life is an expected useful life expressly conditioned upon a given use or level of maintenance or other factor affecting longevity. No use, level of maintenance, or other factor affecting longevity shall be stated as a qualification unless such use, level of maintenance, or factor affecting longevity is normal or reasonably anticipated for the physical asset involved. If appropriate, an expected useful life may be stated as being indefinite, subject to the stated qualification that the physical asset involved must be properly used and maintained. An expected useful life may be stated as being within a range of years, provided that the range is not so broad as to render the statement meaningless. In no event shall the number of years constituting the lower limit of such range be less than two-thirds of the number of years constituting the upper limit.
- D. Subject to the exceptions provided in subsections E and H of this section, the section captioned "Replacement Requirements" shall state the replacement costs of all physical assets in the condominium including those whose expected useful lives are stated as being indefinite.
- E. A statement of the replacement cost of a representative member of a class of physical assets shall suffice to disclose the replacement cost of each physical asset within the class; provided, however, that such statement shall include a separate reference to the

replacement cost of any physical asset within the class that is significantly greater than the replacement cost indicated for the representative member of the class.

- F. Distinction shall be made between replacement costs that will be common expenses and replacement costs that will be borne by unit owners individually. The latter type of replacement costs shall be broken down on a per unit basis. The purchaser's attention shall be directed to the "Financial Matters" section for an indication of the amount of the former type of replacement costs.
- G. In any case in which the replacement cost of a physical asset may vary depending upon the circumstances surrounding its replacement, the stated replacement cost shall reflect the circumstances under which replacement will most probably be undertaken.
- H. A single expected useful life and an aggregate replacement cost may be stated for all of the structural components of a building or structure that have both (i) the same expected useful lives and (ii) replacement costs that will constitute regular common expenses. A statement made pursuant to the preceding sentence shall be accompanied by statements of the expected useful lives and replacement costs, stated on a per unit basis, of all of the structural components of the building or structure whose expected useful lives differ from the general expected useful life or whose replacement costs will be borne by unit owners individually.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015.*

**18VAC48-30-450. Notice to tenants.**

No notice to terminate tenancy of a unit provided for by subsection C of [§ 55.1-1982](#) of the Code of Virginia shall be given prior to the registration of the condominium including such unit as to which the tenancy is to be terminated.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015; amended Virginia Register Volume 36, Issue 6, eff. December 31, 2019.*

## Part VI

### Post-Registration Provisions

#### **18VAC48-30-460. Minimum post-registration reporting requirements.**

- A. Subsequent to the issuance of a registration for a condominium by the board, the declarant of a condominium shall:
1. File an annual report in accordance with [§ 55.1-1979](#) of the Code of Virginia and this chapter.
  2. File a copy of the formal notice to the tenants of a conversion condominium upon delivery or no later than 15 days after delivery to such tenants in accordance with subsection C of [§ 55.1-1982](#).
  3. Upon the occurrence of a material or nonmaterial change, file an amended public offering statement or substituted public offering statement in accordance with the provisions of 18VAC48-30-480 or 18VAC48-30-490, as applicable.
  4. Notify the board of a change in the bond or letter of credit, as applicable, required by [§§ 55.1-1921](#), [55.1-1968](#), and [55.1-1983](#) of the Code of Virginia.
  5. File a complete application for registration of unregistered additional units upon the expansion of the condominium or the formation of units out of additional land. Notwithstanding the preceding, nonresidential units created out of convertible space need not be registered. Documents on file with the board and not changed with the creation of additional units need not be refiled provided that the application indicates that such documents are unchanged.
  6. Notify the board of transition of control of the unit owners' association.
  7. Notify the board upon the transfer of special declarant rights to a successor declarant.
  8. Submit appropriate documentation to the board once the registration is eligible for termination.
  9. Submit to the board any other document or information that may include information or documents that have been amended or may not have existed previously that affects the accuracy, completeness, or representation of any information or document filed with the application for registration.

10. Submit to the board any document or information to make the registration file accurate and complete.
- B. Notwithstanding the requirements of subsection A of this section, the board at any time may require a declarant to provide information or documents, or amendments thereof, to assure full and fair disclosure to prospective purchasers and to ensure compliance with the Virginia Condominium Act and this chapter.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015; amended Virginia Register Volume 36, Issue 6, eff. December 31, 2019.*

**18VAC48-30-470. Amendment of public offering statement.**

Any amendment of the public offering statement or substituted public offering statement shall comply with this chapter.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015.*

**18VAC48-30-480. Nonmaterial changes to the public offering statement.**

- A. Changes to the public offering statement that are not material shall be filed with the board but shall not be deemed an amendment of the public offering statement for the purposes of this chapter and shall not give rise to a renewed right of rescission in any purchase. Nonmaterial changes to the public offering statement include the following:
1. Correction of spelling, grammar, omission, or other similar errors not affecting the substance of the public offering statement;
  2. Changes in presentation or format;
  3. Substitution of an executed, filed, or recorded copy of a document for the otherwise substantially identical unexecuted, unfiled, or unrecorded copy of the document that was previously submitted;
  4. Inclusion of updated information such as identification or description of the current officers and directors of the declarant;
  5. Disclosure of completion of improvements for improvements that were previously proposed or not complete;
  6. Changes in real estate tax assessment or rate or modifications related to those changes;

7. Changes in utility charges or rates or modifications related to those changes;
  8. Adoption of a new budget that does not result in a significant change in the common expense assessment or significantly impact the rights or obligations of the prospective purchasers;
  9. Modifications related to changes in insurance company or financial institution, policy, or amount for bonds or letters of credit required pursuant to [§§ 55.1-1921, 55.1-1968, and 55.1-1983](#) of the Code of Virginia;
  10. Changes in management agent or common interest community manager; and
  11. Any change that is the result of orderly development of the condominium in accordance with the condominium instruments as described in the public offering statement.
- B. Nonmaterial changes to the public offering statement shall be submitted with the effective date of the changes detailed. All changes shall be clearly represented in the documentation presented. The additions and deletions of text in the public offering statement and exhibits shall be identified by underlining and striking through text to be added and deleted, and any documents being added to or deleted from the contents of the public offering statement shall be clearly and accurately reflected in the table of contents utilizing underlines and strike-throughs for additions and deletions. In addition to the copies showing edits to the text, a clean copy of all new and amended documents shall be provided. In addition, the declarant shall include a statement with the submission of the declarant's plans, if any, to deliver the public offering statement to purchasers pursuant to subdivision 2 of [§ 55.1-1974](#) of the Code of Virginia.
- C. The board has the sole discretion for determining whether a change is nonmaterial. The declarant will be notified in writing within 15 days of receipt by the board if the submitted changes are determined to be material. Should a change be submitted as nonmaterial but determined to be a material change during review, the requirements contained in 18VAC48-30-470 and 18VAC48-30-490 shall be applicable.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015; amended Virginia Register Volume 36, Issue 6, eff. December 31, 2019.*

**18VAC48-30-490. Filing of amended public offering statement.**

- A. The declarant shall promptly file with the board for review a copy of the amended public offering statement or substituted public offering statement together with a copy of a summary of proposed amendments that shall be distributed to purchasers during the board review period. The summary of proposed amendments shall enumerate the amendments to the public offering statement submitted for board review and include a

statement that the amendments to the public offering statement have been filed with the board but have not yet been accepted. The form of the submission is at the discretion of the declarant provided, however, that (i) all amendments are clearly represented in the documentation presented, (ii) the additions and deletions of text in the public offering statement and exhibits shall be identified by underlining and striking through text to be added and deleted, and (iii) any documents being added to or deleted from the contents of the public offering statement shall be clearly and accurately reflected in the table of contents utilizing underlines and strike-throughs for additions and deletions. In addition to the copies showing edits to the text, a clean copy of all new and amended documents shall be provided.

- B. The amended public offering statement submitted to the board for review shall include the effective date of the amendments.
- C. The board shall issue a notice of filing within five business days following receipt of the amended public offering statement.
- D. Within 30 days of the issuance of the notice of filing required by subsection C of this section, the board shall review the amended public offering statement and supporting materials to determine whether the amendment complies with this chapter. If the board's review determines that the amended public offering statement complies with this chapter, it shall notify the declarant in writing and confirm the new effective date of the public offering statement.
- E. If the board's review determines that the amended public offering statement does not comply with this chapter, it shall immediately notify the declarant in writing that the review has determined the amended public offering statement is not in compliance and shall specify the particulars of such noncompliance. The declarant shall then have 20 days in which to correct the particulars of noncompliance identified by the board. The declarant may, prior to the completion of the 20-day correction period, request an extension in writing of the 20-day correction period. Upon expiration of the 20-day correction period, if requested corrections have not been made or a request for extension properly received, the board may issue a temporary cease and desist order in accordance with [§ 55.1-1986 B](#) of the Code of Virginia to require the cessation of sales until such time as affirmative action as directed by the board is taken. Use of the noncompliant public offering statement may result in further action by the board pursuant to [§§ 55.1-1986](#), [55.1-1987](#), and [55.1-1989](#) of the Code of Virginia.
- F. Notwithstanding an extension of the 30-day period for review agreed to in writing by the board and declarant, if the board does not perform the required review of the public offering statement in accordance with subsection D of this section, the amendment shall be deemed to comply with 18VAC48-30-160 through 18VAC48-30-380, and the new effective date shall be the effective date of the amendment provided pursuant to subsection B of this section.

- G. In each case in which an amended document is filed pursuant to this section and the manner of its amendment is not apparent on the face of the document, the declarant shall provide an indication of the manner and extent of amendment.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015; amended Virginia Register Volume 36, Issue 6, eff. December 31, 2019.*

**18VAC48-30-500. Current public offering statement.**

- A. Upon issuance of an effective date by the board, any purchasers who received a public offering statement and summary of proposed amendments during the board review period pursuant to subsection A of 18VAC48-30-490 shall be provided with the public offering statement as accepted by the board. A public offering statement remains current until such time as the occurrence of a material change requires amendment of the public offering statement pursuant to this chapter and a new effective date is issued by the board.
- B. Upon issuance of an effective date by the board, a public offering statement remains current until such time as a new effective date is established pursuant to this chapter.
- C. Notwithstanding the board's authority to issue a cease and desist order pursuant to [§ 55.1-1986](#) of the Code of Virginia, the filing of an amended public offering statement shall not require the declarant to cease sales provided that the declarant provides to purchasers the summary of proposed amendments pursuant to subsection A of 18VAC48-30-490 pending the issuance of a new effective date by the board.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015; amended Virginia Register Volume 36, Issue 6, eff. December 31, 2019.*

**18VAC48-30-510. Public offering statement not current; notification of purchasers.**

- A. A purchaser who has been delivered a public offering statement that is not current due to a material change and was not provided with the summary of proposed amendments containing the proposed changes to the amended public offering statement pursuant to subsection A of 18VAC48-30-490 pending the issuance of a new effective date by the board shall be notified of such fact by the declarant.
- B. A purchaser who has been delivered a public offering statement and summary of proposed amendments pursuant to subsection A of 18VAC48-30-490, but the amended public offering statement is determined to be noncompliant in accordance with subsection E of 18VAC48-30-490 shall be notified of such fact by the declarant.

1. The notification shall indicate that any contract for disposition of a condominium unit may be canceled by the purchaser pursuant to subdivision 2 of [§ 55.1-1974](#) of the Code of Virginia.
2. The declarant shall file a copy of the notification with the board and provide proof that such notification has been delivered to all purchasers under contract.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015; amended Virginia Register Volume 36, Issue 6, eff. December 31, 2019.*

**18VAC48-30-520. Provisions applicable to substituted public offering statement and prospectus.**

- A. The provisions of 18VAC48-30-470 through 18VAC48-30-510 shall apply to a substituted public offering statement in the same manner and to the same extent that they apply to public offering statements.
- B. The provisions of 18VAC48-30-470 through 18VAC48-30-510 shall apply to a prospectus only to the extent that amendment of the information or documents attached to the prospectus pursuant to 18VAC48-30-380 is required or permitted. The body of the prospectus shall be amended only as provided in applicable securities law. The declarant shall immediately file with the board any amendments to the body of the prospectus and, upon receipt thereof, the board shall notify the declarant in writing and confirm the new effective date for use of the prospectus. A prospectus is current so long as it is effective under applicable securities law and the information and attached documents are current under the provisions of 18VAC48-30-490. The declarant shall immediately notify the board if the prospectus ceases being effective. If no prospectus is effective and the declarant proposes to continue offering condominium units, the declarant shall file a public offering statement with the board pursuant to 18VAC48-30-490.
- C. The provisions of 18VAC48-30-510 shall apply to a prospectus in the same manner and to the same extent that they apply to a public offering statement.
- D. In an annual report involving a prospectus, the declarant shall comply with all of the provisions of 18VAC48-30-540 applicable to public offering statements and, in addition, shall certify that an effective prospectus is available for delivery to purchasers and shall indicate the declarant's plans or expectations regarding the continuing effectiveness of the prospectus.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015.*

**18VAC48-30-530. Filing of phase amendment application.**

- A. A phase amendment application shall be filed when adding land to or converting land in the condominium, provided that no such application need be filed for units previously registered. Such phase amendment application shall be accompanied by the fee provided for in 18VAC48-30-100 and shall be subject to all of the provisions of 18VAC48-30-90 through 18VAC48-30-150. Documents on file with the board that have not changed in connection with the additional units need not be refiled, provided that the phase amendment application indicates that such documents are unchanged.
- B. The application shall include a new or amended bond or letter of credit required pursuant to [§ 55.1-1968](#) of the Code of Virginia for the additional units.
- C. The board shall review the phase amendment application and supporting materials to determine whether the amendment complies with this chapter. If the board's review determines the phase amendment application complies with this chapter, it shall issue an amended order of registration for the condominium and shall provide that any previous orders and designations of the form, content, and effective date of the public offering statement, substituted public offering statement, or prospectus to be used are superseded. If the board's review determines that the phase amendment application is not complete, the board shall correspond with the declarant to specify the particulars that must be completed to obtain compliance with this chapter.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015; amended Virginia Register Volume 36, Issue 6, eff. December 31, 2019.*

**18VAC48-30-540. Annual report by declarant.**

- A. A declarant shall file an annual report on a form provided by the board to update the material contained in the registration file at least 30 days prior to the anniversary date of the order registering the condominium. Prior to filing the annual report required by [§ 55.1-1979](#) of the Code of Virginia, the declarant shall review the public offering statement then being delivered to purchasers. If such public offering statement is current, the declarant shall so certify in the annual report. If such public offering statement is not current, the declarant shall amend the public offering statement, and the annual report shall, in that event, include a filing in accordance with 18VAC48-30-490.
- B. The annual report shall contain, but may not be limited to, the following:
  - 1. Current contact information for the declarant;
  - 2. Current contact information for the declarant's attorney, if applicable;
  - 3. Date of the public offering statement currently being delivered to purchasers;

4. Date the condominium instruments were recorded and locality wherein recorded;
5. Number of phases registered with the board, if applicable;
6. Number of phases recorded, if applicable;
7. Number of units recorded;
8. Number of units conveyed;
9. Status of completion of all common elements within the condominium;
10. Status of declarant control;
11. Whether the declarant is current in the payment of assessments; and
12. Current evidence from the surety or financial institution of any bond or letters of credit, or submittal of replacement bonds or letters of credit, required pursuant to [§§ 55.1-1921](#), [55.1-1968](#), and [55.1-1983](#) of the Code of Virginia. Such verification shall provide the following:
  - a. Principal of bond or letter of credit;
  - b. Beneficiary of bond or letter of credit;
  - c. Name of the surety or financial institution that issued the bond or letter of credit;
  - d. Bond or letter of credit number as assigned by the issuer;
  - e. The dollar amount; and
  - f. The expiration date or, if self-renewing, the date by which the bond or letter of credit shall be renewed.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015; amended Virginia Register Volume 36, Issue 6, eff. December 31, 2019.*

**18VAC48-30-550. Board review of annual report.**

- A. During review of the annual report, the board may make inquiries or request additional documentation to amplify or clarify the information provided.

- B. If the board does not accept the annual report and the annual report filing is not completed within 60 days of a request by the board for additional information, the board may take further action pursuant to [§ 55.1-1986](#), [55.1-1987](#), or [55.1-1989](#) of the Code of Virginia for failing to file an annual report as required by [§ 55.1-1979](#) of the Code of Virginia.
- C. If the board does not perform the required review of the annual report within 30 days of receipt by the board, the annual report shall be deemed to comply with [§ 55.1-1979](#) of the Code of Virginia.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015; amended Virginia Register Volume 36, Issue 6, eff. December 31, 2019.*

**18VAC48-30-560. Transition of control of unit owners' association.**

Upon transition of control of the association to the unit owners following the period of declarant control, the declarant shall, in addition to the requirements contained in subsection H of [§ 55.1-1943](#) of the Code of Virginia, notify the board in writing of the date of such transition and provide the name and contact information for members of the board of directors of the unit owners' association or the association's common interest community manager.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015; amended Virginia Register Volume 35, Issue 17, eff. May 15, 2019; Volume 36, Issue 6, eff. December 31, 2019.*

**18VAC48-30-570. Return of assessment bond or letter of credit to declarant.**

- A. The declarant of a condominium required to post a bond or letter of credit pursuant to [§ 55.1-1968](#) of the Code of Virginia shall maintain such bond or letter of credit for all units registered with the board until the declarant owns less than 10% of the units in the condominium and is current in the payment of assessments. For condominiums containing less than 10 units, the bond or letter of credit shall be maintained until the declarant owns only one unit.
- B. The declarant shall submit a written request to the board for the return of the bond or letter of credit. The written request shall attest that the declarant (i) owns less than 10% of the units or for condominiums containing less than 10 units, that the declarant owns only one unit and (ii) is current in the payment of assessments. The written request shall provide contact information for the unit owners' association.
- C. Upon receipt of the written request from the declarant, the board shall send a request to the unit owners' association to confirm the information supplied by the declarant. The person certifying the information on behalf of the unit owners' association must not be

affiliated with the declarant. The managing agent may confirm the information supplied by the declarant.

- D. The board shall return the bond or letter of credit to the declarant if (i) the unit owners' association confirms that the declarant is current in the payment of assessments and owns less than 10% of the units in the condominium or (ii) no response is received from the unit owners' association within 90 days. The 90-day time frame in clause (ii) of this subsection may be extended at the discretion of the board.
- E. If the unit owners' association attests the declarant is not current in the payment of assessments, the board shall retain the bond or letter of credit until evidence is received satisfactory to the board that the declarant is current in the payment of assessments.
- F. The board may ask for additional information from the unit owners' association or the declarant as needed to confirm compliance with [§ 55.1-1968](#) of the Code of Virginia.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015; amended Virginia Register Volume 36, Issue 6, eff. December 31, 2019.*

**18VAC48-30-580. Return of completion bond or letter of credit to declarant.**

A bond on file with the board pursuant to [§ 55.1-1921](#) of the Code of Virginia may be returned to the declarant upon written request. Such request shall include a copy of the recorded plat or plan showing completion or documentation acceptable to the board that the improvements to the common elements for which the bond was submitted is completed to the extent of the declarant's obligation.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015; amended Virginia Register Volume 36, Issue 6, eff. December 31, 2019.*

**18VAC48-30-590. Return of bond or letter of credit upon termination of registration.**

Upon issuance of an order of termination of the condominium registration pursuant to 18VAC48-30-610 and if the bond or letter of credit on file with the board has not been returned to the declarant or the declarant's agent previously, it will be considered for return in accordance with 18VAC48-30-570 or 18VAC48-30-580.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015.*

**18VAC48-30-600. Maintenance of bond or letter of credit.**

- A. The declarant shall report the extension, cancellation, amendment, expiration, termination, or any other change of any bond or letter of credit submitted in accordance with [§§ 55.1-1921](#), [55.1-1968](#), and [55.1-1983](#) of the Code of Virginia within five days of the change.
- B. The board at any time may request verification from the declarant of the status of a bond or letter of credit on file with the board. Such verification shall comply with the provisions of subdivision B 12 of 18VAC48-30-540.
- C. Failure to report a change in the bond or letter of credit in accordance with this section shall result in further action by the board pursuant to Chapter 19 ([§ 55.1-1900](#) et seq.) of Title 55.1 of the Code of Virginia.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015; amended Virginia Register Volume 36, Issue 6, eff. December 31, 2019.*

**18VAC48-30-610. Termination of condominium registration.**

- A. The condominium registration shall be terminated upon receipt of documentation of one of the following:
  - 1. In accordance with [§ 55.1-1979](#) of the Code of Virginia, an annual report filed pursuant to 18VAC48-30-540 indicates that all units in the condominium have been disposed of and all periods for conversion or expansion have expired.
  - 2. Written notification is received from the declarant attesting that all units have been disposed of and that all periods for conversion or expansion have expired and all common elements have been completed.
  - 3. Written notification is received from the declarant requesting termination pursuant to [§ 55.1-1937](#) of the Code of Virginia. Should the declarant later choose to offer condominium units in a condominium for which the registration has been terminated in accordance with this subsection, prior to offering a condominium unit, the declarant must submit a new application for registration of the condominium, meet all requirements in effect at the time of application, and be issued an order of registration for the condominium by the board.
- B. Upon receipt and review of documentation pursuant to subsection A of this section, the board shall issue an order of termination for the condominium registration. The board may request additional information as necessary during the review of the submitted documentation to ensure that the condominium registration is eligible for termination.

- C. The board shall send a copy of the order of termination for the condominium registration to the association.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015; amended Virginia Register Volume 36, Issue 6, eff. December 31, 2019.*

#### **18VAC48-30-620. Administrative termination of condominium registration.**

In accordance with subsection B of [§ 55.1-1981](#) of the Code of Virginia, the board may administratively terminate the registration of a condominium. Prior to the administrative termination of the registration, the board shall send written notice of its intent to terminate the registration to all known parties associated with the condominium, including the registered agent, officer of the unit owners' association, declarant's and association's attorneys, and principal of the declarant. Such written notice shall be given to the parties by mail or otherwise if acknowledged by them in writing.

The board shall issue an order of termination for the condominium registration if (i) a response is not received within 30 days after sending the written notice or (ii) the response received does not indicate termination of the registration is inappropriate in accordance with Chapter 19 ([§ 55.1-1900](#) et seq.) of Title 55.1 of the Code of Virginia and this chapter.

Nothing contained in this section shall prevent the board from taking further action as allowed by law including issuance of a temporary cease and desist order, issuance of a cease and desist order, revocation of registration, and bringing action in the appropriate circuit court to enjoin the acts or practices and to enforce compliance.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015; amended Virginia Register Volume 36, Issue 6, eff. December 31, 2019.*

#### **18VAC48-30-630. Notification of successor declarant and transfer of special declarant rights.**

- A. In the event the special declarant rights of a condominium are transferred to a successor in accordance with [§ 55.1-1947](#) of the Code of Virginia, the successor declarant shall notify the board within 30 days. Before units may be offered for sale, the successor declarant shall submit the following to the board:

1. Completed application for the successor declarant;
2. Copy of the recorded document evidencing the transfer;
3. Copies of all condominium instruments that were amended to reflect the successor or transfer of special declarant rights;

4. A public offering statement amended in accordance with this chapter;
  5. All bonds or letters of credit required pursuant to [§§ 55.1-1921](#), [55.1-1968](#), and [55.1-1983](#) of the Code of Virginia; and
  6. Other documents that may be required to ensure compliance with Chapter 19 ([§ 55.1-1900](#) et seq.) of Title 55.1 of the Code of Virginia and this chapter.
- B. Documents on file with the board that have not changed in connection with the transfer need not be refiled, provided that the application for successor declarant indicates that such documents are unchanged.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015; amended Virginia Register Volume 36, Issue 6, eff. December 31, 2019.*

**18VAC48-30-640. Reporting of other changes to the condominium project.**

Any other change made or known by the declarant that may affect the accuracy or completeness of the condominium registration file shall be promptly reported to the board. Such change may include the name of the declarant, name of the condominium project, or any other changes in information submitted in accordance with [§ 55.1-1975](#) of the Code of Virginia. The board may request additional information as necessary to ensure compliance with Chapter 19 ([§ 55.1-1900](#) et seq.) of Title 55.1 of the Code of Virginia and this chapter.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015; amended Virginia Register Volume 36, Issue 6, eff. December 31, 2019.*

## Part VII

### Board Authority and Standards of Conduct

#### **18VAC48-30-650. Grounds for disciplinary action.**

The board may revoke a registration upon a finding that the registration is not in compliance with, or the declarant has violated, any provision of the regulations of the board or Chapter 19 ([§ 55.1-1900](#) et seq.) of Title 55.1 of the Code of Virginia. Additional action may include issuance of a temporary cease and desist order, issuance of a cease and desist order, revocation of registration, and bringing action in the appropriate circuit court to enjoin the acts or practices and to enforce compliance.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015; amended Virginia Register Volume 36, Issue 6, eff. December 31, 2019.*

#### **18VAC48-30-660. Registration of condominium required.**

No declarant or individual or entity acting on behalf of the declarant shall offer a condominium unit prior to the registration of the condominium including such unit.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015.*

#### **18VAC48-30-670. Condominium advertising standards.**

- A. No promise, assertion, representation, or statement of fact or opinion in connection with a condominium marketing activity shall be made that is false, inaccurate, or misleading by reason of inclusion of an untrue statement of a material fact or omission of a statement of a material fact relative to the actual or intended characteristics, circumstances, or features of the condominium or a condominium unit.
- B. No promise, assertion, representation, or statement of fact or opinion made in connection with a condominium marketing activity shall indicate that an improvement will be built or placed on the condominium unless the improvement is a proposed improvement within the meaning of subdivision 3 of 18VAC48-30-120.
- C. No promise, assertion, representation, or statement of fact or opinion made in connection with a condominium marketing activity and relating to a condominium unit not registered shall, by its express terms, induce, solicit, or encourage a prospective purchaser to leave Virginia for the purpose of executing a contract for sale or lease of the condominium unit or performing some other act that would create or purport to create a legal or equitable

interest in the condominium unit other than a security interest in or a nonbinding reservation of the condominium unit.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015; amended Virginia Register Volume 36, Issue 17, eff. June 1, 2020.*

**18VAC48-30-680. Response to inquiry and provision of records.**

- A. The declarant must respond within 15 days to a request by the board or any of its agents regarding any complaint filed with the department. The board may extend such time frame upon a showing of extenuating circumstances prohibiting delivery within such 15-day period.
- B. Unless otherwise specified by the board, the declarant shall produce to the board or any of its agents within 15 days of the request any document, book, or record concerning any transaction in which the declarant was involved, or for which the declarant is required to maintain records for inspection and copying by the board or its agents. The board may extend such time frame upon a showing of extenuating circumstances prohibiting delivery within such 15-day period.
- C. A declarant shall not provide a false, misleading, or incomplete response to the board or any of its agents seeking information in the investigation of a complaint filed with the board.
- D. With the exception of the requirements of subsections A and B of this section, a declarant must respond to an inquiry by the board or its agent within 21 days.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015.*

**18VAC48-30-690. Prohibited acts.**

The following acts are prohibited and any violation may result in action by the board, including issuance of a temporary cease and desist order in accordance with [§ 55.1-1986 B](#) of the Code of Virginia:

- 1. Violating, inducing another to violate, or cooperating with others in violating any of the provisions of any of the regulations of the board, Chapter 23.3 ([§ 54.1-2345](#) et seq.) of Title 54.1 of the Code of Virginia, or Chapter 19 ([§ 55.1-1900](#) et seq.) or Chapter 20 ([§ 55.1-2000](#) et seq.) of Title 55.1 of the Code of Virginia.
- 2. Obtaining or attempting to obtain a registration by false or fraudulent representation, or maintaining a registration by false or fraudulent representation.

3. Failing to comply with 18VAC48-30-80 in offering literature.
4. Failing to alter or amend the public offering statement as directed in accordance with 18VAC48-30-390 or 18VAC48-30-490.
5. Providing information to purchasers in a manner that willfully and intentionally fails to promote full and fair disclosure.
6. Failing to provide information or documents, or amendments thereof, in accordance with subsection B of 18VAC48-30-460.
7. Failing to comply with the post-registration requirements of 18VAC48-30-460, 18VAC48-30-470, 18VAC48-30-480, 18VAC48-30-490, 18VAC48-30-500, 18VAC48-30-510, 18VAC48-30-520, 18VAC48-30-530, and 18VAC48-30-540.
8. Failing to give notice to a purchaser in accordance with 18VAC48-30-510.
9. Failing to give notice to the board of transition of control of unit owners' association in accordance with 18VAC48-30-560.
10. Failing to transition control of the unit owners' association in accordance with [§ 55.1-1943](#) of the Code of Virginia.
11. Failing to turn over books and records in accordance with subsection H of [§ 55.1-1943](#) of the Code of Virginia.
12. Providing false information or misrepresenting an affiliation with an association in seeking return of a bond or letter of credit in accordance with 18VAC48-30-570 or 18VAC48-30-580.
13. Filing false or misleading information in the course of terminating a registration in accordance with 18VAC48-30-610 or 18VAC48-30-620.
14. Failing to comply with 18VAC48-30-630 and 18VAC48-30-640.
15. Failing to comply with the advertising standards contained in 18VAC48-30-670.

*Historical Notes:*

*Derived from Virginia Register Volume 31, Issue 20, eff. August 1, 2015; amended Virginia Register Volume 36, Issue 6, eff. December 31, 2019.*

## NOTICE

Included in this booklet are relevant excerpts from the Code of Virginia. Please note that the Virginia General Assembly is responsible for creating and amending the Code, not the Common Interest Community Board. The version contained herein contains all changes, if any, that have been made by the General Assembly through the 2019 session. Any changes made during the 2019 session became effective July 1, 2019, or October 1, 2019, unless otherwise noted. It is your responsibility to stay informed of revisions to the regulations and the statutes governing time-shares. Please consult the General Assembly or your local library for annual changes.

You can access the Code of Virginia online at <http://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode>

### *Code of Virginia*

#### **Title 55.1, Chapter 19**

#### **Article 1. General Provisions**

#### **§ 55.1-1900. (Effective October 1, 2019) Definitions.**

As used in this chapter, unless the context requires a different meaning:

"Capital components" means those items, whether or not a part of the common elements, for which the unit owners' association has the obligation for repair, replacement, or restoration and for which the executive board determines funding is necessary.

"Common elements" means all portions of the condominium other than the units.

"Common expenses" means all expenditures lawfully made or incurred by or on behalf of the unit owners' association, together with all funds lawfully assessed for the creation or maintenance of reserves pursuant to the provisions of the condominium instruments.

"Common interest community manager" means the same as that term is defined in § [54.1-2345](#).

"Condominium" means real property, and any incidents to or interests in such real property, lawfully subject to this chapter by the recordation of condominium instruments pursuant to the provisions of this chapter. No project shall be deemed a condominium within the meaning of this chapter unless the undivided interests in the common elements are vested in the unit owners.

"Condominium instruments" means, collectively, the declaration, bylaws, and plats and plans

recorded pursuant to the provisions of this chapter. Any exhibit, schedule, or certification recorded with a condominium instrument shall be deemed an integral part of that condominium instrument. Once recorded, any amendment or certification of any condominium instrument shall be deemed an integral part of the affected condominium instrument if such amendment or certification was made in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.

"Condominium unit" means a unit together with the undivided interest in the common elements appertaining to that unit.

"Contractable condominium" means a condominium from which one or more portions of the submitted land may be withdrawn in accordance with the provisions of the declaration and of this chapter. If such withdrawal can occur only by the expiration or termination of one or more leases, then the condominium shall not be deemed a contractable condominium.

"Conversion condominium" means a condominium containing structures that before the recording of the declaration were wholly or partially occupied by persons other than those who have contracted for the purchase of condominium units and those who occupy with the consent of such purchasers.

"Convertible land" means a portion of the common elements within which additional units or limited common elements may be created in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.

"Convertible space" means a portion of a structure within the condominium that a declarant may convert into one or more units or common elements, including limited common elements, in accordance with the provisions of the declaration and this chapter.

"Declarant" means any person, or group of persons acting in concert, that (i) offers to dispose of its interest in a condominium unit not previously disposed of, including an institutional lender that may not have succeeded to or accepted any special declarant rights pursuant to § [55.1-1947](#); (ii) reserves or succeeds to any special declarant right; or (iii) applies for registration of the condominium. However, for the purposes of clauses (i) and (iii), "declarant" does not include an institutional lender that acquires title by foreclosure or deed in lieu of foreclosure unless such lender offers to dispose of its interest in a condominium unit not previously disposed of to anyone not in the business of selling real estate for his own account, except as otherwise provided in § [55.1-1947](#). "Declarant" does not include an individual who acquires title to a condominium unit at a foreclosure sale.

"Dispose" or "disposition" refers to any voluntary transfer of a legal or equitable interest in a condominium unit to a purchaser, but does not include the transfer or release of security for a debt.

"Electronic means" means any form of communication, not directly involving the physical transmission of paper, that creates a record that may be retained, retrieved, and reviewed by a recipient of such communication. Any term used in this definition that is defined in § [59.1-480](#) of the Uniform Electronic Transactions Act has the meaning set forth in that section.

"Executive board" means an executive and administrative entity, by whatever name denominated, designated in the condominium instruments as the governing body of the unit owners' association.

"Expandable condominium" means a condominium to which additional land may be added in accordance with the provisions of the declaration and this chapter.

"Future common expenses" means common expenses for which assessments are not yet due and payable.

"Identifying number" means one or more letters or numbers that identify only one unit in the condominium.

"Institutional lender" means one or more commercial or savings banks, savings and loan associations, trust companies, credit unions, industrial loan associations, insurance companies, pension funds, or business trusts, including real estate investment trusts, any other lender regularly engaged in financing the purchase, construction, or improvement of real estate, or any assignee of loans made by such a lender, or any combination of any of the foregoing entities.

"Land" is a three-dimensional concept and includes parcels with upper or lower boundaries, or both upper and lower boundaries, as well as parcels extending ab solo usque ad coelum. Parcels of airspace constitute land within the meaning of this chapter. Any requirement in this chapter of a legally sufficient description shall be deemed to include a requirement that the upper or lower boundaries, if any, of the parcel in question be identified with reference to established datum.

"Leasehold condominium" means a condominium in all or any portion of which each unit owner owns an estate for years in his unit, or in the land within which that unit is situated, or both, with all such leasehold interests due to expire naturally at the same time. A condominium including leased land, or an interest in such land, within which no units are situated or to be situated is not a leasehold condominium within the meaning of this chapter.

"Limited common element" means a portion of the common elements reserved for the exclusive use of those entitled to the use of one or more, but less than all, of the units.

"Nonbinding reservation agreement" means an agreement between the declarant and a prospective purchaser that is in no way binding on the prospective purchaser and that may be canceled without penalty at the sole discretion of the prospective purchaser.

"Offer" means any inducement, solicitation, or attempt to encourage any person to acquire any legal or equitable interest in a condominium unit, except as security for a debt. Nothing that expressly states that the condominium has not been registered with the Common Interest Community Board and that no unit in the condominium can or will be offered for sale until such time as the condominium has been so registered shall be considered an "offer."

"Officer" means any member of the executive board or official of the unit owners' association.

"Par value" means a number of dollars or points assigned to each unit by the declaration. Substantially identical units shall be assigned the same par value, but units located at substantially different heights above the ground, or having substantially different views, or having substantially different amenities or other characteristics that might result in differences in market value may be considered substantially identical within the meaning of §§ [55.1-1917](#) and [55.1-1918](#).

"Person" means a natural person, corporation, partnership, association, trust, or other entity capable of holding title to real property, or any combination thereof.

"Purchaser" means any person, other than a declarant, that acquires by means of a voluntary transfer a legal or equitable interest in a condominium unit, other than (i) a leasehold interest, including renewal options, of less than 20 years or (ii) as security for a debt.

"Settlement agent" means the same as that term is defined in § [55.1-1000](#).

"Size" means the number of cubic feet, or the number of square feet of ground or floor space, within each unit as computed by reference to the plat and plans and rounded to the nearest whole number. Certain spaces within the units, including attic, basement, or garage space, may be omitted from such calculation or partially discounted by the use of a ratio, so long as the same basis of calculation is employed for all units in the condominium and so long as that basis is described in the declaration.

"Special declarant rights" means any right reserved for the benefit of a declarant, or of a person or group of persons that becomes a declarant, to (i) expand an expandable condominium; (ii) contract a contractable condominium; (iii) convert convertible land or convertible space or both; (iv) appoint or remove any officers of the unit owners' association or the executive board pursuant to subsection A of § [55.1-1943](#); (v) exercise any power or responsibility otherwise assigned by any condominium instrument or by this chapter to the unit owners' association, any officer, or the executive board; or (vi) maintain sales offices, management offices, model units, and signs pursuant to § [55.1-1929](#).

"Unit" means a portion of the condominium designed and intended for individual ownership and use. For the purposes of this chapter, a convertible space shall be treated as a unit in accordance with subsection D of § [55.1-1925](#).

"Unit owner" means one or more persons that own a condominium unit or, in the case of a leasehold condominium, whose leasehold interest in the condominium extends for the entire balance of the unexpired term. "Unit owner" includes any purchaser of a condominium unit at a foreclosure sale, regardless of whether the deed is recorded in the land records where the unit is located. "Unit owner" does not include any person holding an interest in a condominium unit solely as security for a debt.

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.41; 1975, c. 415; 1981, c. 480; 1982, c. 545; 1991, c. 497; 1993, c. 667; 1996, c. [977](#); 2001, c. [715](#); 2002, c. [459](#); 2003, c. [442](#); 2008, cc. [851](#), [871](#); 2015, cc. [93](#), [410](#); 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1901. (Effective October 1, 2019) Application and construction of chapter.**

A. This chapter applies to all condominiums and to all horizontal property regimes or condominium projects. This chapter supersedes the Horizontal Property Act (§ [55.1-2000](#) et seq.), and no condominium shall be established under the Horizontal Property Act on or after July 1, 1974. This chapter shall not be construed to affect the validity of any provision of any condominium instrument recorded prior to July 1, 1974. For the purposes of this chapter, as used in the Horizontal Property Act (§ [55.1-2000](#) et seq.):

"Apartment" corresponds to the term "unit."

"Co-owner" corresponds to the term "unit owner."

"Council of co-owners" corresponds to the term "unit owners' association."

"Developer" corresponds to the term "declarant."

"General common elements" corresponds to the term "common elements."

"Horizontal property regime" and "condominium project" correspond to the term "condominium."

"Master deed" and "master lease" correspond to the term "declaration" and are included in the term "condominium instruments."

B. This chapter does not apply to condominiums located outside the Commonwealth. Sections [55.1-1971](#), [55.1-1974](#) through [55.1-1982](#), and [55.1-1985](#) through [55.1-1989](#) apply to all contracts for the disposition of condominium units signed in the Commonwealth by any person, unless exempt under § [55.1-1972](#).

C. Subsection B of § [55.1-1955](#) and § [55.1-1982](#) do not apply to the declarant of a conversion condominium if that declarant is a proprietary lessees' association that, immediately before the creation of the condominium, owned fee simple title to or a fee simple reversionary interest in the real estate described pursuant to subdivision A 3 of § [55.1-1916](#).

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.40; 1982, c. 545; 1989, c. 63; 2006, c. [646](#); 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1902. (Effective October 1, 2019) Variation by agreement.**

Except as expressly provided in this chapter, provisions of this chapter shall not be varied by agreement, and rights conferred by this chapter shall not be waived. A declarant shall not act under power of attorney or use any other device to evade the limitations or prohibitions of this chapter or of the condominium instruments.

1982, c. 545, § 55-79.41:1; 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1903. (Effective October 1, 2019) Separate assessments, titles, and taxation.**

Except as otherwise provided in this section, each condominium unit constitutes a separate parcel of real estate. If there is any unit owner other than the declarant, each unit, together with its common element interest, but excluding its common element interest in convertible land and in any withdrawable land within which the declarant has the right to create units or limited common elements, shall be separately assessed and taxed. Each convertible land and withdrawable land within which the declarant has the right to create units or limited common elements shall be separately assessed and taxed against the declarant.

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.42; 1986, c. 324; 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1904. (Effective October 1, 2019) Association charges.**

Except as expressly authorized in this chapter, in the condominium instruments, or as otherwise provided by law, no unit owners' association may make an assessment or impose a charge against a unit owner unless the charge is (i) authorized under § [55.1-1964](#), (ii) a fee for services provided, or (iii) related to the provisions set out in § [55.1-1992](#). The Common Interest Community Board may assess a monetary penalty for a violation of this section against any (a) unit owners' association pursuant to § [54.1-2351](#) or (b) common interest community manager pursuant to § [54.1-2349](#) and may issue a cease and desist order pursuant to § [54.1-2349](#) or [54.1-2352](#), as applicable.

2015, c. [277](#), § 55-79.42:1; 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1905. (Effective October 1, 2019) Local ordinances; nonconforming conversion condominiums; applicability of Uniform Statewide Building Code; other regulations.**

A. No zoning or other land use ordinance shall prohibit condominiums solely on the basis of the form of ownership, nor shall any condominium be treated differently by any zoning or other land use ordinance that would permit a physically identical project or development under a different form of ownership. Except as provided in subsection E, no local government may require further review or approval to record condominium instruments when a property has previously complied with subdivision, site plan, zoning, or other applicable land use regulations.

B. Subdivision and site plan ordinances in any locality shall apply to any condominium in the same manner as such ordinances would apply to a physically identical project or development under a different form of ownership; however, the declarant need not apply for or obtain subdivision approval to record condominium instruments if site plan approval for the land being submitted to the condominium has first been obtained.

C. During development of a condominium containing additional land or withdrawable land, phase lines created by the condominium instruments shall not be considered property lines for purposes of subdivision. If the condominium can no longer be expanded by the addition of additional land,

then the owner of the land not part of the condominium shall subdivide such land prior to its conveyance, unless such land is subject to an approved site plan as provided in subsection B, or prior to modification of such approved site plan. In the event of any conveyance of land within phase lines of the condominium, the condominium and any lot created by such conveyance shall be deemed to comply with the local subdivision ordinance, provided that such land is subject to an approved site plan.

D. During the period of declarant control and as long as the declarant has the right to create additional units or to complete the common elements, the declarant has the authority to execute, file, and process any subdivision, site plan, zoning, or other land use applications or disclosures, including related conditional zoning proffers and agreements that do not create an affirmative obligation on the unit owners' association without its consent, with respect to the common elements or applications affecting more than one unit, notwithstanding that the declarant is not the owner of the land.

In accordance with subsection B of § [55.1-1956](#), once the declarant no longer has such authority, the executive board of the unit owners' association, if any, and if not, then a representative duly appointed by the unit owners' association, shall have the authority to execute, file, and process any subdivision, site plan, zoning, or other land use applications or disclosures, including related conditional zoning proffers and agreements that do not create an affirmative obligation on the declarant without its consent, with respect to the common elements or applications affecting more than one unit, notwithstanding that the unit owners' association is not the owner of the land. Such applications shall not adversely affect the rights of the declarant to develop additional land. For purposes of obtaining building and occupancy permits, the unit owner, including the declarant if the declarant is the unit owner, shall apply for permits for the unit, and the unit owners' association shall apply for permits for the common elements, except that the declarant shall apply for permits for convertible land.

E. Localities may provide by ordinance that the declarant of a proposed conversion condominium that does not conform to the zoning, land use, and site plan regulations of the respective locality in which the property is located shall secure a special use permit, a special exception, or a variance, as the case may be, prior to such property's becoming a conversion condominium. The local authority shall grant a request for such a special use permit, special exception, or variance filed on or after July 1, 1982, if the applicant can demonstrate to the reasonable satisfaction of the local authority that the nonconformities are not likely to be adversely affected by the proposed conversion. The local authority shall not unreasonably delay action on any such request. In the event of an approved conversion to condominium ownership, a locality, sanitary district, or other political subdivision may impose such charges and fees as are lawfully imposed by such locality, sanitary district, or political subdivision as a result of construction of new structures to the extent that such charges and fees, or portions of such charges and fees, imposed upon property subject to such conversions may be reasonably related to greater or additional services provided by the locality, sanitary district, or political subdivision as a result of the conversion.

F. Nothing in this section shall be construed to permit application of any provision of the Uniform Statewide Building Code (§ [36-97](#) et seq.) or any local ordinances regulating design and

construction of roads, sewer and water lines, stormwater management facilities, and other public infrastructure to a condominium in a manner different from the manner in which such provision is applied to other buildings of similar physical form and nature of occupancy.

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.43; 1975, c. 415; 1982, c. 663; 1991, c. 497; 2006, cc. [9](#), [317](#); 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1906. (Effective October 1, 2019) Eminent domain.**

A. If any portion of the common elements is taken by eminent domain, the award for such taking shall be paid to the unit owners' association, provided, however, that the portion of the award attributable to the taking of any permanently assigned limited common element shall be allocated by the order to the unit owner of the unit to which that limited common element was so assigned at the time of the taking. If that limited common element was permanently assigned to more than one unit at the time of the taking, then the portion of the award attributable to the taking of such limited common element shall be allocated in equal shares to the unit owners of the units to which it was so assigned or in such other shares as the condominium instruments may specify for this express purpose. A permanently assigned limited common element is a limited common element that cannot be reassigned or that can be reassigned only with the consent of the unit owner of the unit to which it is assigned in accordance with § [55.1-1919](#).

B. If one or more units are taken by eminent domain, the undivided interest in the common elements appertaining to any such unit shall thenceforth appertain to the remaining units, being allocated to them in proportion to their respective undivided interests in the common elements. The court shall enter an order reflecting the reallocation of undivided interests produced by such taking, and the award shall include just compensation to the unit owner of any unit taken for his undivided interest in the common elements as well as for his unit.

C. 1. If portions of any unit are taken by eminent domain, the court shall determine the fair market value of the portions of such unit not taken, and the undivided interest in the common elements appertaining to any such units shall be reduced, in the case of each such unit, in proportion to the diminution in the fair market value of such unit resulting from the taking.

2. The portions of undivided interest in the common elements thereby divested from the unit owners of any such units shall be reallocated among those units and the other units in the condominium in proportion to their respective undivided interests in the common elements, with any units partially taken participating in such reallocation on the basis of their undivided interests as reduced in accordance with subdivision 1.

3. The court shall enter an order reflecting the reallocation of undivided interests produced thereby, and the award shall include just compensation to the unit owner of any unit partially taken for that portion of his undivided interest in the common elements divested by operation of subdivision 1 and not revested by operation of subdivision 2, as well as for that portion of his unit taken by eminent domain.

D. If, however, the taking of a portion of any unit makes it impractical to use the remaining portion

of that unit for any lawful purpose permitted by the condominium instruments, then the entire undivided interest in the common elements appertaining to that unit shall thenceforth appertain to the remaining units, being allocated to them in proportion to their respective undivided interests in the common elements, and the remaining portion of that unit shall thenceforth be a common element. The court shall enter an order reflecting the reallocation of undivided interests produced thereby, and the award shall include just compensation to the unit owner of such unit for his entire undivided interest in the common elements and for his entire unit.

E. Votes in the unit owners' association, rights to future common profits, and liabilities for future common expenses not specially assessed, appertaining to any unit taken or partially taken by eminent domain, shall thenceforth appertain to the remaining units, being allocated to them in proportion to their relative voting strength in the unit owners' association, with any units partially taken participating in such reallocation as though their voting strength in the unit owners' association had been reduced in proportion to the reduction in their undivided interests in the common elements, and the order of the court shall provide accordingly.

F. The order of the court shall require the recordation of such order among the land records of the county or city in which the condominium is located.

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.44; 1975, c. 415; 1982, c. 545; 1998, c. [32](#); 2019, c. [712](#).

## **Article 2. Creation, Alteration, and Termination of Condominiums**

### **§ 55.1-1907. (Effective October 1, 2019) How condominium may be created.**

No condominium shall come into existence except by the recordation of condominium instruments pursuant to the provisions of this chapter. No condominium instruments shall be recorded unless all units located or to be located on any portion of the submitted land, other than within the boundaries of any convertible lands, are depicted on plats and plans that comply with the provisions of subsections A and B of § [55.1-1920](#).

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.45; 2019, c. [712](#).

### **§ 55.1-1908. (Effective October 1, 2019) Release of liens.**

A. At the time of the conveyance to the first purchaser of a condominium unit following the recordation of the declaration, every mortgage, deed of trust, any other perfected lien, or any mechanics' or materialmen's liens affecting all of the condominium or a greater portion of the condominium than the condominium unit conveyed shall be paid and satisfied of record, or the declarant shall forthwith have such condominium unit released of record from all such liens not so paid and satisfied. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply, however, to any withdrawable land in a contractable condominium, nor shall any provision of this subsection be construed to prohibit the unit owners' association from mortgaging or causing a deed of trust to be placed on

any portion of the condominium within which no units are located, so long as the period of declarant control specified in § [55.1-1943](#) has expired and so long as the bylaws authorize such action. This subsection does not apply to any lien on more than one condominium unit in a condominium in which all units are restricted to nonresidential use and in which all unit owners whose condominium units will be subject to such lien expressly agree to assume or take subject to such lien.

B. If any lien, other than a deed of trust or mortgage, becomes effective against two or more condominium units subsequent to the creation of the condominium, any unit owner may remove his condominium unit from that lien by payment of the amount attributable to his condominium unit. Such amount shall be computed by reference to the liability for common expenses appertaining to that condominium unit pursuant to subsection D of § [55.1-1964](#). Subsequent to such payment, discharge, or other satisfaction, the unit owner of that condominium unit shall be entitled to have that lien released as to his condominium unit in accordance with the provisions of § [55.1-341](#), and the unit owners' association shall not assess, or have a valid lien against, that condominium unit for any portion of the common expenses incurred in connection with that lien, notwithstanding anything to the contrary in §§ [55.1-1964](#) and [55.1-1966](#).

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.46; 1985, c. 107; 1992, c. 72; 1993, c. 667; 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1909. (Effective October 1, 2019) Description of condominium units.**

After the creation of the condominium, no description of a condominium unit shall be deemed vague, uncertain, or otherwise insufficient or infirm if it sets forth the identifying number of that unit, the name of the condominium, the name of the county or city in which the condominium is situated, and either the deed book and page number where the first page of the declaration is recorded or the document number assigned to the declaration by the clerk. Any such description shall be deemed to include the undivided interest in the common elements appertaining to such unit even if such interest is not defined or referred to in the description.

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.47; 1975, c. 415; 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1910. (Effective October 1, 2019) Execution of condominium instruments.**

The declaration and bylaws, and any amendments to either made pursuant to § [55.1-1934](#), shall be duly executed by or on behalf of all of the owners and lessees of the submitted land. The phrase "owners and lessees" in this section and in § [55.1-1926](#) does not include, in their capacity as such, any mortgagee, any trustee or beneficiary under a deed of trust, any other lien holder, any person having an equitable interest under any contract for the sale or lease of a condominium unit, any lessee whose leasehold interest does not extend to any portion of the common elements, any person whose land is subject to an easement included in the condominium, or, in the case of a leasehold condominium subject to any lease executed before July 1, 1962, any lessor of the submitted land who is not a declarant.

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.48; 1980, c. 702; 1984, c. 21; 1990, c. 831; 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1911. (Effective October 1, 2019) Recordation of condominium instruments.**

All amendments and certifications of condominium instruments shall set forth the name of the county or city in which the condominium is located and the deed book and page number where the first page of the declaration is recorded. All condominium instruments and all amendments and certifications of such condominium instruments shall be recorded in every county and city in which any portion of the condominium is located. The condominium instruments, amendments, and certifications shall set forth the name of the condominium and either the deed book and page number where the first page of the declaration is recorded or the document number assigned to the declaration by the clerk.

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.49; 1975, c. 415; 1982, c. 545; 2019, c. [712](#)

**§ 55.1-1912. (Effective October 1, 2019) Construction of condominium instruments.**

Except to the extent otherwise provided by the condominium instruments:

1. The terms defined in § [55.1-1900](#) shall be deemed to have the meanings therein specified wherever they appear in the condominium instruments unless the context requires a different meaning.
2. To the extent that walls, floors, or ceilings are designated as the boundaries of the units or of any specified units, all lath, wallboard, plasterboard, plaster, paneling, tiles, wallpaper, paint, and finished flooring and any other materials constituting any part of the finished surfaces of such walls, floors, or ceilings are part of such units, while all other portions of such walls, floors, or ceilings are a part of the common elements.
3. If any chutes, flues, ducts, conduits, wires, bearing walls, bearing columns, or other apparatus lies partially within and partially outside of the designated boundaries of a unit, any portions serving only that unit are a part of that unit, while any portions serving more than one unit or any portion of the common elements are a part of the common elements.
4. Subject to the provisions of subdivision 3, all space, interior partitions, and other fixtures and improvements within the boundaries of a unit are a part of that unit.
5. Any shutters, awnings, doors, windows, window boxes, doorsteps, porches, balconies, patios, or other apparatus designed to serve a single unit, but located outside the boundaries of such unit, are limited common elements appertaining to that unit exclusively, except that if a single unit's electrical master switch is located outside the designated boundaries of the unit, the switch and its cover are a part of the common elements.

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.50; 1982, cc. 206, 545; 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1913. (Effective October 1, 2019) Complementarity of condominium instruments;**

**controlling construction.**

The condominium instruments shall be construed together and shall be deemed to incorporate one another to the extent that any requirement of this chapter as to the content of one shall be deemed satisfied if the deficiency can be cured by reference to any of the others. In the event of any conflict between the condominium instruments, the declaration shall control; but particular provisions shall control more general provisions, except that a construction consistent with the statute shall in all cases control over any inconsistent construction.

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.51; 1975, c. 415; 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1914. (Effective October 1, 2019) Validity of condominium instruments; discrimination prohibited.**

A. All provisions of the condominium instruments shall be deemed severable, and any unlawful provision of such condominium instruments shall be void.

B. No provision of the condominium instruments shall be deemed void by reason of the rule against perpetuities.

C. No restraint on alienation shall discriminate or be used to discriminate on any basis prohibited under the Virginia Fair Housing Law (§ [36-96.1](#) et seq.).

D. Subject to the provisions of subsection C, the rule of property law known as the rule restricting unreasonable restraints on alienation shall not be applied to defeat any provision of the condominium instruments restraining the alienation of condominium units other than such units as may be restricted to residential use only.

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.52; 1975, c. 415; 1998, cc. [32](#), [454](#); 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1915. (Effective October 1, 2019) Compliance with condominium instruments.**

A. The declarant, every unit owner, and all those entitled to occupy a unit shall comply with all lawful provisions of this chapter and all provisions of the condominium instruments. Any lack of such compliance shall be grounds for an action to recover sums due, for damages or injunctive relief, or for any other remedy available at law or in equity, maintainable by the unit owners' association or by its executive board or any managing agent on behalf of such association or, in any proper case, by one or more aggrieved unit owners on their own behalf or as a class action. A unit owners' association shall have standing to sue in its own name for any claims or actions related to the common elements as provided in subsection B of § [55.1-1956](#). Except as provided in subsection B, the prevailing party shall be entitled to recover reasonable attorney fees, costs expended in the matter, and interest on the judgment as provided in § [8.01-382](#). This section does not preclude an action against the unit owners' association and authorizes the recovery, by the prevailing party in any such action, of reasonable attorney fees, costs expended in the matter, and interest on the judgment as provided in § [8.01-382](#) in such actions.

B. In actions against a unit owner for nonpayment of assessments in which the unit owner has failed to pay assessments levied by the unit owners' association on more than one unit or such unit owner has had legal actions taken against him for nonpayment of any prior assessment and the prevailing party is the association or its executive board or any managing agent on behalf of the association, the prevailing party shall be awarded reasonable attorney fees, costs expended in the matter, and interest on the judgment as provided in subsection A, even if the proceeding is settled prior to judgment. The delinquent unit owner shall be personally responsible for reasonable attorney fees and costs expended in the matter by the unit owners' association, whether any judicial proceedings are filed.

C. The condominium instruments may provide for arbitration of disputes or other means of alternative dispute resolution. Any such arbitration held in accordance with this subsection shall be consistent with the provisions of this chapter and Chapter 21 (§ [8.01-577](#) et seq.) of Title 8.01. The place of any such arbitration or alternative dispute resolution shall be in the county or city in which the condominium is located or as mutually agreed by the parties.

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.53; 1975, c. 415; 1993, c. 667; 1996, c. [977](#); 2012, c. [758](#); 2014, c. [569](#); 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1916. (Effective October 1, 2019) Contents of declaration.**

A. The declaration for every condominium shall contain the following:

1. The name of the condominium, which name shall include the word "condominium" or be followed by the words "a condominium."
2. The name of the county or city in which the condominium is located.
3. A legal description by metes and bounds of the land submitted in accordance with this chapter.
4. A description or delineation of the boundaries of the units, including the horizontal (upper and lower) boundaries, if any, as well as the vertical (lateral or perimetric) boundaries.
5. A description or delineation of any limited common elements, other than those that are limited common elements by virtue of subdivision 5 of § [55.1-1912](#), showing or designating the unit or units to which each is assigned.
6. A description or delineation of all common elements not within the boundaries of any convertible lands that may subsequently be assigned as limited common elements, together with a statement that (i) they may be so assigned and a description of the method by which any such assignments shall be made in accordance with the provisions of § [55.1-1919](#) or (ii) once assigned, the conditions under which they may be unassigned and converted to common elements in accordance with § [55.1-1919](#).

7. The allocation to each unit of an undivided interest in the common elements in accordance with the provisions of § [55.1-1917](#).

8. A statement of the extent of the declarant's obligation to complete improvements labeled "NOT YET COMPLETED" or to begin and complete improvements labeled "NOT YET BEGUN" on plats recorded pursuant to the requirements of this chapter. Such statement shall be specific as to the type and quality of materials to be used, the size or capacity of the improvements when material, and the time by which such improvements shall be completed.

9. Such other matters as the declarant deems appropriate.

B. If the condominium contains any convertible land, the declaration shall also contain the following:

1. A legal description by metes and bounds of each convertible land within the condominium.

2. A statement of the maximum number of units that may be created within each such convertible land.

3. A statement, with respect to each such convertible land, of the maximum percentage of the aggregate land and floor area of all units that may be created in such convertible land that may be occupied by units not restricted exclusively to residential use. Such statement is not required if none of the units on other portions of the submitted land are restricted exclusively to residential use.

4. A statement of the extent to which any structure erected on any convertible land will be compatible with structures on other portions of the submitted land in terms of quality of construction, the principal materials to be used, and architectural style.

5. A description of all other improvements that may be made on each convertible land within the condominium.

6. A statement that any units created within each convertible land will be substantially identical to the units on other portions of the submitted land, or a statement describing in detail what other types of units may be created in such convertible land.

7. A description of the declarant's reserved right, if any, to create limited common elements within any convertible land or to designate common elements in such convertible land that may subsequently be assigned as limited common elements, in terms of the types, sizes, and maximum number of such elements within each such convertible land.

Plats and plans may be recorded as exhibits to the declaration to supplement information furnished pursuant to subdivisions 1, 4, 5, 6, and 7.

C. If the condominium is an expandable condominium, the declaration shall also contain the

following:

1. The explicit reservation of an option to expand the condominium.
2. A statement of any limitations on that option, including a statement as to whether the consent of any unit owners shall be required, and, if so, a statement as to the method by which such consent shall be ascertained, or a statement that there are no such limitations.
3. A time limit, not exceeding 10 years after the recording of the declaration, upon which the option to expand the condominium shall expire, together with a statement of the circumstances, if any, that will terminate that option prior to the expiration of the time limit so specified. After the expiration of any period of declarant control reserved pursuant to subsection A of § [55.1-1943](#), such time limit may be extended by an amendment to the declaration made pursuant to § [55.1-1934](#).
4. A legal description by metes and bounds of all land that may be added to the condominium, henceforth referred to as "additional land."
5. A statement as to whether, if any of the additional land is added to the condominium, all of it or any particular portion of it must be added and, if not, a statement of any limitations as to what portions may be added, or a statement that there are no such limitations.
6. A statement as to whether portions of the additional land may be added to the condominium at different times, together with any limitations fixing the boundaries of those portions by legal descriptions setting forth the metes and bounds of such portions or regulating the order in which they may be added to the condominium.
7. A statement of any limitations as to the locations of any improvements that may be made on any portions of the additional land added to the condominium, or a statement that no assurances are made in that regard.
8. A statement of the maximum number of units that may be created on the additional land. If portions of the additional land may be added to the condominium and the boundaries of those portions are fixed in accordance with subdivision 6, the declaration shall also state the maximum number of units that may be created on each such portion added to the condominium. If portions of the additional land may be added to the condominium and the boundaries of those portions are not fixed in accordance with subdivision 6, then the declaration shall also state the maximum number of units per acre that may be created on any such portion added to the condominium.
9. A statement, with respect to the additional land and to any portion of such additional land that may be added to the condominium, of the maximum percentage of the aggregate land and floor area of all units that may be created on such additional land that may be occupied by units not restricted exclusively to residential use. Such statement is not required if none of the units on the submitted land are restricted exclusively to residential use.

10. A statement of the extent to which any structures erected on any portion of the additional land added to the condominium will be compatible with structures on the submitted land in terms of quality of construction, the principal materials to be used, and architectural style, or a statement that no assurances are made in those regards.

11. A description of all other improvements that will be made on any portion of the additional land added to the condominium, or a statement of any limitations as to what other improvements may be made on such additional land, or a statement that no assurances are made in that regard.

12. A statement that any units created on any portion of the additional land added to the condominium will be substantially identical to the units on the submitted land, or a statement of any limitations as to what types of units may be created on such additional land, or a statement that no assurances are made in that regard.

13. A description of the declarant's reserved right, if any, to create limited common elements within any portion of the additional land added to the condominium or to designate common elements in such additional land that may subsequently be assigned as limited common elements, in terms of the types, sizes, and maximum number of such elements within each such portion, or a statement that no assurances are made in those regards.

Plats and plans may be recorded as exhibits to the declaration to supplement information furnished pursuant to subdivisions 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, 11, 12, and 13.

D. If the condominium is a contractable condominium, the declaration shall also contain the following:

1. The explicit reservation of an option to contract the condominium.

2. A statement of any limitations on that option, including a statement as to whether the consent of any unit owners shall be required, and, if so, a statement as to the method whereby such consent shall be ascertained, or a statement that there are no such limitations.

3. A time limit, not exceeding 10 years after the recording of the declaration, upon which the option to contract the condominium shall expire, together with a statement of the circumstances, if any, that will terminate that option prior to the expiration of the time limit so specified.

4. A legal description by metes and bounds of all land that may be withdrawn from the condominium, hereinafter referred to as "withdrawable land."

5. A statement as to whether portions of the withdrawable land may be withdrawn from the condominium at different times, together with any limitations fixing the boundaries of those portions by legal descriptions setting forth the metes and bounds or regulating the order in which they may be withdrawn from the condominium.

6. A legal description by metes and bounds of all of the submitted land to which the option to

contract the condominium does not extend. This subdivision shall not be construed in derogation of any right the declarant may have to terminate the condominium in accordance with the provisions of § [55.1-1937](#).

Plats may be recorded as exhibits to the declaration to supplement information furnished pursuant to subdivisions 4, 5, and 6.

E. If the condominium is a leasehold condominium, then with respect to any ground lease or other leases the expiration or termination of which will or may terminate or contract the condominium, the declaration shall set forth the county or city in which such lease is recorded and the deed book and page number where the first page of each such lease is recorded, and the declaration shall also contain the following:

1. The date upon which each such lease is due to expire.
2. A statement as to whether any land or improvements will be owned by the unit owners in fee simple and, if so, either (i) a description of the same, including a legal description by metes and bounds of any such land, or (ii) a statement of any rights the unit owners shall have to remove such improvements within a reasonable time after the expiration or termination of the lease involved, or a statement that they shall have no such rights.
3. A statement of the rights the unit owners shall have to redeem any reversion, or a statement that they shall have no such rights.

After the recording of the declaration, no lessor who executed such declaration, and no successor in interest to such lessor, shall have any right or power to terminate any part of the leasehold interest of any unit owner who makes timely payment of his share of the rent to the person designated in the declaration for the receipt of such rent and who otherwise complies with all covenants that, if violated, would entitle the lessor to terminate the lease. Acquisition or reacquisition of such a leasehold interest by the owner of the reversion or remainder does not cause a merger of the leasehold and fee simple interests unless all leasehold interests in the condominium are thus acquired or reacquired.

F. Wherever this section requires a legal description by metes and bounds of land that is submitted pursuant to this chapter or that may be added to or withdrawn from the condominium, such requirement shall be deemed satisfied by any legally sufficient description and shall be deemed to require a legally sufficient description of any easements that are submitted pursuant to this chapter or that may be added to or withdrawn from the condominium, as appropriate. In the case of each such easement, the declaration shall contain the following:

1. A description of the permitted use or uses.
2. If less than all of those entitled to the use of all of the units may utilize such easement, a statement of the relevant restrictions and limitations on utilization.

3. If any persons other than those entitled to the use of the units may utilize such easement, a statement of the rights of others to utilization of the easement.

G. Wherever this section requires a legal description by metes and bounds of land that is submitted pursuant to this chapter or that may be added to or withdrawn from the condominium, an added requirement shall be a separate legally sufficient description of all lands in which the unit owners shall or may be tenants in common or joint tenants with any other persons and a separate legally sufficient description of all lands in which the unit owners shall or may be life tenants. No units shall be situated on any such lands, however, and the declaration shall describe the nature of the unit owners' estate in such lands. No such lands shall be shown on the same plat or plats showing other portions of the condominium but shall be shown instead on separate plats.

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.54; 1975, c. 415; 1977, c. 428; 1982, c. 545; 1993, c. 667; 1998, c. [32](#); 2012, c. [520](#); 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1917. (Effective October 1, 2019) Allocation of interests in the common elements.**

A. The declaration may allocate to each unit depicted on plats and plans that comply with subsections A and B of § [55.1-1920](#) an undivided interest in the common elements proportionate to either the size or par value of each unit. If par value is stated in terms of dollars, that statement shall not be deemed to reflect or control the sales price or fair market value of any unit, and no opinion, appraisal, or fair market transaction at a different figure shall affect the par value of any unit or any undivided interest in the common elements, voting rights in the unit owners' association, or liability for common expenses assigned on the basis of such par value.

B. If the basis for allocation provided in subsection A is not used, then the declaration shall allocate to each such unit an equal undivided interest in the common elements, subject to the following exception: Each convertible space so depicted shall be allocated an undivided interest in the common elements proportionate to the size of each such space, vis-a-vis the aggregate size of all units so depicted, while the remaining undivided interest in the common elements shall be allocated equally to the other units so depicted.

C. The undivided interests in the common elements allocated in accordance with subsection A or B shall add up to 1 if stated as fractions or 100 percent if stated as percentages.

D. If, in accordance with subsection A or B, an equal undivided interest in the common elements is allocated to each unit, the declaration may state that fact and need not express the fraction or percentage so allocated.

E. Unless an equal undivided interest in the common elements is allocated to each unit, the undivided interest allocated to each unit in accordance with subsection A or B shall be reflected by a table in the declaration, or by an exhibit to the declaration, containing three columns. The first column shall identify the units, listing them serially or grouping them together in the case of units to which identical undivided interests are allocated. Corresponding figures in the second and third columns shall set forth the respective areas or par values of those units and the fraction or

percentage of undivided interest in the common elements allocated to such units.

F. Except to the extent otherwise expressly provided by this chapter, the undivided interest in the common elements allocated to any unit shall not be altered, and any purported transfer, encumbrance, or other disposition of that interest without the unit to which it appertains is void.

G. The common elements shall not be subject to any action for partition until and unless the condominium is terminated.

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.55; 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1918. (Effective October 1, 2019) Reallocation of interests in common elements.**

A. If a condominium contains any convertible land or is an expandable condominium, then the declaration shall not allocate undivided interests in the common elements on the basis of par value unless the declaration:

1. Prohibits the creation of any units not substantially identical to the units depicted on the plats and plans recorded pursuant to subsections A and B of § [55.1-1920](#); or

2. Prohibits the creation of any units not described pursuant to subdivision B 6 of § [55.1-1916](#), in the case of convertible lands, and subdivision C 12 of § [55.1-1916](#), in the case of additional land, and contains from the outset a statement of the par value that shall be assigned to every such unit that may be created.

B. Interests in the common elements shall not be allocated to any units to be created within any convertible land or within any additional land until plats and plans depicting the same are recorded pursuant to subsection C of § [55.1-1920](#). But simultaneously with the recording of such plats and plans, the declarant shall execute and record an amendment to the declaration reallocating undivided interests in the common elements so that the units depicted on such plats and plans shall be allocated undivided interests in the common elements on the same basis as the units depicted on the plats and plans recorded simultaneously with the declaration pursuant to subsections A and B of § [55.1-1920](#).

C. If all of a convertible space is converted into common elements, including limited common elements, then the undivided interest in the common elements appertaining to such space shall then appertain to the remaining units, being allocated among them in proportion to their undivided interests in the common elements. The principal officer of the unit owners' association, or such other officer as the condominium instruments may specify, shall forthwith prepare, execute, and record an amendment to the declaration reflecting the reallocation of undivided interests produced by such conversion.

D. In the case of a leasehold condominium, if the expiration or termination of any lease causes a contraction of the condominium that reduces the number of units, then the undivided interest in the common elements appertaining to any units withdrawn from the condominium shall then appertain

to the remaining units, being allocated among them in proportion to their undivided interests in the common elements. The principal officer of the unit owners' association, or such other officer as the condominium instruments may specify, shall forthwith prepare, execute, and record an amendment to the declaration reflecting the reallocation of undivided interests produced by such contraction.

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.56; 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1919. (Effective October 1, 2019) Assignments of limited common elements; conversion to common element.**

A. All assignments and reassignments of limited common elements shall be reflected by the condominium instruments. No limited common element shall be assigned or reassigned except in accordance with the provisions of this chapter. No amendment to any condominium instrument shall alter any rights or obligations with respect to any limited common elements without the consent of all unit owners adversely affected by such amendment as evidenced by their execution of such amendment, except to the extent that the condominium instruments expressly provided otherwise prior to the first assignment of that limited common element.

B. Unless expressly prohibited by the condominium instruments, a limited common element may be reassigned or converted to a common element upon written application of the unit owners concerned to the principal officer of the unit owners' association, or to such other officer as the condominium instruments may specify. The officer to whom such application is duly made shall forthwith prepare and execute an amendment to the declaration reassigning all rights and obligations with respect to the limited common element involved. Such amendment shall be executed by all of the unit owners concerned and recorded by an officer of the unit owners' association or his agent following payment by the unit owners of the units concerned of all reasonable costs for the preparation, acknowledgment, and recordation of such amendment. The amendment is effective when recorded.

C. A common element not previously assigned as a limited common element shall be so assigned only pursuant to subdivision A 6 of § [55.1-1916](#). The amendment to the declaration making such an assignment shall be prepared and executed by the declarant, the principal officer of the unit owners' association, or by such other officer as the condominium instruments may specify. Such amendment shall be recorded by the declarant or his agent, without charge to any unit owner, or by an officer of the unit owners' association or his agent following payment by all of the unit owners of the units concerned of all reasonable costs for the preparation, acknowledgment, and recordation of such amendment. The amendment is effective when recorded, and the recordation of such amendment shall be conclusive evidence that the method prescribed pursuant to subdivision A 6 of § [55.1-1916](#) was adhered to. A copy of the amendment shall be delivered to the unit owners of the units concerned. If executed by the declarant, such an amendment recorded prior to July 1, 1983, shall not be invalid because it was not prepared by an officer of the unit owners' association.

D. If the declarant does not prepare and record an amendment to the declaration to effect the assignment of common elements as limited common elements in accordance with rights reserved in the condominium instruments, but has reflected an intention to make such assignments in deeds

conveying units, then the principal officer of the unit owners' association may prepare, execute, and record such an amendment at any time after the declarant ceases to be a unit owner.

E. The declarant may unilaterally record an amendment to the declaration converting a limited common element appurtenant to a unit owned by the declarant into a common element as long as the declarant continues to own the unit.

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.57; 1983, c. 230; 1991, c. 497; 1998, c. [32](#); 2019, c. [712](#).

### **§ 55.1-1920. (Effective October 1, 2019) Contents of plats and plans.**

A. There shall be recorded simultaneously with the declaration one or more plats of survey showing the location and dimensions of the submitted land, the location and dimensions of any convertible lands within the submitted land, the location and dimensions of any existing improvements, the intended location and dimensions of any contemplated improvements that are to be located on any portion of the submitted land other than within the boundaries of any convertible lands, and, to the extent feasible, the location and dimensions of all easements appurtenant to the submitted land or otherwise subject to this chapter as a part of the common elements. If the submitted land is not contiguous, then the plats shall indicate the distances between the parcels constituting the submitted land. The plats shall label every convertible land as a convertible land, and if there is more than one such land, the plats shall label each such land with one or more letters or numbers different from those designating any other convertible land and different also from the identifying number of any unit. The plats shall show the location and dimensions of any withdrawable lands and shall label each such land as a withdrawable land. The plats shall show the location and dimensions of any additional lands and shall label each such land as an additional land. If, with respect to any portion, but less than all, of the submitted land, the unit owners are to own only an estate for years, the plats shall show the location and dimensions of any such portion, and shall label each such portion as a leased land. If there is more than one withdrawable land, or more than one leased land, the plats shall label each such land with one or more letters or numbers different from those designating any convertible land or other withdrawable or leased land, and different also from the identifying number of any unit. The plats shall show all easements to which the submitted land or any portion of such submitted land is subject and shall show the location and dimensions of all such easements to the extent feasible. The plats shall also show all encroachments by or on any portion of the condominium. In the case of any improvements located or to be located on any portion of the submitted land other than within the boundaries of any convertible lands, the plats shall indicate which, if any, have not been begun by the use of the phrase "NOT YET BEGUN" and which, if any, have been begun but have not been substantially completed by the use of the phrase "NOT YET COMPLETED." In the case of any units the vertical boundaries of which lie wholly or partially outside of structures for which plans pursuant to subsection B are simultaneously recorded, the plats shall show the location and dimensions of such vertical boundaries to the extent that they are not shown on such plans, and the units or portions thereof thus depicted shall bear their identifying numbers. Each plat shall be certified in a recorded document as to its accuracy and compliance with the provisions of this subsection by a licensed land surveyor, and the surveyor shall certify in such document or on the face of the plat that all units or portions of such units depicted on such plat pursuant to the preceding sentence of this

subsection have been substantially completed. The specification within this subsection of items that shall be shown on the plats shall not be construed to mean that the plats shall not also show all other items customarily shown or hereafter required for land title surveys.

B. Plans shall also be recorded with the declaration. Such plans shall show every structure that contains or constitutes all or part of any unit and that is located on any portion of the submitted land other than within the boundaries of any convertible lands. The plans shall show the location and dimensions of the vertical boundaries of each unit to the extent that such boundaries lie within or coincide with the boundaries of such structures, and the units or portions of the submitted units so depicted shall bear their identifying numbers. In addition, each convertible space so depicted shall be labeled as convertible space. The horizontal boundaries of each unit having horizontal boundaries shall be identified on the plans with reference to established datum. Unless the condominium instruments expressly provide otherwise, it shall be presumed that in the case of any unit not wholly contained within or constituting one or more such structures, the horizontal boundaries thus identified extend, in the case of each such unit, at the same elevation with regard to any part of such unit, lying outside of such structures, subject to the following exception: In the case of any such unit that does not lie over any other unit other than basement units, it shall be presumed that the lower horizontal boundary, if any, of that unit lies at the level of the ground with regard to any part of that unit lying outside of such structures. The plans shall be certified on their face or in another recorded document as to their accuracy and compliance with the provisions of this subsection by a licensed architect, licensed engineer, or licensed land surveyor, and such architect, engineer, or land surveyor shall certify on the plans or in the recorded document that all units or portions of the submitted units depicted on such plans have been substantially completed.

C. When converting all or any portion of any convertible land, or adding additional land to an expandable condominium, the declarant shall record, with regard to any structures on the land being converted or added, either plats of survey conforming to the requirements of subsection A and plans conforming to the requirements of subsection B, or certifications conforming to the certification requirements of such subsections of plats and plans previously recorded pursuant to § [55.1-1922](#).

D. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections A and B, a time-share interest in a unit that has been subjected to a time-share instrument pursuant to § [55.1-2208](#) may be conveyed prior to substantial completion of that unit if (i) a completion bond has been filed in compliance with subsection B of § [55.1-1921](#) and remains in full force and effect until the unit is certified as substantially complete in accordance with subsections A and B and (ii) the settlement agent or title insurance company insuring the time-share estate in the unit certifies to the purchaser in writing, based on information provided by the Common Interest Community Board, that the bond has been filed with the Common Interest Community Board.

E. When converting all or any portion of any convertible space into one or more units or limited common elements, the declarant shall record, with regard to the structure or portion of such structure constituting that convertible space, plans showing the location and dimensions of the vertical boundaries of each unit or limited common elements formed out of such space. Such plans shall be certified as to their accuracy and compliance with the provisions of this subsection by a

licensed architect, licensed engineer, or licensed land surveyor.

F. For the purposes of subsections A, B, and C, all provisions and requirements relating to units shall be deemed equally applicable to limited common elements. The limited common elements shall be labeled as such, and each limited common element depicted on the plats and plans shall show the identifying number of the unit to which it is assigned, if it has been assigned, unless the provisions of subdivision 5 of § [55.1-1912](#) make such designations unnecessary.

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.58; 1975, c. 415; 1984, c. 601; 1991, c. 497; 1999, c. [560](#); 2008, cc. [851](#), [871](#); 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1921. (Effective October 1, 2019) Bond to insure completion of improvements.**

A. The declarant shall file with the Common Interest Community Board a bond entered into by the declarant in the sum of 100 percent of the estimated cost of completion, to the extent of the declarant's obligation as stated in the declaration, of all improvements to the common elements of the condominium labeled in the plat or plats as "NOT YET COMPLETED" or "NOT YET BEGUN" located upon submitted land and which the declarant reasonably believes will not be substantially complete at the time of conveyance of the first condominium unit. Such bond shall be conditioned upon the faithful performance of the declarant's obligation to complete such improvements in strict conformity with the plans and specifications for the same as described in the declaration.

B. The declarant shall file with the Common Interest Community Board a bond entered into by the declarant in the sum of 100 percent of the estimated cost of completion of a unit in which a time-share interest is conveyed before the unit has been certified as substantially complete in accordance with subsections A and B of § [55.1-1920](#). The bond required by this subsection shall be conditioned upon the faithful performance of the declarant's obligation to complete such improvements in strict conformity with the plans and specifications for the same as described in the declaration.

C. All bonds required in this section shall be executed by a surety company authorized to transact business in the Commonwealth or by such other surety as is satisfactory to the Board.

D. The Board may promulgate reasonable regulations that govern the return of bonds submitted in accordance with this section.

1977, c. 428, § 55-79.58:1; 1988, c. 15; 1999, c. [560](#); 2008, cc. [851](#), [871](#); 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1922. (Effective October 1, 2019) Preliminary recordation of plats and plans.**

Plats and plans previously recorded pursuant to subsections A, B, and C of § [55.1-1916](#) may be used in lieu of new plats and plans to satisfy in whole or in part the requirements of subsection B of § [55.1-1918](#), subsection B of § [55.1-1924](#), or § [55.1-1926](#) if certifications of such plats and plans are recorded by the declarant in accordance with subsections A and B of § [55.1-1920](#); and if such certifications are recorded, the plats and plans that they certify shall be deemed recorded pursuant

to subsection C of § [55.1-1920](#) within the meaning of §§ [55.1-1918](#), [55.1-1924](#), and [55.1-1926](#). All condominium instruments for condominiums created prior to July 1, 1991, are hereby validated notwithstanding that the plats were prerecorded as if in compliance with this section and not recorded with amendments converting convertible land or adding additional land if the plats or subsequent amendments contained the required certifications.

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.59; 1991, c. 497; 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1923. (Effective October 1, 2019) Easement for encroachments.**

To the extent that any unit or common element encroaches on any other unit or common element, whether by reason of any deviation from the plats and plans in the construction, repair, renovation, restoration, or replacement of any improvement or by reason of the settling or shifting of any land or improvement, a valid easement for such encroachment shall exist. The purpose of this section is to protect the unit owners, except in cases of willful and intentional misconduct by them or their agents or employees, and not to relieve the declarant or any contractor, subcontractor, or materialman of any liability which any of them may have by reason of any failure to adhere strictly to the plats and plans.

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.60; 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1924. (Effective October 1, 2019) Conversion of convertible lands.**

A. The declarant may convert all or any portion of any convertible land into one or more units or limited common elements subject to any restrictions and limitations that the condominium instruments may specify. Any such conversion shall be deemed to have occurred at the time of the recordation of appropriate instruments pursuant to subsection B of this section and subsection C of § [55.1-1920](#).

B. Simultaneously with the recording of plats and plans pursuant to subsection C of § [55.1-1920](#), the declarant shall prepare, execute, and record an amendment to the declaration describing the conversion. Such amendment shall assign an identifying number to each unit formed out of a convertible land and shall reallocate undivided interests in the common elements in accordance with subsection B of § [55.1-1918](#). Such amendment shall describe or delineate any limited common elements formed out of the convertible land, showing or designating the unit to which each is assigned.

C. All convertible lands shall be deemed a part of the common elements except for such portions of such convertible lands as are converted in accordance with the provisions of this section. Until the expiration of the period during which conversion may occur or until actual conversion, whichever occurs first, the declarant alone shall be liable for real estate taxes assessed against the convertible land and any improvements on such convertible land and all other expenses in connection with that real estate, and no other unit owner and no other portion of the condominium shall be subject to a claim for payment of those taxes or expenses, and, unless the declaration provides otherwise, any income or proceeds from the convertible land and any improvements on

such convertible land shall inure to the declarant. No such conversion shall occur after 10 years from the recordation of the declaration, or such shorter period of time as the declaration may specify.

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.61; 1975, c. 415; 1986, c. 324; 1991, c. 497; 1993, c. 45; 2012, c. [520](#); 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1925. (Effective October 1, 2019) Conversion of convertible spaces.**

A. The declarant may convert all or any portion of any convertible space into one or more units or common elements, including limited common elements, subject to any restrictions and limitations that the condominium instruments may specify. Any such conversion shall be deemed to have occurred at the time of the recordation of appropriate instruments pursuant to subsection B and subsection E of § [55.1-1920](#).

B. Simultaneously with the recording of plats and plans pursuant to subsection E of § [55.1-1920](#), the declarant shall prepare, execute, and record an amendment to the declaration describing the conversion. Such amendment shall assign an identifying number to each unit formed out of a convertible space and shall allocate to each unit a portion of the undivided interest in the common elements appertaining to that space. Such amendment shall describe or delineate any limited common elements formed out of the convertible space, showing or designating the unit to which each is assigned.

C. If all or any portion of any convertible space is converted into one or more units in accordance with this section, the declarant shall prepare and execute, and record simultaneously with the amendment to the declaration, an amendment to the bylaws. The amendment to the bylaws shall reallocate votes in the unit owners' association, rights to future common profits, and liabilities for future common expenses not specially assessed, all as in the case of the subdivision of a unit in accordance with subsection D of § [55.1-1933](#).

D. Any convertible space not converted in accordance with the provisions of this section, or any portion of such convertible space not so converted, shall be treated for all purposes as a single unit until and unless it is so converted, and the provisions of this chapter shall be deemed applicable to any such convertible space, or portion of such convertible space, as though the same were a unit.

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.62; 1999, c. [560](#); 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1926. (Effective October 1, 2019) Expansion of condominium.**

No condominium shall be expanded except in accordance with the provisions of the declaration and of this chapter. Any such expansion shall be deemed to have occurred at the time of the recordation of plats and plans pursuant to subsection C of § [55.1-1920](#), together with an amendment to the declaration, duly executed by the declarant, including all of the owners and lessees of the additional land added to the condominium. Such amendment shall contain a legal description by metes and bounds of the land added to the condominium and shall reallocate undivided interests in

the common elements in accordance with the provisions of subsection B of § [55.1-1918](#). Such amendment may create convertible or withdrawable lands or both within the land added to the condominium, but this provision shall not be construed in derogation of the time limits imposed by or pursuant to subdivision D 3 of § [55.1-1916](#) and subsection C of § [55.1-1924](#).

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.63; 1975, c. 415; 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1927. (Effective October 1, 2019) Contraction of condominium.**

No condominium shall be contracted except in accordance with the provisions of the declaration and of this chapter. Any such contraction shall be deemed to have occurred at the time of the recordation of an amendment to the declaration, executed by the declarant, containing a legal description by metes and bounds of the land withdrawn from the condominium. If portions of the withdrawable land were described pursuant to subdivision D 5 of § [55.1-1916](#), then no such portion shall be so withdrawn after the conveyance of any unit on such portion. If no such portions were described, then none of the withdrawable land shall be withdrawn after the first conveyance of any unit.

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.64; 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1928. (Effective October 1, 2019) Easement to facilitate conversion and expansion.**

Subject to any restrictions and limitations the condominium instruments may specify, the declarant shall have a transferable easement over and on the common elements for the purpose of making improvements on the submitted land and any additional land pursuant to the provisions of those instruments and of this chapter and for the purpose of doing all things reasonably necessary and proper in connection with making such improvements.

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.65; 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1929. (Effective October 1, 2019) Easement to facilitate sales.**

The declarant and his duly authorized agents, representatives, and employees may maintain sales offices or model units on the submitted land if and only if the condominium instruments provide for maintaining such sales offices or model units and specify the rights of the declarant with regard to the number, size, location, and relocation of such sales offices or model units. Any such sales office or model unit that is not designated a unit by the condominium instruments shall become a common element as soon as the declarant ceases to be a unit owner, and the declarant shall cease to have any rights with regard to such sales office or model unit unless it is removed forthwith from the submitted land in accordance with a right reserved in the condominium instruments to make such removal.

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.66; 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1930. (Effective October 1, 2019) Declarant's obligation to complete and restore.**

A. No covenants, restrictions, limitations, or other representations or commitments in the condominium instruments with regard to anything that is or is not to be done on the additional land, the withdrawable land, or any portion of either shall be binding as to any portion of either lawfully withdrawn from the condominium or never added to the condominium, except to the extent that the condominium instruments so provide. But in the case of any covenant, restriction, limitation, or other representation or commitment in the condominium instruments or in any other agreement requiring the declarant to add all or any portion of the additional land or to withdraw any portion of the withdrawable land, or imposing any obligations with regard to anything that is or is not to be done on such land or with regard to such land, or imposing any obligations with regard to anything that is or is not to be done on or with regard to the condominium or any portion of such condominium, this subsection shall not be construed to nullify, limit, or otherwise affect any such obligation.

B. The declarant shall complete all improvements labeled "NOT YET COMPLETED" on plats recorded pursuant to the requirements of this chapter unless the condominium instruments expressly exempt the declarant from such obligation and shall, in the case of every improvement labeled "NOT YET BEGUN" on such plats, state in the declaration either the extent of the obligation to complete the same or that there is no such obligation.

C. To the extent that damage is inflicted on any part of the condominium by any person utilizing the easements reserved by the condominium instruments or created by §§ [55.1-1928](#) and [55.1-1929](#), the declarant together with any person causing the same shall be jointly and severally liable for the prompt repair of such damage and for the restoration of the same to a condition compatible with the remainder of the condominium.

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.67; 1975, c. 415; 2019, c. [712](#).

#### **§ 55.1-1931. (Effective October 1, 2019) Alterations within units.**

A. Except to the extent prohibited, restricted, or limited by the condominium instruments, any unit owner may make any improvements or alterations within his unit that do not impair the structural integrity of any structure or otherwise lessen the support of any portion of the condominium. However, no unit owner shall do anything that would change the exterior appearance of his unit or of any other portion of the condominium except to such extent and subject to such conditions as the condominium instruments may specify.

B. If a unit owner acquires an adjoining unit, or an adjoining part of an adjoining unit, then such unit owner shall have the right to remove all or any part of any intervening partition or to create doorways or other apertures in such unit, notwithstanding the fact that such partition may in whole or in part be a common element, so long as no portion of any bearing wall or bearing column is weakened or removed and no portion of any common element other than that partition is damaged, destroyed, or endangered. Such creation of doorways or other apertures shall not be deemed an alteration of boundaries within the meaning of § [55.1-1932](#).

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.68; 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1932. (Effective October 1, 2019) Relocation of boundaries between units.**

A. If the condominium instruments expressly permit the relocation of boundaries between adjoining units, then the boundaries between such units may be relocated in accordance with (i) the provisions of this section and (ii) any restrictions and limitations not otherwise unlawful that the condominium instruments may specify. The boundaries between adjoining units shall not be relocated unless the condominium instruments expressly permit it.

B. If the unit owners of adjoining units whose mutual boundaries may be relocated desire to relocate such boundaries, then the principal officer of the unit owners' association, or such other officer as the condominium instruments may specify, shall, upon written application of such unit owners, forthwith prepare and execute appropriate instruments pursuant to subsections C, D, and E.

C. An amendment to the declaration shall identify the units involved and shall state that the boundaries between those units are being relocated by agreement of the unit owners of such units, and the amendment shall contain conveyancing between those unit owners. If the unit owners of the units involved have specified in their written application a reasonable reallocation as between the units involved of the aggregate undivided interest in the common elements appertaining to those units, the amendment to the declaration shall reflect that reallocation.

D. If the unit owners of the units involved have specified in their written application a reasonable reallocation as between the units involved of the aggregate number of votes in the unit owners' association allocated to those units, an amendment to the bylaws shall reflect that reallocation and a proportionate reallocation of liability for common expenses as between those units.

E. Such plats and plans as may be necessary to show the altered boundaries between the units involved together with their other boundaries shall be prepared, and the units depicted on such plats and plans shall bear their identifying numbers. Such plats and plans shall indicate the new dimensions of the units involved, and any change in the horizontal boundaries of either as a result of the relocation of their boundaries shall be identified with reference to established datum. Such plats and plans shall be certified as to their accuracy and compliance with the provisions of this subsection (i) by a licensed land surveyor in the case of any plat and (ii) by a licensed architect, licensed engineer, or licensed land surveyor in the case of any plan.

F. When appropriate instruments in accordance with this section have been prepared, executed, and acknowledged, they shall be recorded by an officer of the unit owners' association following payment by the unit owners of the units involved of all reasonable costs for the preparation, acknowledgment, and recordation of such instruments. Such instruments are effective when executed by the unit owners of the units involved and recorded, and the recordation of such instruments is conclusive evidence that the relocation of boundaries so effectuated did not violate any restrictions or limitations specified by the condominium instruments and that any reallocations made pursuant to subsections C and D were reasonable.

G. Any relocation of boundaries between adjoining units shall be governed by this section and not by § [55.1-1933](#). Section [55.1-1933](#) shall apply only to such subdivisions of units as are intended to result in the creation of two or more new units in place of the subdivided unit.

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.69; 1991, c. 497; 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1933. (Effective October 1, 2019) Subdivision of units.**

A. If the condominium instruments expressly permit the subdivision of any units, then such units may be subdivided in accordance with (i) the provisions of this section and (ii) any restrictions and limitations not otherwise unlawful that the condominium instruments may specify. No unit shall be subdivided unless the condominium instruments expressly permit it.

B. If the unit owner of any unit that may be subdivided desires to subdivide such unit, then the principal officer of the unit owners' association, or such other officer as the condominium instruments may specify, shall, upon written application of the subdivider, as such unit owner shall hereinafter be referred to in this section, forthwith prepare and execute appropriate instruments pursuant to subsections C, D, and E.

C. An amendment to the declaration shall assign new identifying numbers to the new units created by the subdivision of a unit and shall allocate to those units, on a reasonable basis acceptable to the subdivider, all of the undivided interest in the common elements appertaining to the subdivided unit. The new units shall jointly share all rights, and shall be equally liable jointly and severally for all obligations, with regard to any limited common elements assigned to the subdivided unit except to the extent that the subdivider may have specified in his written application that all or any portions of any limited common element assigned to the subdivided unit exclusively should be assigned to one or more, but less than all of the new units, in which case the amendment to the declaration shall reflect the desires of the subdivider as expressed in such written application.

D. An amendment to the bylaws shall allocate to the new units, on a reasonable basis acceptable to the subdivider, the votes in the unit owners' association allocated to the subdivided unit and shall reflect a proportionate allocation to the new units of the liability for common expenses formerly appertaining to the subdivided unit.

E. Such plats and plans as may be necessary to show the boundaries separating the new units together with their other boundaries shall be prepared, and the new units depicted on such plats and plans shall bear their new identifying numbers. Such plats and plans shall indicate the dimensions of the new units, and the horizontal boundaries of such units, if any, shall be identified on such plats and plans with reference to established datum. Such plats and plans shall be certified as to their accuracy and compliance with the provisions of this subsection (i) by a licensed land surveyor in the case of any plat and (ii) by a licensed architect, licensed engineer, or licensed land surveyor in the case of any plan.

F. When appropriate instruments in accordance with this section have been prepared, executed, and

acknowledged, they shall be recorded by an officer of the unit owners' association following payment by the subdivider of all reasonable costs for the preparation, acknowledgment, and recordation of such instruments. Such instruments are effective when executed by the subdivider and recorded, and the recordation of such instruments is conclusive evidence that the subdivision so effectuated did not violate any restrictions or limitations specified by the condominium instruments and that any reallocations made pursuant to subsections C and D were reasonable.

G. Notwithstanding the definition of "unit" found in § [55.1-1900](#) and the provisions of subsection D of § [55.1-1925](#), this section shall have no application to convertible spaces, and no such space shall be deemed a unit for the purposes of this section. However, this section shall apply to any units formed by the conversion of all or any portion of any such convertible space, and any such unit shall be deemed a unit for the purposes of this section.

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.70; 1991, c. 497; 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1934. (Effective October 1, 2019) Amendment of condominium instruments.**

A. If there is no unit owner other than the declarant, the declarant may unilaterally amend the condominium instruments, and an amendment signed by the declarant is effective upon recordation. This section shall not be construed to nullify, limit, or otherwise affect the validity of enforceability of any agreement renouncing or to renounce, in whole or in part, the right hereby conferred.

B. If any of the units in the condominium is restricted exclusively to residential use and there is any unit owner other than the declarant, the condominium instruments shall be amended only by agreement of unit owners of units to which two-thirds of the votes in the unit owners' association appertain, or such larger majority as the condominium instruments may specify, except in cases for which this chapter provides different methods of amendment. If none of the units in the condominium is restricted exclusively to residential use, the condominium instruments may specify a majority smaller than the minimum specified in the preceding sentence.

C. An action to challenge the validity of an amendment adopted by the unit owners' association pursuant to this section may not be brought more than one year after the amendment is recorded.

D. Agreement of the required majority of unit owners to any amendment of the condominium instruments shall be evidenced by their execution of the amendment, or ratifications of such amendment, and the same is effective when a copy of the amendment is recorded together with a certification, signed by the principal officer of the unit owners' association or by such other officer as the condominium instruments may specify, that the requisite majority of the unit owners signed the amendment or ratifications of such amendment.

E. Except to the extent expressly permitted or expressly required by other provisions of this chapter or agreed to by 100 percent of the unit owners, no amendment to the condominium instruments shall change (i) the boundaries of any unit, (ii) the undivided interest in the common elements, (iii) the liability for common expenses, or (iv) the number of votes in the unit owners' association that

appertains to any unit.

F. Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the declarant may unilaterally execute and record a corrective amendment or supplement to the condominium instruments to correct a mathematical mistake, an inconsistency, or a scrivener's error or clarify an ambiguity in the condominium instruments with respect to an objectively verifiable fact, including recalculating the undivided interest in the common elements, the liability for common expenses or the number of votes in the unit owners' association appertaining to a unit, within five years after the recordation of the condominium instrument containing or creating such mistake, inconsistency, error, or ambiguity. No such amendment or supplement may materially reduce what the obligations of the declarant would have been if the mistake, inconsistency, error, or ambiguity had not occurred. Regardless of the date of recordation of the condominium instruments, the principal officer of the unit owners' association may also unilaterally execute and record such a corrective amendment or supplement upon a vote of two-thirds of the members of the executive board. All corrective amendments and supplements recorded prior to July 1, 1986, are hereby validated to the extent that such corrective amendments and supplements would have been permitted by this subsection.

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.71; 1993, c. 667; 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1935. (Effective October 1, 2019) Use of technology.**

A. Unless the condominium instruments expressly provide otherwise, (i) any notice required to be sent or received or (ii) any signature, vote, consent, or approval required to be obtained under any condominium instrument or any provision of this chapter may be accomplished using electronic means.

B. The unit owners' association, unit owners, and other persons entitled to occupy a unit may perform any obligation or exercise any right under any condominium instrument or any provision of this chapter by use of electronic means.

C. An electronic signature meeting the requirements of applicable law shall satisfy any requirement for a signature under any condominium instrument or any provision of this chapter.

D. Voting, consent to, and approval of any matter under any condominium instrument or any provision of this chapter may be accomplished by electronic means provided that a record is created as evidence of such vote, consent, or approval and maintained as long as such record would be required to be maintained in nonelectronic form.

E. Subject to other provisions of law, no action required or permitted by any condominium instrument or any provision of this chapter need be acknowledged before a notary public if the identity and signature of such person can otherwise be authenticated to the satisfaction of the executive board.

F. If any person does not have the capability or desire to conduct business using electronic means, the unit owners' association shall make reasonable accommodation, at its expense, for such person

to conduct business with the unit owners' association without use of such electronic means.

G. This section shall not apply to any notice related to an enforcement action by the unit owners' association, an assessment lien, or foreclosure proceedings in enforcement of an assessment lien.

2010, c. [432](#), § 55-79.71:1; 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1936. (Effective October 1, 2019) Merger or consolidation of condominiums; procedure.**

A. Any two or more condominiums, by agreement of the unit owners as provided in subsection B, may be merged or consolidated into a single condominium. In the event of a merger or consolidation, unless the agreement otherwise provides, the resultant condominium shall be the legal successor, for all purposes, of all of the preexisting condominiums, and the operations and activities of all unit owners' associations of the preexisting condominiums shall be merged or consolidated into a single unit owners' association that holds all powers, rights, obligations, assets, and liabilities of all preexisting unit owners' associations.

B. An agreement to merge or consolidate two or more condominiums pursuant to subsection A shall be evidenced by an agreement prepared, executed, recorded, and certified by the principal officer of the unit owners' association of each of the preexisting condominiums following approval by owners of units to which are allocated the percentage of votes in each condominium required to terminate that condominium. The agreement shall be recorded in every locality in which a portion of the condominium is located and shall not be effective until recorded.

C. Every merger or consolidation agreement shall provide for the reallocation of the allocated interests in the new unit owners' association among the units of the resultant condominium either (i) by stating the reallocations or the formulas upon which they are based or (ii) by stating the percentage of the overall allocated interests of the condominium that are allocated to all of the units comprising each of the preexisting condominiums, provided that the portion of the percentages allocated to each unit formerly comprising a part of the preexisting condominium shall be equal to the percentages of allocated interests allocated to that unit by the declaration of the preexisting condominium.

D. If the condominium instruments of a condominium to be merged or consolidated require a vote or consent of mortgagees in order to amend the condominium instruments or terminate the condominium, the same vote or consent of mortgagees shall be required before such merger or consolidation is effective. No merger or consolidation shall affect mortgagee rights, alter the priority of the lien of any mortgage, materially impair or affect any condominium unit as collateral for a mortgage, or affect a mortgagee's right to foreclose on a condominium unit as collateral without the prior written consent of the mortgagee. A vote or consent of a mortgagee required by this section may be deemed received pursuant to § [55.1-1941](#).

2014, c. [659](#), § 55-79.71:2; 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1937. (Effective October 1, 2019) Termination of condominium.**

A. If there is no unit owner other than the declarant, the declarant may unilaterally terminate the condominium. An instrument terminating a condominium signed by the declarant is effective upon recordation of such instrument. But this section shall not be construed to nullify, limit, or otherwise affect the validity or enforceability of any agreement renouncing or to renounce, in whole or in part, the right hereby conferred.

B. Except in the case of a taking of all the units by eminent domain, if any of the units in the condominium is restricted exclusively to residential use and there is any unit owner other than the declarant, the condominium may be terminated only by the agreement of unit owners of units to which four-fifths of the votes in the unit owners' association appertain, or such larger majority as the condominium instruments may specify. If none of the units in the condominium is restricted exclusively to residential use, the condominium instruments may specify a majority smaller than the minimum specified in this subsection.

C. Agreement of the required majority of unit owners to termination of the condominium shall be evidenced by their execution of a termination agreement, or ratifications of such agreement, and such agreement is effective when a copy of the termination agreement is recorded together with a certification, signed by the principal officer of the unit owners' association or by such other officer as the condominium instruments may specify, that the requisite majority of the unit owners signed the termination agreement or ratifications. Unless the termination agreement otherwise provides, prior to recordation of the termination agreement, a unit owner's prior agreement to terminate the condominium may be revoked only with the approval of unit owners of units to which a majority of the votes in the unit owners' association appertain. The termination agreement shall specify a date after which the termination agreement is void if the termination agreement is not recorded. For the purposes of this section, an instrument terminating a condominium and any ratification of such instrument shall be deemed a condominium instrument subject to the provisions of § [55.1-1911](#).

D. In the case of a condominium that contains only units having horizontal boundaries described in the condominium instruments, a termination agreement may provide that all of the common elements and units of the condominium shall be sold following termination. If, pursuant to the termination agreement, any property in the condominium is sold following termination, the termination agreement shall set forth the minimum terms of the sale.

E. In the case of a condominium that contains any units not having horizontal boundaries described in the condominium instruments, a termination agreement may provide for sale of the common elements. The termination agreement may not require that the units be sold following termination, unless the condominium instruments as originally recorded provide otherwise or all the unit owners consent to the sale. In the case of a master condominium that contains a unit that is a part of another condominium, a termination agreement for the master condominium shall not terminate the other condominium.

F. On behalf of the unit owners, the unit owners' association may contract for the disposition of

property in the condominium, but the contract shall not be binding on the unit owners until approved pursuant to subsections B and C. If the termination agreement requires that any property in the condominium be sold following termination, title to the property, upon termination, shall vest in the unit owners' association as trustee for the holders of all interest in the units. Thereafter, the unit owners' association shall have powers necessary and appropriate to effect the sale. Until the termination has been concluded and the proceeds have been distributed, the unit owners' association shall continue in existence with all the powers the unit owners' association had before termination. Proceeds of the sale shall be distributed to unit owners and lien holders as their interests may appear, in proportion to the respective interests of the unit owners as provided in subsection I. Unless otherwise specified in the termination agreement, for as long as the unit owners' association holds title to the property, each unit owner or his successor in interest shall have an exclusive right to occupancy of the portion of the property that formerly constituted his unit. During the period of occupancy by the unit owner or his successor in interest, each unit owner or his successor in interest shall remain liable for any assessment or other obligation imposed on the unit owner by this chapter or the condominium instruments.

G. If the property that constitutes the condominium is not sold following termination, title to the common elements and, in the case of a condominium containing only units that have horizontal boundaries described in the condominium instruments, title to all the property in the condominium shall vest in the unit owners, upon termination, as tenants in common in proportion to the unit owners' respective interests as provided in subsection I. Any liens on the units shall shift accordingly. While the tenancy in common exists, each unit owner or his successor in interest shall have the exclusive right to occupancy of the portion of the property that formerly constituted the unit owner's unit.

H. Following termination of the condominium, the proceeds of any sale of property, together with the assets of the unit owners' association, shall be held by the unit owners' association as trustee for unit owners or lien holders on the units as their interests may appear. Following termination, any creditor of the unit owners' association who holds a lien on the unit that was recorded before termination may enforce the lien in the same manner as any lien holder. Any other creditor of the unit owners' association shall be treated as if he had perfected a lien on the units immediately before termination.

I. Unless the condominium instruments as originally recorded or as amended by 100 percent of the unit owners provide otherwise, the respective interests of unit owners referred to in subsections F, G, and H shall be as follows:

1. Except as provided in subdivision 2, the respective interests of the unit owners shall be the fair market values of their units, limited common elements, and common element interests immediately before the termination, as determined by one or more independent appraisers selected by the unit owners' association. The decision of the independent appraisers shall be distributed to the unit owners and become final unless disapproved within 30 days after distribution by unit owners of units to which one quarter of the votes in the unit owners' association appertain. The proportion of any unit owner's interest to the interest of all unit owners is determined by dividing the fair market value of that unit owner's unit and common element interest by the total fair market values of all

the units and their common element interests.

2. If any unit or limited common element is destroyed to the extent that an appraisal of the fair market value of such unit or limited common element before destruction cannot be made, the interests of all unit owners are the unit owners' respective common element interests immediately before the termination.

J. Except as provided in subsection K, foreclosure or enforcement of a lien or encumbrance against the entire condominium shall not alone terminate the condominium, and foreclosure or enforcement of a lien or encumbrance against a portion of the condominium, other than withdrawable land, shall not withdraw that portion from the condominium. Foreclosure or enforcement of a lien or encumbrance against withdrawable land shall not alone withdraw the land from the condominium, but the person who takes title to the withdrawable land shall have the right to require from the unit owners' association, upon request, an amendment that excludes the land from the condominium.

K. If a lien or encumbrance against a portion of the property that comprises the condominium has priority over the condominium instruments and the lien or encumbrance has not been partially released, upon foreclosure, the parties foreclosing the lien or encumbrance may record an instrument that excludes the property subject to the lien or encumbrance from the condominium.

L. The foreclosure of any mortgage, deed of trust, or other lien shall not be deemed, ex proprio vigore, to terminate the condominium.

1993, c. 667, § 55-79.72:1; 2019, c. [712](#).

#### **§ 55.1-1938. (Effective October 1, 2019) Rights of mortgagees.**

No provision of this chapter shall be construed in derogation of any requirement of the condominium instruments that all or a specified number of the beneficiaries of mortgages or deeds of trust encumbering the condominium units approve specified actions contemplated by the unit owners' association.

1993, c. 667, § 55-79.72:2; 2019, c. [712](#).

#### **§ 55.1-1939. (Effective October 1, 2019) Statement of unit owner rights.**

Every unit owner who is a member in good standing of a unit owners' association shall have the following rights:

1. The right of access to all books and records kept by or on behalf of the unit owners' association according to and subject to the provisions of § [55.1-1945](#), including records of all financial transactions;

2. The right to cast a vote on any matter requiring a vote by the unit owners' association membership

in proportion to the unit owner's ownership interest, except to the extent that the condominium instruments provide otherwise;

3. The right to have notice of any meeting of the executive board, to make a record of such meetings by audio or visual means, and to participate in such meeting in accordance with the provisions of § [55.1-1949](#);

4. The right to have (i) notice of any proceeding conducted by the executive board or other tribunal specified in the condominium instruments against the unit owner to enforce any rule or regulation of the unit owners' association and (ii) the opportunity to be heard and represented by counsel at the proceeding, as provided in § [55.1-1959](#), and the right of due process in the conduct of that hearing; and

5. The right to serve on the executive board if duly elected and a member in good standing of the unit owners' association, except to the extent that the condominium instruments provide otherwise.

The rights enumerated in this section shall be enforceable by any unit owner pursuant to the provisions of § [55.1-1915](#).

2015, c. [286](#), § 55-79.72:3; 2019, c. [712](#).

### **Article 3. Management of Condominium**

#### **§ 55.1-1940. (Effective October 1, 2019) Bylaws to be recorded with declaration; contents; unit owners' association; executive board; amendment of bylaws.**

A. Bylaws providing for governance of the condominium by an association of all of the unit owners shall be recorded simultaneously with the declaration. The unit owners' association may be incorporated.

B. The bylaws shall provide whether or not the unit owners' association shall elect an executive board. If there is to be such a board, the bylaws shall specify the powers and responsibilities of the board and the number and terms of its members. Except to the extent the condominium instruments provide otherwise, any vacancy occurring in the executive board shall be filled by a vote of a majority of the remaining members of the executive board at a meeting of the executive board, even though the members of the executive board present at such meeting may constitute less than a quorum because a quorum is impossible to obtain. Each person so elected shall serve until the next annual meeting of the unit owners' association at which time a successor shall be elected by a vote of the unit owners. The bylaws may delegate to such board, inter alia, any of the powers and responsibilities assigned by this chapter to the unit owners' association. The bylaws shall also specify which, if any, of its powers and responsibilities the unit owners' association or its executive board may delegate to a managing agent.

C. The bylaws may provide for arbitration of disputes or other means of alternative dispute

resolution in accordance with subsection C of § [55.1-1915](#).

D. In any case where an amendment to the declaration is required by subsection B, C, or D of § [55.1-1918](#), the person required to execute such amendment shall also prepare and execute, and record simultaneously with such amendment, an amendment to the bylaws. The amendment to the bylaws shall allocate votes in the unit owners' association to new units on the same basis as was used for the allocation of such votes to the units depicted on plats and plans recorded pursuant to subsections A and B of § [55.1-1920](#) or shall abolish the votes appertaining to former units, as appropriate. The amendment to the bylaws shall also reallocate rights to future common profits, and liabilities for future common expenses not specially assessed, in proportion to relative voting strengths as reflected by the amendment.

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.73; 1978, c. 332; 1993, c. 667; 1998, c. [32](#); 2012, c. [758](#); 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1941. (Effective October 1, 2019) Amendment to condominium instruments; consent of mortgagee.**

A. If any provision in the condominium instruments requires the written consent of a mortgagee in order to amend the condominium instruments, the unit owners' association shall be deemed to have received the written consent of a mortgagee if the unit owners' association sends the text of the proposed amendment by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the mortgagee at the address supplied by such mortgagee in a written request to the unit owners' association to receive notice of proposed amendments to the condominium instruments and receives no written objection to the adoption of the amendment from the mortgagee within 60 days of the date that the notice of amendment is sent by the unit owners' association, unless the condominium instruments expressly provide otherwise. If the mortgagee has not supplied an address to the unit owners' association, the unit owners' association shall be deemed to have received the written consent of a mortgagee if the unit owners' association sends the text of the proposed amendment by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the mortgagee at the address filed in the land records or with the local tax assessor's office and receives no written objection to the adoption of the amendment from the mortgagee within 60 days of the date that the notice of amendment is sent by the unit owners' association, unless the condominium instruments expressly provide otherwise.

B. Subsection A shall not apply to amendments that alter the priority of the lien of the mortgagee or that materially impair or affect the unit as collateral or the right of the mortgagee to foreclose on a unit as collateral.

C. Where the condominium instruments are silent on the need for mortgagee consent, no mortgagee consent shall be required if the amendment to the condominium instruments does not specifically affect mortgagee rights.

1993, c. 1, § 55-79.73:1; 1998, c. [32](#); 2007, c. [675](#); 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1942. (Effective October 1, 2019) Reformation of declaration; judicial procedure.**

A. A unit owners' association may petition the circuit court in the county or city in which the condominium or the greater part of the condominium is located to reform the condominium instruments where the unit owners' association, acting through its executive board, has attempted to amend the condominium instruments regarding ownership of legal title of the common elements or real property using provisions outlined in the condominium instruments to resolve (i) ambiguities or inconsistencies in the condominium instruments that are the source of legal and other disputes pertaining to the legal rights and responsibilities of the unit owners' association or individual unit owners or (ii) scrivener's errors, including incorrectly identifying the unit owners' association, incorrectly identifying an entity other than the unit owners' association, or errors arising from oversight or from an inadvertent omission or mathematical mistake.

B. The court shall have jurisdiction over matters set forth in subsection A regarding ownership of legal title of the common elements or real property to:

1. Reform, in whole or in part, any provision of the condominium instruments; and
2. Correct mistakes or any other error in the condominium instruments that may exist with respect to the declaration for any other purpose.

C. A petition filed by the unit owners' association with the court setting forth any inconsistency or error made in the condominium instruments, or the necessity for any change in such instruments, shall be deemed sufficient basis for the reformation, in whole or in part, of the condominium instruments, provided that:

1. The unit owners' association has made three good faith attempts to convene a duly called meeting of the unit owners' association to present for consideration amendments to the condominium instruments for the reasons specified in subsection A, which attempts have proven unsuccessful as evidenced by an affidavit verified by oath of the principal officer of the unit owners' association;
2. There is no adequate remedy at law as practical and effective to attain the ends of justice as may be accomplished in the circuit court;
3. Where the declarant of the condominium still owns a unit or continues to have any special declarant rights in the condominium, the declarant joins in the petition of the unit owners' association;
4. A copy of the petition is sent to all unit owners at least 30 days before the petition is filed as evidenced by an affidavit verified by oath of the principal officer of the unit owners' association; and
5. A copy of the petition is sent to all mortgagees at least 30 days before the petition is filed as evidenced by an affidavit verified by oath of the principal officer of the unit owners' association.

D. Any mortgagee of a condominium unit in the condominium shall have standing to participate in the reformation proceedings before the court. No reformation pursuant to this section shall affect

mortgagee rights, alter the priority of the lien of any mortgage, materially impair or affect any condominium unit as collateral for a mortgage, or affect a mortgagee's right to foreclose on a condominium unit as collateral without the prior written consent of the mortgagee. Consent of a mortgagee required by this section may be deemed received pursuant to § [55.1-1941](#).

2014, c. [659](#), § 55-79.73:2; 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1943. (Effective October 1, 2019) Control of condominium by declarant.**

A. The condominium instruments may authorize the declarant, or a managing agent or some other person selected or to be selected by the declarant, to appoint and remove some or all of the officers of the unit owners' association or its executive board, or to exercise powers and responsibilities otherwise assigned by the condominium instruments and by this chapter to the unit owners' association, the officers, or the executive board. The declarant, managing agent, or other person selected by the declarant to so appoint and remove officers or the executive board or to exercise such powers and responsibilities otherwise assigned to the unit owners' association, the officers, or the executive board shall be subject to liability as fiduciaries of the unit owners for their action or omissions during the period of declarant control as specified in the condominium instruments or, if not so specified, within such period as defined in this section. But no amendment to the condominium instruments shall increase the scope of such authorization if there is any unit owner other than the declarant, and no such authorization shall be valid after the time limit set by the condominium instruments or after units to which three-fourths of the undivided interests in the common elements appertain have been conveyed, whichever occurs first. For the purposes of the preceding sentence only, the calculation of the fraction of undivided interest shall be based upon the total undivided interests assigned or to be assigned to all units registered with the Common Interest Community Board pursuant to subsection B of § [55.1-1978](#) and described pursuant to subdivision A 4, B 2, or C 8 of § [55.1-1916](#).

B. The time limit initially set by the condominium instruments shall not exceed five years in the case of an expandable condominium; three years in the case of a condominium other than an expandable condominium, containing any convertible land; or two years in the case of any other condominium. Such time period shall begin upon settlement of the first unit to be sold in any portion of the condominium.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, at the request of the declarant, such time limits may be extended for a period not to exceed 15 years from the settlement of the first unit to be sold in any portion of the condominium or after units to which three-fourths of the undivided interests in the common elements appertain have been conveyed, whichever occurs first, provided that (i) a special meeting is held prior to the expiration of the initial period of declarant control; (ii) at such special meeting, the extension of such time limits is approved by a two-thirds affirmative vote of the unit owners other than the declarant; and (iii) at such special meeting, there is an election of a warranty review committee consisting of no fewer than three persons unaffiliated with the declarant.

Prior to any such vote, the declarant shall furnish to the unit owners in the notice of such special meeting made in accordance with § [55.1-1949](#) a written statement in a form provided by the

Common Interest Community Board that discloses that an affirmative vote extends the right of the declarant, or a managing agent or some other person selected by the declarant, to (a) appoint and remove some or all of the officers of the unit owners' association or its executive board and (b) exercise powers and responsibilities otherwise assigned by the condominium instruments and by this chapter. In addition, such statement shall contain both a notice of the effect of the extension of declarant control on the enforcement of the warranty against structural defects provided by the declarant in accordance with § [55.1-1955](#) and a statement that a unit owner is advised to exercise whatever due diligence the unit owner deems necessary to protect his interest.

C. If entered into any time prior to the expiration of the period of declarant control, no contract or lease entered into with the declarant or any entity controlled by the declarant, management contract, employment contract, or lease of recreational or parking areas or facilities, which is directly or indirectly made by or on behalf of the unit owners' association, its executive board, or the unit owners as a group, shall be entered into for a period in excess of two years. Any such contract or agreement entered into on or after July 1, 1978, may be terminated without penalty by the unit owners' association or its executive board upon not less than 90 days' written notice to the other party given not later than 60 days after the expiration of the period of declarant control. Any such contract or agreement may be renewed for periods not in excess of two years; however, at the end of any two-year period the unit owners' association or its executive board may terminate any further renewals or extensions of such contract or agreement. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to any lease referred to in § [55.1-1910](#) or subject to subsection E of § [55.1-1916](#).

D. If entered into at any time prior to the expiration of the period of declarant control, any contract, lease, or agreement, other than those subject to the provisions of subsection C, may be entered into by or on behalf of the unit owners' association, its executive board, or the unit owners as a group, if such contract, lease, or agreement is bona fide and is commercially reasonable to the unit owners' association at the time entered into under the circumstances.

E. This section does not apply to any contract, incidental to the disposition of a condominium unit, to provide to a unit owner for the duration of such unit owner's life, or for any term in excess of one year, nursing services, medical services, other health-related services, board and lodging and care as necessary, or any combination of such services. The rule of property law known as the rule restricting unreasonable restraints on alienation shall not be applied to defeat any provision of the condominium instruments requiring that the unit owners be parties to such contracts.

F. If the unit owners' association is not in existence or does not have officers at the time of the creation of the condominium, the declarant shall, until there is such an association with such officers, have the power and the responsibility to act in all instances where this chapter requires action by the unit owners' association, its executive board, or any officer.

G. Thirty days prior to the expiration of the period of declarant control, the declarant shall notify the governing body of the locality in which the condominium is located of the forthcoming termination of declarant control. Prior to the expiration of the 30-day period, the local governing body or an agency designated by the local governing body shall advise the principal elected officer of the condominium unit owners' association of any outstanding violations of applicable building

codes or local ordinances or other deficiencies of record.

H. Within 45 days from the expiration of the period of declarant control, the declarant shall deliver to the president of the unit owners' association or his designated agent (i) all unit owners' association books and records held by or controlled by the declarant, including minute books and all rules, regulations, and amendments to such rules and regulations that may have been promulgated; (ii) an accurate and complete statement of receipts and expenditures prepared using the accrual method of accounting from the date of the recording of the condominium instruments to the end of the regular accounting period immediately succeeding the first annual meeting of the unit owners, not to exceed 60 days from the date of the election; (iii) a copy of the latest available approved plans and specifications for all improvements in the project or as-built plans, if available; (iv) all association insurance policies that are currently in force; (v) written unexpired warranties of the contractors, subcontractors, suppliers, and manufacturers, if any; (vi) contracts in which the association is a contracting party, if any; (vii) a list of manufacturers of paints, roofing materials, and other similar materials if specified for use on the condominium property; and (viii) an inventory and description of stormwater facilities located on the common elements or which otherwise serve the condominium and for which the unit owners' association has, or subsequently may have, maintenance, repair, or replacement responsibility, together with the requirements for maintenance thereof.

The requirement for delivery of stormwater facility information required by clause (viii) shall be deemed satisfied by delivery to the association of a final site plan or final construction drawing showing stormwater facilities as approved by a local government jurisdiction and applicable recorded easements, or agreements if any, containing requirements for the maintenance, repair, or replacement of the stormwater facilities.

If the unit owners' association is managed by a management company in which the declarant, or its principals, have no pecuniary interest or management role, then such management company shall have the responsibility to provide the documents and information required by clauses (i), (ii), (iv), and (vi).

I. This section shall be strictly construed to protect the rights of the unit owners.

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.74; 1975, c. 415; 1978, c. 332; 1980, c. 738; 1984, c. 601; 1985, c. 83; 1996, c. [977](#); 2008, cc. [851](#), [871](#); 2013, c. [599](#); 2019, cc. [712](#), [724](#).

#### **§ 55.1-1944. (Effective October 1, 2019) Deposit of funds.**

All funds deposited with a managing agent shall be handled in a fiduciary capacity and shall be kept in a fiduciary trust account in a federally insured financial institution separate from other assets of the managing agent. The funds shall be the property of the unit owners' association and shall be segregated for each account in the records of the managing agent in a manner that permits the funds to be identified on an individual unit owners' association basis.

2007, cc. [696](#), [712](#), § 55-79.74:01; 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1945. (Effective October 1, 2019) Books, minutes, and records; inspection.**

A. The declarant, managing agent, unit owners' association, or person specified in the bylaws of the association shall keep detailed records of the receipts and expenditures affecting the operation and administration of the condominium and specifying the maintenance and repair expenses of the common elements and any other expenses incurred by or on behalf of the association. Subject to the provisions of subsections B, C, and E, upon request, any unit owner shall be provided a copy of such records and minutes. All financial books and records shall be kept in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices.

B. Subject to the provisions of subsection C, all books and records kept by or on behalf of the unit owners' association, including the unit owners' association membership list, and addresses and aggregate salary information of unit owners' association employees, shall be available for examination and copying by a unit owner in good standing or his authorized agent so long as the request is for a proper purpose related to his membership in the unit owners' association and not for pecuniary gain or commercial solicitation. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, this right of examination shall exist without reference to the duration of membership and may be exercised (i) only during reasonable business hours or at a mutually convenient time and location and (ii) upon five business days' written notice for a unit owner association managed by a common interest community manager and 10 business days' written notice for a self-managed unit owners' association, which notice shall reasonably identify the purpose for the request and the specific books and records of the unit owners' association requested.

C. Books and records kept by or on behalf of a unit owners' association may be withheld from examination or copying by unit owners and contract purchasers to the extent that they are drafts not yet incorporated into the books and records of the unit owners' association or if such books and records concern:

1. Personnel matters relating to specific, identified persons or a person's medical records;
2. Contracts, leases, and other commercial transactions to purchase or provide goods or services, currently in or under negotiation;
3. Pending or probable litigation. For purposes of this subdivision, "probable litigation" means those instances where there has been a specific threat of litigation from a person having standing to bring legal action or the legal counsel of such person;
4. Matters involving state or local administrative or other formal proceedings before a government tribunal for enforcement of the condominium instruments or rules and regulations promulgated by the executive board;
5. Communications with legal counsel that relate to subdivisions 1 through 4 or that are protected by the attorney-client privilege or the attorney work product doctrine;
6. Disclosure of information in violation of law;

7. Meeting minutes or other confidential records of an executive session of the executive board held pursuant to subsection C of § [55.1-1949](#);

8. Documentation, correspondence or management or executive board reports compiled for or on behalf of the unit owners' association or the executive board by its agents or committees for consideration by the executive board in executive session; or

9. Individual unit owner or member files, other than those of the requesting unit owner, including any individual unit owner's files kept by or on behalf of the unit owners' association.

D. Books and records kept by or on behalf of a unit owners' association shall be withheld from examination and copying in their entirety only to the extent that an exclusion from disclosure under subsection C applies to the entire content of such books and records. Otherwise, only those portions of the books and records containing information subject to an exclusion under subsection C may be withheld or redacted, and all portions of the books and records that are not so excluded shall be available for examination and copying, provided that the requesting member shall be responsible to the association for paying or reimbursing the association for any reasonable costs incurred by the association in responding to the request for the books and records and review for redaction of the same.

E. Prior to providing copies of any books and records, the unit owners' association may impose and collect a charge, not to exceed the reasonable costs of materials and labor, incurred to provide such copies. Charges may be imposed only in accordance with a cost schedule adopted by the executive board in accordance with this subsection. The cost schedule shall (i) specify the charges for materials and labor, (ii) apply equally to all unit owners in good standing, and (iii) be provided to such requesting unit owner at the time the request is made.

1980, c. 738, § 55-79.74:1; 1985, c. 75; 1989, c. 57; 1990, c. 662; 1992, c. 72; 1994, c. [463](#); 1999, c. [594](#); 2000, cc. [906](#), [919](#); 2001, c. [419](#); 2011, cc. [334](#), [361](#), [605](#); 2014, c. [207](#); 2018, c. [663](#); 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1946. (Effective October 1, 2019) Management office.**

Unless the condominium instruments expressly provide otherwise, the unit owners' association shall not be prohibited from maintaining a management office on common elements or in one or more units in the condominium.

1982, c. 545, § 55-79.74:2; 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1947. (Effective October 1, 2019) Transfer of special declarant rights.**

A. For the purposes of this section, "affiliate of a declarant" means any person who controls, is controlled by, or is under common control with a declarant. A person controls a declarant if the person (i) is a general partner, officer, director, or employer of the declarant; (ii) directly or

indirectly, or acting in concert with one or more persons or through one or more subsidiaries, owns, controls, holds with power to vote, or holds proxies representing more than 20 percent of the voting interests in the declarant; (iii) controls in any manner the election of a majority of the directors of the declarant; or (iv) has contributed more than 20 percent of the capital of the declarant. A person is controlled by a declarant if the declarant (a) is a general partner, officer, director, or employer of the person; (b) directly or indirectly, or acting in concert with one or more other persons or through one or more subsidiaries, owns, controls, holds with power to vote, or holds proxies representing more than 20 percent of the voting interest in the person; (c) controls in any manner the election of a majority of the directors of the person; or (d) has contributed more than 20 percent of the capital of the person. Control does not exist if the powers described in this subsection are held solely as security for an obligation and are not exercised.

B. No special declarant right may be transferred except by a document evidencing the transfer recorded in every county and city in which any portion of the condominium is located. The instrument shall not be effective unless executed by the transferee.

C. Upon transfer of any special declarant right, the liability of a transferor declarant shall be as follows:

1. The transferor shall not be relieved of any obligation or liability arising before the transfer and shall remain liable for warranty obligations imposed upon him by subsection B of § [55.1-1955](#). Lack of privity shall not deprive any unit owner of standing to bring an action to enforce any obligation of the transferor.

2. If the successor to any special declarant right is an affiliate of a declarant, the transferor shall also be jointly and severally liable with the successor for any obligation or liability of the successor that relates to the condominium.

3. If a transferor retains any special declarant rights, but transfers other special declarant rights to a successor who is not an affiliate of the declarant, the transferor shall also be liable for all obligations and liabilities relating to the retained special declarant rights and imposed on a declarant by this chapter or by the condominium instruments.

4. A transferor shall have no liability for any breach of a contractual or warranty obligation or for any other act or omission, arising from the exercise of a special declarant right by a successor declarant who is not an affiliate of the transferor.

D. Except as otherwise provided by the mortgage or deed of trust, in case of foreclosure of a mortgage, sale by a trustee under a deed of trust, tax sale, judicial sale, or sale under receivership proceedings or the Bankruptcy Code as codified in Title 11 of the United States Code of any unit owned by a declarant or land subject to development rights:

1. A person acquiring title to all the land being foreclosed or sold shall, but only upon his request, succeed to all special declarant rights related to that land reserved by that declarant, or only to any rights reserved in the declaration pursuant to § [55.1-1929](#) and held by that declarant to maintain

sales offices, management offices, model units, or signs.

2. The judgment or instrument conveying title shall provide for transfer of only the special declarant rights requested.

For the purposes of this subsection, "development rights" means any right or combination of rights to expand an expandable condominium, contract a contractable condominium, convert convertible land, or convert convertible space.

E. Upon foreclosure, sale by a trustee under a deed of trust, tax sale, judicial sale, or sale under receivership proceedings or the Bankruptcy Code as codified in Title 11 of the United States Code of all units and other land in the condominium owned by a declarant, (i) that declarant ceases to have any special declarant rights and (ii) any period of declarant control reserved under subsection A of § [55.1-1943](#) shall terminate, unless the judgment or instrument conveying title provides for transfer of all special declarant rights held by that declarant to a successor declarant.

F. The liabilities and obligations of any person who succeed to any special declarant right shall be as follows:

1. A successor to any special declarant right who is an affiliate of a declarant is subject to all obligations and liabilities imposed on the transferor by this chapter or by the condominium instruments.

2. A successor to any special declarant right, other than a successor described in subdivisions 3 and 4, who is not an affiliate of a declarant shall be subject to all obligations and liabilities imposed by this chapter or the condominium instruments on a declarant that relate to his exercise or nonexercise of special declarant rights, or on his transferor, except for (i) misrepresentations by any prior declarant, (ii) warranty obligations as provided in subsection B of § [55.1-1955](#) on improvements made by any previous declarant or made before the condominium was created, (iii) breach of any fiduciary obligation by any previous declarant or his appointees to the executive board, or (iv) any liability or obligation imposed on the transferor as a result of the transferor's acts or omissions after the transfer.

3. Unless he is an affiliate of a declarant, a successor to only a right reserved in the declaration to maintain sales offices, management offices, model units, or signs shall not exercise any other special declarant right and shall not be subject to any liability or obligation as a declarant, except the liabilities and obligations arising under Article 4 (§ [55.1-1970](#) et seq.) as to disposition by that successor.

4. A successor to all special declarant rights held by his transferor who is not an affiliate of that transferor and who succeeded to those rights pursuant to a deed in lieu of foreclosure or a judgment or instrument conveying title to units under subsection D may declare his intention in a recorded instrument to hold those rights solely for transfer to another person. Thereafter, until transferring all special declarant rights to any person acquiring title to any unit owned by the successor, or until recording an instrument permitting exercise of all those rights, that successor may not exercise any

of those rights other than any right reserved by his transferor pursuant to subsection A of § [55.1-1943](#). Any attempted exercise of those rights is void. So long as a successor declarant may not exercise special declarant rights under this subsection, he shall not be subject to any liability or obligation as a declarant other than liability for his acts and omissions relating to the exercise of rights reserved under subsection A of § [55.1-1943](#).

G. Nothing in this section subjects any successor to a special declarant right to any claims against or other obligations of a transferor declarant, other than claims and obligations arising under this chapter or the condominium instruments.

1982, c. 545, § 55-79.74:3; 1991, c. 497; 1996, c. [977](#); 2006, c. [646](#); 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1948. (Effective October 1, 2019) Declarants not succeeding to special declarant rights.**

A declarant who does not succeed to any special declarant rights shall be liable only to the extent of his actions for claims and obligations arising under this chapter or the condominium instruments.

1993, c. 667, § 55-79.74:4; 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1949. (Effective October 1, 2019) Meetings of unit owners' association and executive board.**

A. 1. Meetings of the unit owners' association shall be held in accordance with the provisions of the condominium instruments at least once each year after the formation of the association. The bylaws shall specify an officer or his agent who shall, at least 21 days in advance of any annual or regularly scheduled meeting and at least seven days in advance of any other meeting, send to each unit owner notice of the time, place, and purposes of such meeting. In the event of cancellation of any annual meeting of the unit owners' association at which directors are elected, the seven-day notice of any subsequent meeting scheduled to elect such directors shall include a statement that the meeting is scheduled for the purpose of the election of directors.

2. Notice shall be sent by United States mail to all unit owners of record at the address of their respective units, unless the unit owner has provided to such officer or his agent an address other than the address of the unit, or notice may be hand delivered by the officer or his agent, provided that the officer or his agent certifies in writing that notice was delivered to the person of the unit owner.

3. In lieu of delivering notice as specified in subdivision 2, such officer or his agent may, to the extent that the condominium instruments or the condominium's rules and regulations expressly provide, send notice by electronic means if consented to by the unit owner to whom the notice is given, provided that the officer or his agent certifies in writing that notice was sent.

B. 1. Except as otherwise provided in the condominium instruments, the provisions of this subsection shall apply to executive board meetings at which business of the unit owners' association is transacted or discussed. All meetings of the unit owners' association or the executive board,

including any subcommittee or other committee of such association or board, shall be open to all unit owners of record. The executive board shall not use work sessions or other informal gatherings of the executive board to circumvent the open meeting requirements of this section. The unit owners' association may, to the extent that the condominium instruments or adopted rules expressly provide, send notice by electronic means if consented to by the officer to whom the notice is given. Minutes of the meetings of the executive board shall be recorded and shall be available as provided in § [55.1-1945](#).

2. Notice of the time, date, and place of each meeting of the executive board or of any subcommittee or other committee of the executive board, and of each meeting of a subcommittee or other committee of the unit owners' association, shall be published where it is reasonably calculated to be available to a majority of the unit owners.

A unit owner may make a request to be notified on a continual basis of any such meetings, which request shall be made at least once a year in writing and include the unit owners' name, address, zip code, and any email address as appropriate. Notice of the time, date, and place shall be sent to any unit owner requesting notice (i) by first-class mail or email in the case of meetings of the executive board or (ii) by email in the case of meetings of any subcommittee or other committee of the executive board or of a subcommittee or other committee of the unit owners' association.

Notice, reasonable under the circumstances, of special or emergency meetings shall be given contemporaneously with the notice provided to members of the (i) executive board or any subcommittee or other committee of such board or (ii) subcommittee or other committee of the unit owners' association conducting the meeting.

3. Unless otherwise exempt as relating to an executive session pursuant to subsection C, at least one copy of all agenda packets and materials furnished to members of the executive board or subcommittee or other committee of the executive board for a meeting shall be made available for inspection by the membership of the unit owners' association at the same time such documents are furnished to the members of the executive board.

4. Any unit owner may record any portion of a meeting required to be open. The executive board or subcommittee or other committee of the executive board conducting the meeting may adopt rules (i) governing the placement and use of equipment necessary for recording a meeting to prevent interference with the proceedings and (ii) requiring the unit owner recording the meeting to provide notice that the meeting is being recorded.

If a meeting of the executive board is conducted by telephone conference or video conference or similar electronic means, at least two board members shall be physically present at the meeting place included in the notice. The audio equipment shall be sufficient for any member in attendance to hear what is said by any board member participating in the meeting who is not physically present.

5. Voting by secret or written ballot in an open meeting is a violation of this chapter except for the election of officers.

C. The executive board or any subcommittee or other committee of the executive board may convene in executive session to consider personnel matters; consult with legal counsel; discuss and consider contracts, probable or pending litigation, and matters involving violations of the condominium instruments or rules and regulations promulgated pursuant to such condominium instruments for which a unit owner, his family members, tenants, guests, or other invitees are responsible; or discuss and consider the personal liability of unit owners to the unit owners' association, upon the affirmative vote in an open meeting to assemble in executive session. The motion shall state specifically the purpose for the executive session. Reference to the motion and the stated purpose for the executive session shall be included in the minutes. The executive board shall restrict the consideration of matters during such portions of meetings to only those purposes specifically exempted and stated in the motion. No contract, motion, or other action adopted, passed, or agreed to in executive session shall become effective unless the executive board or subcommittee or other committee of the executive board, following the executive session, reconvenes in open meeting and takes a vote on such contract, motion, or other action, which shall have its substance reasonably identified in the open meeting. The requirements of this section do not require the disclosure of information in violation of law.

D. Subject to reasonable rules adopted by the executive board, the executive board shall provide a designated period of time during a meeting to allow unit owners an opportunity to comment on any matter relating to the unit owners' association. During a meeting at which the agenda is limited to specific topics or at a special meeting, the executive board may limit the comments of unit owners to the topics listed on the meeting agenda.

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.75; 1978, c. 363; 1989, c. 58; 1990, c. 662; 1992, c. 72; 2000, c. [906](#); 2001, c. [715](#); 2003, cc. [404](#), [405](#), [442](#); 2005, c. [353](#); 2007, c. [675](#); 2013, c. [275](#); 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1950. (Effective October 1, 2019) Distribution of information by members.**

A. The executive board shall establish a reasonable, effective, and free method, appropriate to the size and nature of the condominium, for unit owners to communicate among themselves and with the executive board regarding any matter concerning the unit owners' association.

B. Except as otherwise provided in the condominium instruments, the executive board shall not require prior approval of the dissemination or content of any material regarding any matter concerning the unit owners' association.

2001, c. [715](#), § 55-79.75:1; 2003, c. [405](#); 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1951. (Effective October 1, 2019) Display of the flag of the United States; necessary supporting structures; affirmative defense.**

A. In accordance with the federal Freedom to Display the American Flag Act of 2005 (P.L. 109-243), no unit owners' association shall prohibit or otherwise adopt or enforce any policy restricting a unit owner from displaying upon property to which the unit owner has a separate ownership interest or a right to exclusive possession or use the flag of the United States whenever such display

is in compliance with Chapter 1 of Title 4 of the United States Code (4 U.S.C. § 1 et seq.) or any rule or custom pertaining to the proper display of the flag. A unit owners' association may, however, establish reasonable restrictions as to the size, place, duration, and manner of placement or display of the flag on such property, provided that such restrictions are necessary to protect a substantial interest of the unit owners' association.

B. The unit owners' association may restrict the display of such flags in the common elements.

C. In any action brought by the unit owners' association under § [55.1-1959](#) for a violation of a flag restriction, the unit owners' association shall bear the burden of proof that the restrictions as to the size, place, duration, and manner of placement or display of such flag are necessary to protect a substantial interest of the unit owners' association.

D. In any action brought by the unit owners' association under § [55.1-1959](#), the unit owner shall be entitled to assert as an affirmative defense that the required disclosure of any limitation pertaining to the flag of the United States or any flagpole or similar structure necessary to display the flag of the United States was not contained in the public offering statement or resale certificate, as appropriate, required pursuant to § [55.1-1976](#) or [55.1-1991](#).

2007, cc. [854](#), [910](#), § 55-79.75:2; 2010, cc. [166](#), [453](#); 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1952. (Effective October 1, 2019) Meetings of unit owners' association and executive board; quorums.**

A. Unless the condominium instruments otherwise provide or as specified in subsection G of § [55.1-1953](#), a quorum shall be deemed to be present throughout any meeting of the unit owners' association until adjourned if persons entitled to cast more than one-third of the votes are present at the beginning of such meeting. The bylaws may provide for a larger percentage, or for a smaller percentage not less than 10 percent.

B. Unless the condominium instruments specify a larger majority, a quorum shall be deemed to be present throughout any meeting of the executive board if persons entitled to cast one-half of the votes in that body are present at the beginning of such meeting.

C. On petition of the unit owners' association or any unit owner entitled to vote, the circuit court of the county or city in which the condominium or the greater part of such condominium is located may order an annual meeting of the unit owners' association be held for the purpose of the election of members of the executive board, provided that:

1. No annual meeting as required by § [55.1-1949](#) has been held due to the failure to obtain a quorum of unit owners as specified in the condominium instruments; and

2. The unit owners' association has made good faith attempts to convene a duly called annual meeting of the unit owners' association in three successive years, which attempts have proven unsuccessful due to the failure to obtain a quorum.

The court may set the quorum for the meeting and enter other orders necessary to convene the meeting.

A unit owner filing a petition under this subsection shall provide a copy of the petition to the executive board at least 10 business days prior to filing.

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.76; 2003, c. [413](#); 2015, cc. [214](#), [430](#); 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1953. (Effective October 1, 2019) Meetings of unit owners' association and executive board; voting by unit owners; proxies.**

A. The bylaws may allocate to each unit depicted on plats and plans that comply with subsections A and B of § [55.1-1920](#) a number of votes in the unit owners' association proportionate to the undivided interest in the common elements appertaining to each such unit.

B. Otherwise, the bylaws shall allocate to each such unit an equal number of votes in the unit owners' association, subject to the following exception: Each convertible space so depicted shall be allocated a number of votes in the unit owners' association proportionate to the size of each such space, vis-a-vis the aggregate size of all units so depicted, while the remaining votes in the unit owners' association shall be allocated equally to the other units so depicted.

C. Since a unit owner may be more than one person, if only one of such persons is present at a meeting of the unit owners' association, that person shall be entitled to cast the votes appertaining to that unit. If more than one of such persons is present, the vote appertaining to that unit shall be cast only in accordance with their unanimous agreement unless the condominium instruments expressly provide otherwise, and such consent shall be conclusively presumed if any one of them purports to cast the votes appertaining to that unit without protest being made forthwith by any of the others to the person presiding over the meeting. For purposes of this subsection, "person" is deemed to include any natural person having authority to execute deeds on behalf of any person, excluding natural persons, that is, either alone or in conjunction with another person, a unit owner.

D. The votes appertaining to any unit may be cast pursuant to a proxy duly executed by or on behalf of the unit owner, or, in cases where the unit owner is more than one person, by or on behalf of all such unit owners. No such proxy shall be revocable except by actual notice to the person presiding over the meeting, by the unit owner or by any of such persons, that it be revoked. Except to the extent otherwise provided in the condominium instruments, any proxy is void if it is not dated, or if it purports to be revocable without the required notice. Any proxy shall be void if not signed by or on behalf of the unit owner. If the unit owner is more than one person, any such unit owner may object to the proxy at or prior to the meeting, whereupon the proxy shall be deemed revoked. Any proxy shall terminate after the first meeting held on or after the date of that proxy or any recess or adjournment of that meeting. The proxy shall include a brief explanation of the effect of leaving the proxy uninstructed. To the extent the condominium instruments or the condominium's rules and regulations expressly so provide, a vote or proxy may be submitted by electronic means, provided that any such electronic means shall either set forth or be submitted with information

from which it can be determined that the electronic means was authorized by the unit owner or the unit owner's proxy.

E. If 50 percent or more of the votes in the unit owners' association appertain to 25 percent or less of the units, then in any case where a majority vote is required by the condominium instruments or by this chapter, the requirement for such a majority shall be deemed to include, in addition to the specified majority of the votes, assent by the unit owners of a like majority of the units.

F. All votes appertaining to units owned by the unit owners' association shall be deemed present for quorum purposes at all duly called meetings of the unit owners' association and shall be deemed cast in the same proportions as the votes cast by unit owners other than the unit owners' association.

G. Except to the extent that the condominium instruments provide otherwise, the voting interest allocated to the unit or member that has been suspended by the unit owners' association or the executive board pursuant to the condominium instruments shall not be counted in the total number of voting interests used to determine the quorum for any meeting or vote under the condominium instruments.

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.77; 1980, c. 108; 1991, c. 497; 1993, c. 667; 1998, c. [32](#); 2003, c. [442](#); 2015, c. [214](#); 2019, cc. [367](#), [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1954. (Effective October 1, 2019) Officers.**

A. If the condominium instruments provide that any officer must be a unit owner, then any such officer who disposes of all of his units in fee shall be deemed to have disqualified himself from continuing in office unless the condominium instruments otherwise provide, or unless he acquires or contracts to acquire another unit in the condominium under terms giving him a right of occupancy effective on or before the termination of his right of occupancy under such disposition.

B. If the condominium instruments provide that any officer must be a unit owner, then notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision 1 of § [55.1-1912](#), the term "unit owner" in such context shall, unless the condominium instruments otherwise provide, be deemed to include any director, officer, partner in, or trustee of any person that is, either alone or in conjunction with another person, a unit owner. Any officer who would not be eligible to serve as such were he not a director, officer, partner in, or trustee of such a person, shall be deemed to have disqualified himself from continuing in office if he ceases to have any such affiliation with that person, or if that person would itself have been deemed to have disqualified itself from continuing in such office under subsection A were it a natural person holding such office.

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.78; 1991, c. 497; 2002, c. [520](#); 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1955. (Effective October 1, 2019) Upkeep of condominiums; warranty against structural defects; statute of limitations for warranty; warranty review committee.**

A. Except to the extent otherwise provided by the condominium instruments, all powers and

responsibilities, including financial responsibility, with regard to maintenance, repair, renovation, restoration, and replacement of the condominium shall belong (i) to the unit owners' association in the case of the common elements and (ii) to the individual unit owner in the case of any unit or any part of such unit, except to the extent that the need for repairs, renovation, restoration, or replacement arises from a condition originating in or through the common elements or any apparatus located within the common elements, in which case the unit owners' association shall have such powers and responsibilities. Each unit owner shall afford to the other unit owners and to the unit owners' association and to any agents or employees of either such access through his unit as may be reasonably necessary to enable them to exercise and discharge their respective powers and responsibilities. To the extent that damage is inflicted on the common elements or any unit through which access is taken, the unit owner causing the same, or the unit owners' association if it caused the damage, shall be liable for the prompt repair of such damage.

B. Notwithstanding anything in this section to the contrary, the declarant shall warrant or guarantee against structural defects each of the units for two years from the date each is conveyed and all of the common elements for two years. For each unit, the declarant shall also warrant that the unit is fit for habitation in the case of a residential unit and constructed in a workmanlike manner so as to pass without objection in the trade. The two-year warranty as to each of the common elements begins whenever that common element has been completed or, if later, (i) as to any common element within any additional land or portion of the additional land, at the time the first unit in that additional land is conveyed; (ii) as to any common element within any convertible land or portion of the convertible land, at the time the first unit in the convertible land is conveyed; and (iii) as to any common element within any other portion of the condominium, at the time the first unit in that portion is conveyed. For the purposes of this subsection, no unit shall be deemed conveyed unless conveyed to a bona fide purchaser. Any conveyance of a condominium unit transfers to the purchaser all of the declarant's warranties against structural defects imposed by this subsection. For the purposes of this subsection, structural defects shall be those defects in components constituting any unit or common element that reduce the stability or safety of the structure below accepted standards or restrict the normal intended use of all or part of the structure and that require repair, renovation, restoration, or replacement. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to make the declarant responsible for any items of maintenance relating to the units or common elements.

C. An action for breach of any warranty prescribed by this section shall begin within (i) five years after the date such warranty period began or (ii) one year after the formation of any warranty review committee pursuant to subsection B of § [55.1-1943](#), whichever occurs last. However, no such action shall be maintained against the declarant unless a written statement by the claimant, or his agent, attorney, or representative, of the nature of the alleged defect has been sent to the declarant by registered or certified mail at his last known address, as reflected in the records of the Common Interest Community Board, more than six months prior to the beginning of the action giving the declarant an opportunity to cure the alleged defect within a reasonable time, not to exceed five months. Sending the notice required by this subsection shall toll the statute of limitations for beginning a breach of warranty action for a period not to exceed six months.

D. If the initial period of declarant control has been extended in accordance with subsection B of § [55.1-1943](#), the warranty review committee, referred to in this section as "the committee," shall have

(i) subject to the provisions of subdivision 3, the irrevocable power as attorney-in-fact on behalf of the unit owners' association to assert or settle in the name of the unit owners' association any claims involving the declarant's warranty against structural defects with respect to all of the common elements and (ii) the authority to levy an additional assessment against all of the units in proportion to their respective undivided interests in the common elements pursuant to § [55.1-1964](#) if the committee determines that the assessments levied by the unit owners' association are insufficient to enable the committee reasonably to perform its functions pursuant to this subsection. The committee or the declarant shall notify the governing body of the locality in which the condominium is located of the formation of the committee within 30 days of its formation. Within 30 days after such notice, the local governing body or an agency designated by the local governing body shall advise the chair of the committee of any outstanding violations of applicable building codes, local ordinances, or other deficiencies of record. Members of the committee shall be insured, indemnified, and subject to liability to the same extent as officers or directors under the condominium instruments or applicable law. The unit owners' association shall provide sufficient funds reasonably necessary for the committee to perform the functions set out in this subsection and to:

1. Engage an independent architect, engineer, legal counsel, and such other experts as the committee may reasonably determine;

2. Investigate whether there exists any breach of the warranty as to any of the common elements. The committee shall document its findings and the evidence that supports such findings. Such findings and evidence shall be confidential and shall not be disclosed to the declarant without the consent of the committee; and

3. Assert or settle in the name of the unit owners' association any claims involving the declarant's warranty on the common elements, provided that (i) the committee sends the declarant at least six months prior to the expiration of the statute of limitations a written statement pursuant to subsection C of the alleged nature of any defect in the common elements giving the declarant an opportunity to cure the alleged defect; (ii) the declarant fails to cure the alleged defect within a reasonable time; and (iii) the declarant control period or the statute of limitations has not expired.

E. Within 45 days after the formation of the committee, the declarant shall deliver to the chair of the committee (i) a copy of the latest available approved plans and specifications for all improvements in the project or as-built plans if available; (ii) all association insurance policies that are currently in force; (iii) any written unexpired warranties of the contractors, subcontractors, suppliers, and manufacturers applicable to the condominium; and (iv) a list of manufacturers of paints, roofing materials, and other similar materials if specified for use on the condominium property.

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.79; 1975, c. 415; 1980, c. 386; 1982, c. 545; 1984, c. 347; 1987, c. 395; 2006, c. [646](#); 2008, cc. [851](#), [871](#); 2013, c. [599](#); 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1956. (Effective October 1, 2019) Control of common elements.**

A. Except to the extent prohibited, restricted, or limited by the condominium instruments, the unit owners' association shall have the power to:

1. Employ, dismiss, and replace agents and employees to exercise and discharge the powers and responsibilities of the association arising under § [55.1-1955](#);
2. Make or cause to be made additional improvements on and as a part of the common elements;
3. Grant or withhold approval of any action by one or more unit owners or other persons entitled to the occupancy of any unit that would change the exterior appearance of any unit or of any other portion of the condominium, or elect or provide for the appointment of an architectural control committee, the members of which must have the same qualifications as officers, to grant or withhold such approval; and
4. Acquire, hold, convey, and encumber title to real property, including condominium units, whether or not the association is incorporated.

B. Except to the extent prohibited, restricted, or limited by the condominium instruments, the executive board of the unit owners' association, if any, and if not, then the unit owners' association itself, has the irrevocable power as attorney-in-fact on behalf of all the unit owners and their successors in title with respect to the common elements, including the right, in the name of the unit owners' association, to (i) grant easements through the common elements and accept easements benefiting all or any portion of the condominium; (ii) assert, through litigation or otherwise, defend against, compromise, adjust, and settle any claims or actions related to common elements, other than claims against or actions involving the declarant during any period of declarant control reserved pursuant to subsection A of § [55.1-1943](#); and (iii) apply for any governmental approvals under state and local law.

C. This section shall not be construed to prohibit the grant by the condominium instruments of other powers and responsibilities to the unit owners' association or its executive board.

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.80; 1975, c. 415; 1981, c. 146; 1982, c. 195; 1991, c. 497; 1993, c. 667; 1996, c. [977](#); 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1957. (Effective October 1, 2019) Common elements; notice of pesticide application.**

The unit owners' association shall post notice of all pesticide applications in or upon the common elements. Such notice shall consist of conspicuous signs placed in or upon the common elements where the pesticide will be applied at least 48 hours prior to the application.

1999, c. [65](#), § 55-79.80:01; 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1958. (Effective October 1, 2019) Tort and contract liability; judgment lien.**

A. An action for tort alleging a wrong done (i) by any agent or employee of the declarant or of the

unit owners' association or (ii) in connection with the condition of any portion of the condominium that the declarant or the association has the responsibility to maintain shall be brought against the declarant or the association, as appropriate. No unit owner shall be precluded from bringing such an action by virtue of his ownership of an undivided interest in the common elements or by reason of his membership in the association or his status as an officer.

B. Unit owners other than the declarant shall not be liable for torts caused by agents or employees of the declarant within any convertible land or using any easement reserved in the declaration or created by § [55.1-1928](#) or [55.1-1929](#).

C. An action arising from a contract made by or on behalf of the unit owners' association or its executive board or the unit owners as a group shall be brought against the association, or against the declarant if the cause of action arose during the exercise by the declarant of control reserved pursuant to subsection A of § [55.1-1943](#). No unit owner shall be precluded from bringing such an action by reason of his membership in the association or his status as an officer.

D. A judgment for money against the unit owners' association shall be a lien against any property owned by the association, and against each of the condominium units in proportion to the liability of each unit owner for common expenses as established pursuant to subsection D of § [55.1-1964](#), but not against any other property of any unit owner. A unit owner who pays a percentage of the total amount due under such judgment equal to such unit owner's liability for common expenses fixed pursuant to subsection D of § [55.1-1964](#) shall be entitled to a release of any such judgment lien, and the association shall not be entitled to assess the unit for payment of the remaining amount due. Such judgment shall be otherwise subject to the provisions of § [8.01-458](#).

1975, c. 415, § 55-79.80:1; 1991, c. 497; 1992, c. 72; 1996, c. [977](#); 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1959. (Effective October 1, 2019) Suspension of services for failure to pay assessments; corrective action; assessment of charges for violations; notice; hearing; adoption and enforcement of rules and regulations.**

A. The unit owners' association shall have the power, to the extent the condominium instruments or the condominium's rules and regulations expressly provide, to (i) suspend a unit owner's right to use facilities or services, including utility services, provided directly through the unit owners' association for nonpayment of assessments that are more than 60 days past due, to the extent that access to the unit through the common elements is not precluded and provided that such suspension does not endanger the health, safety, or property of any unit owner, tenant, or occupant and (ii) assess charges against any unit owner for any violation of the condominium instruments or of the rules or regulations promulgated pursuant thereto for which such unit owner or his family members, tenants, guests, or other invitees are responsible.

B. Before any action authorized in this section is taken, the unit owner shall be given a reasonable opportunity to correct the alleged violation after written notice of the alleged violation to the unit owner at the address required for notices of meetings pursuant to § [55.1-1949](#). If the violation remains uncorrected, the unit owner shall be given an opportunity to be heard and to be represented

by counsel before the executive board or such other tribunal as the condominium instruments or its adopted rules and regulations specify.

Notice of such hearing, including the actions that may be taken by the unit owners' association in accordance with this section, shall, at least 14 days in advance, be hand delivered or mailed by registered or certified United States mail, return receipt requested, to such unit owner at the address required for notices of meetings pursuant to § [55.1-1949](#). Within seven days of the hearing, the hearing result shall be hand delivered or mailed by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, to such unit owner at the address required for notices of meetings pursuant to § [55.1-1949](#).

C. The amount of any charges assessed shall not exceed \$50 for a single offense, or \$10 per diem for any offense of a continuing nature, and shall be treated as an assessment against such unit owner's condominium unit for the purpose of § [55.1-1966](#). However, the total charges for any offense of a continuing nature shall not be assessed for a period exceeding 90 days.

D. The unit owners' association may file or defend legal action in general district or circuit court that seeks relief, including injunctive relief, arising from any violation of the condominium instruments or the condominium's adopted rules and regulations.

E. After the date an action is filed in the general district or circuit court by (i) the unit owners' association, by and through its counsel, to collect the charges or obtain injunctive relief and correct the violation or (ii) the unit owner challenging any such charges, no additional charges shall accrue.

If the court rules in favor of the unit owners' association, it shall be entitled to collect such charges from the date the action was filed as well as all other charges assessed pursuant to this section against the unit owner prior to the action. In addition, if the court finds that the violation remains uncorrected, the court may order the unit owner to abate or remedy the violation.

In any action filed in general district court pursuant to this section, the court may enter default judgment against the unit owner on the sworn affidavit of the unit owners' association.

F. This section shall not be construed to prohibit the grant by the condominium instruments of other powers and responsibilities to the unit owners' association or its executive board.

1993, c. 667, § 55-79.80:2; 1997, cc. [173](#), [417](#); 2000, cc. [846](#), [906](#); 2002, c. [509](#); 2011, cc. [372](#), [378](#); 2014, c. [784](#); 2019, c. [712](#).

#### **§ 55.1-1960. (Effective October 1, 2019) Limitation of occupancy of a unit.**

To the extent expressly provided in the condominium instruments, the unit owners' association may limit the number of persons who may occupy a unit as a dwelling. Such limitation shall be reasonable and shall comply with the provisions of applicable law, including the Virginia Fair Housing Law (§ [36-96.1](#) et seq.), the Uniform Statewide Building Code (§ [36-97](#) et seq.), and local ordinances.

1996, c. [888](#), § 55-79.80:3; 1998, c. [454](#); 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1961. (Effective October 1, 2019) Use of for sale sign in connection with resale.**

Except as expressly authorized in this chapter or in the condominium instruments or as otherwise provided by law, no unit owners' association shall require the use of any for sale sign that is (i) a unit owners' association sign or (ii) a real estate sign that does not comply with the requirements of the Real Estate Board. A unit owners' association may, however, prohibit the placement of signs in the common elements and establish reasonable rules and regulations that regulate (a) the number of real estate signs to be located on real property upon which the owner has a separate ownership interest or a right of exclusive possession, so long as at least one real estate sign is permitted; (b) the geographical location of real estate signs on real property in which the owner has a separate ownership interest or a right of exclusive possession, so long as the location of the real estate signs complies with the requirements of the Real Estate Board; (c) the manner in which real estate signs are affixed to real property; and (d) the period of time after settlement when the real estate signs on such real property shall be removed.

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.97; 1975, c. 415; 1978, cc. 234, 290; 1983, c. 60; 1984, cc. 29, 103; 1990, c. 662; 1991, c. 497; 1994, c. [172](#); 1997, c. [222](#); 1998, cc. [32](#), [454](#), [463](#); 1999, c. [263](#); 2001, c. [556](#); 2002, cc. [459](#), [509](#); 2005, c. [415](#); 2007, cc. [696](#), [712](#), [854](#), [910](#); 2008, cc. [851](#), [871](#); 2011, c. [334](#); 2013, cc. [357](#), [492](#); 2014, c. [216](#); 2015, c. [277](#); 2016, c. [471](#); 2017, cc. [393](#), [406](#); 2018, c. [70](#); 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1962. (Effective October 1, 2019) Designation of authorized representative.**

Except as expressly authorized in this chapter or in the condominium instruments or as otherwise provided by law, no unit owners' association shall require any unit owner to execute a formal power of attorney if the unit owner designates a person licensed under the provisions of § [54.1-2106.1](#) as the unit owner's authorized representative, and the unit owners' association shall recognize such representation without a formal power of attorney, provided that the unit owners' association is given a written authorization signed by the unit owner designating such representative. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the requirements of § [55.1-1953](#) and the condominium instruments shall be satisfied before any such representative may exercise a vote on behalf of a unit owner as a proxy.

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.97; 1975, c. 415; 1978, cc. 234, 290; 1983, c. 60; 1984, cc. 29, 103; 1990, c. 662; 1991, c. 497; 1994, c. [172](#); 1997, c. [222](#); 1998, cc. [32](#), [454](#), [463](#); 1999, c. [263](#); 2001, c. [556](#); 2002, cc. [459](#), [509](#); 2005, c. [415](#); 2007, cc. [696](#), [712](#), [854](#), [910](#); 2008, cc. [851](#), [871](#); 2011, c. [334](#); 2013, cc. [357](#), [492](#); 2014, c. [216](#); 2015, c. [277](#); 2016, c. [471](#); 2017, cc. [393](#), [406](#); 2018, c. [70](#); 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1963. (Effective October 1, 2019) Insurance.**

A. The condominium instruments may require the unit owners' association, or the executive board

or managing agent on behalf of such association, to obtain:

1. A master casualty policy affording fire and extended coverage in an amount consonant with the full replacement value of the structures within the condominium, or of such structures that in whole or in part comprise portions of the common elements;
2. A master liability policy, in an amount specified by the condominium instruments, covering the unit owners' association, the executive board, if any, the managing agent, if any, all persons acting or who may come to act as agents or employees of any of the foregoing with respect to the condominium, and all unit owners and other persons entitled to occupy any unit or other portion of the condominium; and
3. Such other policies as may be required by the condominium instruments, including workers' compensation insurance, liability insurance on motor vehicles owned by the unit owners' association, and specialized policies covering lands or improvements in which the unit owners' association has or shares ownership or other rights.

B. Any unit owners' association collecting assessments for common expenses shall obtain and maintain a blanket fidelity bond or employee dishonesty insurance policy insuring the unit owners' association against losses resulting from theft or dishonesty committed by the officers, directors, or persons employed by the unit owners' association, or committed by any common interest community manager or employees of the common interest community manager. Such bond or insurance policy shall provide coverage in an amount equal to the lesser of \$1 million or the amount of reserve balances of the unit owners' association plus one-fourth of the aggregate annual assessment of such unit owners' association. The minimum coverage amount shall be \$10,000. The executive board or common interest community manager may obtain such bond or insurance on behalf of the unit owners' association.

C. When any policy of insurance has been obtained by or on behalf of the unit owners' association, written notice of such obtainment and of any subsequent changes in or termination of the policy shall be promptly furnished to each unit owner by the officer required to send notices of meetings of the unit owners' association. Such notices shall be sent in accordance with the provisions of subsection A of § [55.1-1949](#).

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.81; 2000, c. [906](#); 2003, c. [360](#); 2004, c. [281](#); 2007, cc. [696](#), [712](#); 2008, cc. [851](#), [871](#); 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1964. (Effective October 1, 2019) Liability for common expenses; late fees.**

A. Except to the extent that the condominium instruments provide otherwise, any common expenses associated with the maintenance, repair, renovation, restoration, or replacement of any limited common element shall be specially assessed against the condominium unit to which that limited common element was assigned at the time such expenses were made or incurred. If the limited common element involved was assigned at that time to more than one condominium unit, however, such expenses shall be specially assessed against each such condominium unit equally

so that the total of such special assessments equals the total of such expenses, except to the extent that the condominium instruments provide otherwise.

B. To the extent that the condominium instruments expressly so provide, any other common expenses benefiting less than all of the condominium units, or caused by the conduct of less than all those entitled to occupy the same or by their licensees or invitees, shall be specially assessed against any condominium unit involved, in accordance with such reasonable provisions as the condominium instruments may make for such cases. The executive board may impose reasonable user fees.

C. To the extent that the condominium instruments expressly so provide, (i) any common expenses paid or incurred in making available the same off-site amenities or paid subscription television service to some or all of the unit owners shall be assessed equally against the condominium units involved and (ii) any common expenses paid or incurred in providing metered utility services to some or all of the units shall be assessed against each condominium unit involved based on its actual consumption of such services.

D. The amount of all common expenses not specially assessed pursuant to subsection A, B, or C shall be assessed against the condominium units in proportion to the number of votes in the unit owners' association appertaining to each such unit, or, if such votes were allocated as provided in subsection B of § [55.1-1953](#), those common expense assessments shall be either in proportion to those votes or in proportion to the units' respective undivided interests in the common elements, whichever basis the condominium instruments specify. Such assessments shall be made by the unit owners' association annually, or more often if the condominium instruments so provide. No change in the number of votes in the unit owners' association appertaining to any condominium unit shall enlarge, diminish, or otherwise affect any liabilities arising from assessments made prior to such change.

E. Except to the extent otherwise provided in the condominium instruments, if the executive board determines that the assessments levied by the unit owners' association are insufficient to cover the common expenses of the unit owners' association, the executive board may levy an additional assessment against all of the units in proportion to their respective undivided interests in the common elements. The executive board shall give written notice to the unit owners stating the amount of, the reasons for, and the due date for payment of any additional assessment. If the additional assessment is to be paid in a lump sum, payment shall be due and payable no earlier than 90 days after delivery or mailing of the notice.

All unit owners shall be obligated to pay the additional assessment unless the unit owners by a majority of votes cast, in person or by proxy, at a meeting of the unit owners' association convened in accordance with the provisions of the condominium instruments within 60 days of the delivery or mailing of the notice required by this subsection, rescind or reduce the additional assessment. No director or officer of the unit owners' association shall be liable for failure to perform his fiduciary duty if an additional assessment for the funds necessary for the director or officer to perform his fiduciary duty is rescinded by the unit owners' association in accordance with this subsection. The unit owners' association shall indemnify such director or officer against any

damage resulting from any claimed breach of fiduciary duty due to the assessment for the necessary funds rescinded by the unit owners' association in accordance with this subsection.

F. Neither a unit owned by the declarant nor any other unit may be exempted from assessments made pursuant to this section by reason of the identity of the unit owner.

G. All condominium instruments for condominiums created prior to January 1, 1981, are hereby validated notwithstanding noncompliance with the first sentence of subsection D if they provide instead that the amount of all common expenses not specially assessed pursuant to subsection A, B, or C shall be assessed against the condominium units in proportion to their respective undivided interests in the common elements.

H. Except to the extent that the condominium instruments or the association's rules or regulations provide otherwise, an executive board may impose a late fee, not to exceed the penalty provided for in § [58.1-3915](#), for any assessment or installment that is not paid within 60 days of the due date for payment of such assessment or installment.

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.83; 1977, c. 428; 1981, c. 180; 1984, cc. 27, 84, 601; 1992, c. 72; 1993, c. 667; 2003, c. [421](#); 2013, c. [256](#); 2014, c. [239](#); 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1965. (Effective October 1, 2019) Annual budget; reserves for capital components.**

A. Except to the extent provided in the condominium instruments, the executive board shall, prior to the commencement of the fiscal year, make available to unit owners either (i) the annual budget of the unit owners' association or (ii) a summary of such annual budget.

B. Except to the extent otherwise provided in the condominium instruments, the executive board shall:

1. Conduct a study at least once every five years to determine the necessity and amount of reserves required to repair, replace, and restore the capital components as defined in § [55.1-1900](#);
2. Review the results of that study at least annually to determine if reserves are sufficient; and
3. Make any adjustments the executive board deems necessary to maintain reserves, as appropriate.

C. To the extent that the reserve study conducted in accordance with this section indicates a need to budget for reserves, the unit owners' association budget shall include:

1. The current estimated replacement cost, estimated remaining life, and estimated useful life of the capital components as defined in § [55.1-1900](#);
2. As of the beginning of the fiscal year for which the budget is prepared, the current amount of accumulated cash reserves set aside to repair, replace, or restore the capital components and the amount of the expected contribution to the reserve fund for that fiscal year;

3. A statement describing the procedures used for estimation and accumulation of cash reserves pursuant to this section; and

4. A statement of the amount of reserves recommended in the study and the amount of current cash for replacement reserves.

2002, c. [459](#), § 55-79.83:1; 2019, cc. [33](#), [44](#), [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1966. (Effective October 1, 2019) Lien for assessments.**

A. The unit owners' association shall have a lien on each condominium unit for unpaid assessments levied against that condominium unit in accordance with the provisions of this chapter and all lawful provisions of the condominium instruments. The lien, once perfected, shall be prior to all other liens and encumbrances except (i) real estate tax liens on that condominium unit, (ii) liens and encumbrances recorded prior to the recordation of the declaration, and (iii) sums unpaid on any first mortgages or first deeds of trust recorded prior to the perfection of such lien for assessments and securing institutional lenders. The provisions of this subsection shall not affect the priority of mechanics' and materialmen's liens.

B. Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, or any other provision of law requiring documents to be recorded in the miscellaneous lien books or the deed books in the clerk's office of any court, on or after July 1, 1974, all memoranda of liens arising under this section shall, in the discretion of the clerk, be recorded in the miscellaneous lien books or the deed books in such clerk's office. Any such memorandum shall be indexed in the general index to deeds, and such general index shall identify the lien as a lien for condominium assessments.

C. In order to perfect the lien given by this section, the unit owners' association shall file a memorandum verified by the oath of the principal officer of the unit owners' association, or such other officer as the condominium instruments may specify, before the expiration of 90 days from the time the first such assessment became due and payable. The memorandum shall be filed in the clerk's office of the circuit court in the county or city in which such condominium is situated. The memorandum shall contain the following:

1. A description of the condominium unit in accordance with the provisions of § [55.1-1909](#).
2. The name or names of the persons constituting the unit owners of that condominium unit.
3. The amount of unpaid assessments currently due or past due together with the date when each fell due.
4. The date of issuance of the memorandum.

The clerk in whose office such memorandum is filed shall record and index the memorandum as provided in subsection B, in the names of the persons identified in such memorandum as well as

in the name of the unit owners' association. The cost of recording such memorandum shall be taxed against the person found liable in any judgment enforcing such lien.

D. No action to enforce any lien perfected under subsection C shall be brought or action to foreclose any lien perfected under subsection I shall be initiated after 36 months from the time when the memorandum of lien was recorded; however, the filing of a petition to enforce any such lien in any action in which such petition may be properly filed shall be regarded as the institution of an action under this section. Nothing in this subsection shall extend the time within which any such lien may be perfected.

E. The judgment in an action brought pursuant to this section shall include reimbursement for costs and attorney fees of the prevailing party. If the association prevails, it may also recover interest at the legal rate for the sums secured by the lien from the time each such sum became due and payable.

F. When payment or satisfaction is made of a debt secured by the lien perfected by subsection C, such lien shall be released in accordance with the provisions of § [55.1-339](#). Any lien that is not so released shall subject the lien creditor to the penalty set forth in subdivision B 1 of § [55.1-339](#). For the purposes of that section, the principal officer of the unit owners' association, or such other officer as the condominium instruments may specify, shall be deemed the duly authorized agent of the lien creditor.

G. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit actions at law to recover sums for which subsection A creates a lien, maintainable pursuant to § [55.1-1915](#).

H. Any unit owner or purchaser of a condominium unit, having executed a contract for the disposition of such condominium unit, shall be entitled upon request to a recordable statement setting forth the amount of unpaid assessments currently levied against that unit. Such request shall be in writing, directed to the principal officer of the unit owners' association or to such other officer as the condominium instruments may specify. Failure to furnish or make available such a statement within 10 days of the receipt of such request shall extinguish the lien created by subsection A as to the condominium unit involved. Such statement shall be binding on the unit owners' association, the executive board, and every unit owner. Payment of a fee not exceeding \$10 may be required as a prerequisite to the issuance of such a statement if the condominium instruments so provide.

I. At any time after perfecting the lien pursuant to this section, the unit owners' association may sell the unit at public sale, subject to prior liens. For purposes of this section, the unit owners' association shall have the power both to sell and convey the unit and shall be deemed the unit owner's statutory agent for the purpose of transferring title to the unit. A nonjudicial foreclosure sale shall be conducted in compliance with the following:

1. The unit owners' association shall give notice to the unit owner prior to advertisement required by subdivision 4. The notice shall specify (i) the debt secured by the perfected lien; (ii) the action required to satisfy the debt secured by the perfected lien; (iii) the date, not less than 60 days from the date the notice is given to the unit owner, by which the debt secured by the lien must be satisfied; and (iv) that failure to satisfy the debt secured by the lien on or before the date specified in the

notice may result in the sale of the unit. The notice shall further inform the unit owner of the right to bring a court action in the circuit court of the county or city where the condominium is located to assert the nonexistence of a debt or any other defense of the unit owner to the sale.

2. After expiration of the 60-day notice period provided in subdivision 1, the unit owners' association may appoint a trustee to conduct the sale. The appointment of the trustee shall be filed in the clerk's office of the circuit court in the county or city in which the condominium is located. The clerk in whose office such appointment is filed shall record and index the appointment as provided in subsection C, in the names of the persons identified therein as well as in the name of the unit owners' association. The unit owners' association, at its option, may from time to time remove the trustee and appoint a successor trustee.

3. If the unit owner meets the conditions specified in this subdivision prior to the date of the foreclosure sale, the unit owner shall have the right to have enforcement of the perfected lien discontinued prior to the sale of the unit. Those conditions are that the unit owner (a) satisfy the debt secured by lien that is the subject of the nonjudicial foreclosure sale and (b) pays all expenses and costs incurred in perfecting and enforcing the lien, including advertising costs and reasonable attorney fees.

4. In addition to the advertisement required by subdivision 5, the unit owners' association shall give written notice of the time, date, and place of any proposed sale in execution of the lien, and shall include the name, address, and telephone number of the trustee, by personal delivery or by mail to (i) the present owner of the condominium unit to be sold at his last known address as such owner and address appear in the records of the unit owners' association, (ii) any lienholder who holds a note against the condominium unit secured by a deed of trust recorded at least 30 days prior to the proposed sale and whose address is recorded with the deed of trust, and (iii) any assignee of such a note secured by a deed of trust provided the assignment and address of the assignee are likewise recorded at least 30 days prior to the proposed sale. Mailing a copy of the advertisement or the notice containing the same information to the owner by certified or registered mail no less than 14 days prior to such sale and to the lienholders and their assigns, at the addresses noted in the memorandum of lien, by ordinary mail no less than 14 days prior to such sale shall be a sufficient compliance with the requirement of notice.

5. The advertisement of sale by the unit owners' association shall be in a newspaper having a general circulation in the locality in which the condominium unit to be sold, or any portion of such unit, is located pursuant to the following provisions:

a. The unit owners' association shall advertise once a week for four successive weeks; however, if the condominium unit or some portion of such unit is located in a city or in a county immediately contiguous to a city, publication of the advertisement five different days, which may be consecutive days, shall be deemed adequate. The sale shall be held on any day following the day of the last advertisement that is no earlier than eight days following the first advertisement nor more than 30 days following the last advertisement.

b. Such advertisement shall be placed in that section of the newspaper where legal notices appear

or where the type of property being sold is generally advertised for sale. The advertisement of sale, in addition to such other matters as the unit owners' association finds appropriate, shall set forth a description of the condominium unit to be sold, which description need not be as extensive as that contained in the deed of trust but shall identify the condominium unit by street address, if any, or, if none, shall give the general location of the condominium unit with reference to streets, routes, or known landmarks. Where available, tax map identification may be used but is not required. The advertisement shall also include the date, time, place, and terms of sale and the name of the unit owners' association. The advertisement shall set forth the name, address, and telephone number of the representative, agent, or attorney who may be able to respond to inquiries concerning the sale.

c. In addition to the advertisement required by subdivisions a and b, the unit owners' association may give such other further and different advertisement as the association finds appropriate.

6. In the event of postponement of a sale, which postponement shall be at the discretion of the unit owners' association, advertisement of such postponed sale shall be in the same manner as the original advertisement of sale.

7. Failure to comply with the requirements for advertisement contained in this section shall, upon petition, render a sale of the condominium unit voidable by the court.

8. In the event of a sale, the unit owners' association shall have the following powers and duties:

a. Written one-price bids may be made and shall be received by the trustee from the unit owners' association or any person for entry by announcement at the sale. Any person other than the trustee may bid at the foreclosure sale, including a person who has submitted a written one-price bid. Upon request to the trustee, any other bidder in attendance at a foreclosure sale shall be permitted to inspect written bids. Unless otherwise provided in the condominium instruments, the unit owners' association may bid to purchase the unit at a foreclosure sale. The unit owners' association may own, lease, encumber, exchange, sell, or convey the unit. Whenever the written bid of the unit owners' association is the highest bid submitted at the sale, such written bid shall be filed by the trustee with his account of sale required under subdivision 10 of this subsection and [§ 64.2-1309](#). The written bid submitted pursuant to this subsection may be prepared by the unit owners' association or its agent or attorney.

b. The unit owners' association may require of any bidder at any sale a cash deposit of as much as 10 percent of the sale price before his bid is received, which shall be refunded to him if the condominium unit is not sold to him. The deposit of the successful bidder shall be applied to his credit at settlement, or if such bidder fails to complete his purchase promptly, the deposit shall be applied to pay the costs and expenses of the sale, and the balance, if any, shall be retained by the unit owners' association in connection with that sale.

c. The unit owners' association shall receive and receipt for the proceeds of sale, no purchaser being required to see to the application of the proceeds, and apply the same in the following order: first, to the reasonable expenses of sale, including reasonable attorney fees; second, to the satisfaction of all taxes, levies, and assessments, with costs and interest; third, to the satisfaction of the lien for

the unit owners' assessments; fourth, to the satisfaction in the order of priority of any remaining inferior claims of record; and fifth, to pay the residue of the proceeds to the unit owner or his assigns, provided, however, that the association as to such residue shall not be bound by any inheritance, devise, conveyance, assignment, or lien of or upon the unit owner's equity, without actual notice of such encumbrance prior to distribution.

9. The trustee shall deliver to the purchaser a trustee's deed conveying the unit with special warranty of title. The trustee shall not be required to take possession of the condominium unit prior to the sale or to deliver possession of the unit to the purchaser at the sale.

10. The trustee shall file an accounting of the sale with the commissioner of accounts pursuant to § [64.2-1309](#) and every account of a sale shall be recorded pursuant to § [64.2-1310](#). In addition, the accounting shall be made available for inspection and copying pursuant to § [55.1-1945](#) upon the written request of the prior unit owner, current unit owner, or any holder of a recorded lien against the unit at the time of the sale. The unit owners' association shall maintain a copy of the accounting for at least 12 months following the foreclosure sale.

11. If the sale of a unit is made pursuant to this subsection and the accounting is made by the trustee, the title of the purchaser at such sale shall not be disturbed unless within 12 months from the confirmation of the accounting by the commissioner of accounts, the sale is set aside by the court or an appeal is allowed by the Supreme Court of Virginia and an order is entered requiring such sale to be set aside.

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.84; 1975, c. 415; 1991, c. 497; 1992, c. 72; 1997, cc. [760](#), [766](#); 2000, c. [906](#); 2004, cc. [778](#), [779](#), [786](#); 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1967. (Effective October 1, 2019) Notice of sale under deed of trust.**

In accordance with the provisions of § [15.2-979](#), the unit owners' association shall be given notice whenever a condominium unit becomes subject to a sale under a deed of trust. Upon receipt of such notice, the executive board, on behalf of the unit owners' association, shall exercise whatever due diligence it deems necessary with respect to the unit subject to a sale under a deed of trust to protect the interests of the unit owners' association.

2015, cc. [93](#), [410](#), § 55-79.84:01; 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1968. (Effective October 1, 2019) Bond to be posted by declarant.**

A. The declarant of a condominium containing units that are required by this chapter to be registered with the Common Interest Community Board shall post a bond in favor of the unit owners' association with good and sufficient surety, in a sum equal to \$1,000 per unit, except that such sum shall not be less than \$10,000, nor more than \$100,000. Such bond shall be filed with the Common Interest Community Board and shall be maintained for so long as the declarant owns more than 10 percent of the units in the condominium or, if the declarant owns less than 10 percent of the units in the condominium, until the declarant is current in the payment of assessments.

However, the Board shall return a bond where the declarant owns one unit in a condominium containing less than 10 units, provided that such declarant is current in the payment of assessments.

B. No bond shall be accepted for filing unless it is with a surety company authorized to do business in the Commonwealth or by such other surety as is satisfactory to the Board, and such bond shall be conditioned upon the payment of all assessments levied against condominium units owned by the declarant. The Board may accept a letter of credit in lieu of the bond contemplated by this section.

The Board may promulgate reasonable regulations that govern the return of bonds submitted in accordance with this section.

1977, c. 428, § 55-79.84:1; 1981, c. 480; 1984, c. 601; 1985, c. 107; 1988, c. 15; 1993, cc. 667, 900; 2008, cc. [851](#), [871](#); 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1969. (Effective October 1, 2019) Restraints on alienation.**

If the condominium instruments create any rights of first refusal or other restraints on free alienability of the condominium units, such rights and restraints are void unless the condominium instruments make provision for promptly furnishing to any unit owner or purchaser requesting such rights and restraints a recordable statement certifying to any waiver of, or failure or refusal to exercise, such rights and restraints, in all cases where such waiver, failure, or refusal does in fact occur. Failure or refusal to furnish promptly such a statement in such circumstances in accordance with the provisions of the condominium instruments make all such rights and restraints inapplicable to any disposition of a condominium unit in contemplation of which such statement was requested. Any such statement shall be binding on the unit owners' association, the executive board, and every unit owner. Payment of a fee not exceeding \$25 may be required as a prerequisite to the issuance of such a statement if the condominium instruments so provide.

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.85; 2019, c. [712](#).

**Article 4. Administration of Chapter; Sale, Etc., of Condominium Units**

**§ 55.1-1970. (Effective October 1, 2019) Common Interest Community Board.**

This chapter shall be administered by the Common Interest Community Board.

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.86; 2008, cc. [851](#), [871](#); 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1971. (Effective October 1, 2019) General powers and duties of the Common Interest Community Board.**

A. The Common Interest Community Board shall prescribe reasonable regulations, which shall be adopted, amended, or repealed in compliance with law applicable to the administrative procedure of agencies of government. The regulations shall include provisions for advertising standards to

assure full and fair disclosure, provisions for operating procedures, and other regulations as are necessary and proper to accomplish the purpose of this chapter.

B. The Common Interest Community Board by regulation or by an order, after reasonable notice and hearing, may require the filing of advertising material relating to condominiums prior to its distribution.

C. If it appears that a person has engaged or is about to engage in an act or practice constituting a violation of a provision of this chapter or Common Interest Community Board regulation or order, the Common Interest Community Board, with or without prior administrative proceedings, may bring an action in the circuit court of the county or city in which any portion of the condominium is located to enjoin the acts or practices and to enforce compliance with this chapter or any Common Interest Community Board regulation or order. Upon proper showing, injunctive relief or temporary restraining orders shall be granted. The Common Interest Community Board is not required to post a bond in any court proceedings or prove that no other adequate remedy at law exists.

D. With respect to any lawful process served upon the Common Interest Community Board pursuant to the appointment made in accordance with subdivision A 1 of § [55.1-1975](#), the Common Interest Community Board shall forthwith cause the same to be sent by registered or certified mail to any of the principals, officers, directors, partners, or trustees of the declarant listed in the application for registration at the last address listed in such application or the most recent annual report.

E. The Common Interest Community Board may intervene in any action involving the declarant. In any action by or against a declarant involving a condominium, the declarant shall promptly furnish the Common Interest Community Board notice of the action and copies of all pleadings.

F. The Common Interest Community Board may:

1. Accept registrations filed in other states or with the federal government;
2. Contract with similar agencies in the Commonwealth or other jurisdictions to perform investigative functions; and
3. Accept grants in aid from any governmental source.

G. The Common Interest Community Board shall cooperate with similar agencies in other jurisdictions to establish uniform filing procedures and forms, uniform public offering statements, advertising standards, regulations, and common administrative practices.

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.98; 1981, c. 480; 2011, c. [605](#); 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1972. (Effective October 1, 2019) Exemptions from certain provisions of article.**

A. Unless the method of offer or disposition is adopted for the purpose of evasion of this chapter, the provisions of §§ [55.1-1974](#) through [55.1-1979](#), subsections B and D of § [55.1-1982](#), and §§ [55.1-1990](#) and [55.1-1991](#) do not apply to:

1. Dispositions pursuant to court order;
2. Dispositions by any government or government agency;
3. Offers by the declarant on nonbinding reservation agreements;
4. Dispositions in a residential condominium in which there are three or fewer units, so long as the condominium instruments do not reserve to the declarant the right to create additional condominium units; or
5. A disposition of a unit by a sale at an auction where a current public offering statement or resale certificate was made available as part of an auction package for prospective purchasers prior to the auction sale.

B. In cases of dispositions in a condominium where all units are restricted to nonresidential use, the provisions of §§ [55.1-1974](#) through [55.1-1983](#) shall not apply, unless the method of offer or disposition is adopted for the purpose of evasion of this chapter.

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.87; 1975, c. 415; 1984, c. 427; 1993, c. 667; 2007, c. [266](#); 2012, c. [325](#); 2015, c. [277](#); 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1973. (Effective October 1, 2019) Rental of units.**

A. Except as expressly authorized in this chapter or in the condominium instruments or as otherwise provided by law, no unit owners' association shall:

1. Condition or prohibit the rental of a unit to a tenant by a unit owner or make an assessment or impose a charge except as provided in § [55.1-1904](#);
2. Charge a rental fee, application fee, or other processing fee of any kind in excess of \$50 during the term of any lease;
3. Charge an annual or monthly rental fee or any other fee not expressly authorized in § [55.1-1904](#);
4. Require the unit owner to use a lease or an addendum to the lease prepared by the unit owners' association;
5. Charge any deposit from the unit owner or the tenant of the unit owner; or
6. Have the authority to evict a tenant of any unit owner or to require any unit owner to execute a power of attorney authorizing the unit owners' association to so evict. However, if the unit owner

designates a person licensed under the provisions of § [54.1-2106.1](#) as the unit owner's authorized representative with respect to any lease, the unit owners' association shall recognize such representation without a formal power of attorney, provided that the unit owners' association is given a written authorization signed by the unit owner designating such representative. Notwithstanding any other provision of this subdivision, the requirements of § [55.1-1953](#) and the condominium instruments shall be satisfied before any such representative may exercise a vote on behalf of a unit owner as a proxy.

B. The unit owners' association may require the unit owner to provide the unit owners' association with the names and contact information of the tenants and authorized occupants under such lease and of any authorized agent of the unit owner and vehicle information for such tenants or authorized occupants. The unit owners' association may require the unit owner to provide the unit owners' association with the tenant's acknowledgment of and consent to any rules and regulations of the unit owners' association.

C. The provisions of this section shall not apply to units owned by the unit owners' association.

2015, c. [277](#), § 55-79.87:1; 2016, c. [471](#); 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1974. (Effective October 1, 2019) Limitations on dispositions of units.**

Unless exempt by § [55.1-1972](#):

1. No declarant may offer or dispose of any interest in a condominium unit located in the Commonwealth, nor offer or dispose of in the Commonwealth any interest in a condominium unit located outside of the Commonwealth prior to the time the condominium including such unit is registered in accordance with this chapter.

2. No declarant may dispose of any interest in a condominium unit unless he delivers to the purchaser a current public offering statement by the time of such disposition and such disposition is expressly and without qualification or condition subject to cancellation by the purchaser within five calendar days from the contract date of the disposition or delivery of the current public offering statement, whichever is later. If the purchaser elects to cancel, he may do so by notice of such cancellation hand-delivered or sent by United States mail, return receipt requested, to the declarant. Such cancellation shall be without penalty, and any deposit made by the purchaser shall be promptly refunded in its entirety.

3. The purchaser's right to cancel the purchase contract pursuant to subdivision 2 shall be set forth on the first page of the purchase contract in boldface print of not less than 12-point type.

4. The prospective purchaser may cancel by written notice, hand-delivered or sent by United States mail, return receipt requested, to the declarant or to any sales agent of the declarant at any time prior to the formation of a contract for the sale or lease of a condominium unit or an interest in such unit. Such agreement shall not contain any provision for waiver or any other provision in derogation of the rights of the prospective purchaser as contemplated by this section, nor shall any such

provision be a part of any ancillary agreement.

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.88; 1975, c. 415; 1988, c. 15; 2014, c. [215](#); 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1975. (Effective October 1, 2019) Application for registration; fee.**

A. The application for registration of the condominium shall be filed as prescribed by the Common Interest Community Board's regulations and shall contain the following documents and information:

1. An irrevocable appointment of the Common Interest Community Board to receive service of any lawful process in any noncriminal proceeding arising under this chapter against the applicant or his personal representative if nonresidents of the Commonwealth;
2. The states or jurisdictions in which an application for registration or similar document has been filed and any adverse order or judgment entered in connection with the condominium by the regulatory authorities in each jurisdiction or by any court;
3. The applicant's name and address; the form, date, and jurisdiction of organization; and the address of each of its offices in the Commonwealth;
4. The name, address, and principal occupation for the past five years of every officer of the applicant or person occupying a similar status or performing similar functions and the extent and nature of his interest in the applicant or the condominium, as of a specified date within 30 days of the filing of the application;
5. A statement, in a form acceptable to the Common Interest Community Board, of the condition of the title to the condominium project, including encumbrances, as of a specified date within 30 days of the date of application by a title opinion of a licensed attorney not a salaried employee, officer, or director of the applicant or owner, or by other evidence of title acceptable to the Common Interest Community Board;
6. Copies of the instruments that will be delivered to a purchaser to evidence his interest in the unit and of the contracts and other agreements that a purchaser will be required to agree to or sign;
7. Copies of any management agreements, employment contracts, or other contracts or agreements affecting the use, maintenance, or access of all or a part of the condominium;
8. A statement of the zoning and other governmental regulations affecting the use of the condominium, including the site plans and building permits and their status, and also of any existing tax and existing or proposed special taxes or assessments that affect the condominium;
9. A narrative description of the promotional plan for the disposition of the units in the condominium;

10. Plats and plans of the condominium that comply with the provisions of § [55.1-1920](#) other than the certification requirements, and that show all units and buildings containing units to be built anywhere within the submitted land other than within the boundaries of any convertible lands, except that the Common Interest Community Board may establish by regulation or order requirements in lieu of the provisions of § [55.1-1920](#) for plats and plans of a condominium located outside the Commonwealth;

11. The proposed public offering statement;

12. Any bonds required to be posted pursuant to the provisions of this chapter;

13. A current financial statement or other documentation to demonstrate the declarant's financial ability to complete all proposed improvements on the condominium; and

14. Any other information that the Common Interest Community Board's regulations require for the protection of purchasers.

B. If the declarant registers additional units to be offered for disposition in the same condominium, he may consolidate the subsequent registration with any earlier registration offering units in the condominium for disposition under the same promotional plan.

C. The declarant shall immediately report any material changes in the information contained in an application for registration.

D. Each application shall be accompanied by a fee in an amount established by the Common Interest Community Board pursuant to § [54.1-113](#). All fees shall be remitted by the Common Interest Community Board to the State Treasurer and shall be credited to the Common Interest Community Management Information Fund established pursuant to § [54.1-2354.2](#).

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.89; 1975, c. 415; 1977, c. 428; 1988, c. 16; 2008, cc. [851](#), [871](#); 2011, c. [605](#); 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1976. (Effective October 1, 2019) Public offering statement; condominium securities.**

A. A public offering statement shall disclose fully and accurately the characteristics of the condominium and the units being offered and shall make known to prospective purchasers all unusual and material circumstances or features affecting the condominium. The proposed public offering statement submitted to the Common Interest Community Board shall be in a form prescribed by its regulations and shall include the following:

1. The name and principal address of the declarant and the condominium;

2. A general narrative description of the condominium stating the total number of units in the offering, the total number of units planned to be sold and rented, and the total number of units that may be included in the condominium by reason of future expansion or merger of the project by the

declarant;

3. Copies of the declaration and bylaws, with a brief narrative statement describing each and including information on declarant control; a projected budget for at least the first year of the condominium's operation, including projected common expense assessments for each unit; and provisions for reserves for capital expenditures and restraints on alienation;

4. Copies of any management contract, lease of recreational areas, or similar contract or agreement affecting the use, maintenance, or access of all or any part of the condominium with a brief narrative statement of the effect of each such agreement upon a purchaser, and a statement of the relationship, if any, between the declarant and the managing agent or firm;

5. A general description of the status of construction, zoning, site plan approval, issuance of building permits, or compliance with any other state or local statute or regulation affecting the condominium;

6. The significant terms of any encumbrances, easements, liens, and matters of title affecting the condominium;

7. The significant terms of any financing offered by the declarant to the purchaser of units in the condominium;

8. Provisions of any warranties provided by the declarant on the units and the common elements, other than the warranty prescribed by subsection B of § [55.1-1955](#);

9. A statement that, pursuant to subdivision 2 of § [55.1-1974](#), the purchaser may cancel the disposition within five calendar days of delivery of the current public offering statement or within five calendar days of the contract date of the disposition, whichever is later;

10. A statement of the declarant's obligation to complete improvements of the condominium that are planned but not yet begun or begun but not yet completed. Such statement shall include a description of the quality of the materials to be used, the size or capacity of the improvements when material, and the time by which the improvements shall be completed. Any limitations on the declarant's obligation to begin or complete any such improvements shall be expressly stated;

11. If the units in the condominium are being subjected to a time-share instrument pursuant to § [55.1-2208](#), the information required to be disclosed by § [55.1-2217](#);

12. A statement listing the facilities or amenities that are defined as common elements or limited common elements in the condominium instruments that are available to a purchaser for use. Such statement shall also include whether there are any fees or other charges for the use of such facilities or amenities that are not included as part of any assessment and the amount of such fees or charges, if any, a purchaser may be required to pay;

13. A statement of any limitation on the number of persons who may occupy a unit as a dwelling;

14. A statement setting forth any restrictions, limitation, or prohibition on the right of a unit owner to display the flag of the United States, including reasonable restrictions as to the size, place, and manner of placement or display of such flag; and

15. Additional information required by the Common Interest Community Board to assure full and fair disclosure to prospective purchasers.

B. The public offering statement shall not be used for any promotional purposes before registration of the condominium project and shall be used afterwards only if it is used in its entirety. No person may advertise or represent that the Common Interest Community Board approves or recommends the condominium or disposition of any unit in the condominium. No portion of the public offering statement may be underscored, italicized, or printed in larger or heavier or different color type than the remainder of the statement unless the Common Interest Community Board requires it.

C. The Common Interest Community Board may require the declarant to alter or amend the proposed public offering statement in order to assure full and fair disclosure to prospective purchasers, and no change in the substance of the promotional plan or plan of disposition or development of the condominium may be made after registration without notifying the Common Interest Community Board and without making appropriate amendment of the public offering statement. A public offering statement is not current unless all amendments are incorporated.

D. If an interest in a condominium is currently registered with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, a declarant satisfies all requirements relating to the preparation of a public offering statement in this chapter if he delivers to the purchaser and files with the Common Interest Community Board a copy of the public offering statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. An interest in a condominium is not a security under the provisions of the Securities Act (§ [13.1-501](#) et seq.).

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.90; 1977, c. 428; 1986, c. 324; 1996, cc. [281](#), [888](#); 1999, c. [560](#); 2006, c. [646](#); 2007, cc. [854](#), [910](#); 2011, c. [605](#); 2014, c. [215](#); 2019, c. [712](#).

#### **§ 55.1-1977. (Effective October 1, 2019) Inquiry and examination.**

Upon receipt of an application for registration, the Common Interest Community Board shall conduct an examination of the material submitted to determine that:

1. The declarant can convey or cause to be conveyed the units offered for disposition if the purchaser complies with the terms of the offer;

2. There is reasonable assurance that all proposed improvements will be completed as represented;

3. The advertising material and the general promotional plan are not false or misleading and comply with the standards prescribed by the Common Interest Community Board in its regulations and afford full and fair disclosure;

4. The declarant has not, or if a corporation its officers and principals have not, been convicted of a crime involving condominium unit dispositions or any aspect of the land sales business in the Commonwealth, United States, or any other state or foreign country within the past 10 years and has not been subject to any injunction or administrative order restraining a false or misleading promotional plan involving land dispositions;

5. The public offering statement requirements of this chapter have been satisfied; and

6. All other requirements of this chapter and the Common Interest Community Board's regulations have been satisfied.

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.91; 1988, c. 15; 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1978. (Effective October 1, 2019) Notice of filing and registration.**

A. Upon receipt of the application for registration, the Common Interest Community Board shall issue a notice of filing to the applicant within five business days. In the case of receipt of an application for a condominium that is a conversion condominium, the Common Interest Community Board shall also issue within five business days a notice of filing to the chief administrative officer of the county or city in which the proposed condominium is located, and the notice shall include the name and address of the applicant and the name and address or location of the proposed condominium. Within 60 days from the date of the notice of filing, the Common Interest Community Board shall enter an order registering the condominium or rejecting the registration. If no order of rejection is entered within 60 days from the date of notice of filing, the condominium shall be deemed registered unless the applicant has consented in writing to a delay.

B. If the Common Interest Community Board affirmatively determines, upon inquiry and examination, that the requirements of this chapter and the Common Interest Community Board's regulations have been met, it shall enter an order registering the condominium and shall designate the form of the public offering statement.

C. If the Common Interest Community Board determines upon inquiry and examination that any of the requirements of this chapter and the Common Interest Community Board's regulations have not been met, the Common Interest Community Board shall notify the applicant that the application for registration must be corrected in the particulars specified within 20 days. If the requirements are not met within the time allowed, the Common Interest Community Board shall enter an order rejecting the registration, and such order shall include the findings of fact upon which the order is based. The order rejecting the registration shall not become effective for 20 days after issuance of the order. During this 20-day period, the applicant may petition for reconsideration and shall be entitled to a hearing to correct the particulars specified in the Common Interest Community Board's notice. Such order of rejection shall not take effect, in any event, until such time as the hearing, once requested, is given to the applicant.

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.92; 1985, c. 107; 1988, c. 15; 2006, c. [726](#); 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1979. (Effective October 1, 2019) Annual report by declarant.**

The declarant shall file a report in the form prescribed by the regulations of the Common Interest Community Board within 30 days of each anniversary date of the order registering the condominium. The report shall reflect any material changes in information contained in the original application for registration.

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.93; 1975, c. 415; 1988, c. 15; 2012, cc. [481](#), [797](#); 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1980. (Effective October 1, 2019) Annual report by unit owners' association.**

The unit owners' association shall file an annual report in a form and at such time as prescribed by regulations of the Common Interest Community Board. The filing of the annual report required by this section shall begin upon the termination of the declarant control period pursuant to § [55.1-1943](#). The annual report shall be accompanied by a fee in an amount established by the Common Interest Community Board, which shall be paid into the state treasury and credited to the Common Interest Community Management Information Fund established pursuant to § [54.1-2354.2](#).

1993, c. 958, § 55-79.93:1; 2008, cc. [851](#), [871](#); 2009, c. [557](#); 2012, cc. [481](#), [797](#); 2019, cc. [391](#), [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1981. (Effective October 1, 2019) Termination of registration.**

A. In the event that all of the units in the condominium have been disposed of and that all periods for conversion or expansion have expired, the Common Interest Community Board shall issue an order terminating the registration of the condominium.

B. Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, the Common Interest Community Board may administratively terminate the registration of a condominium if:

1. The declarant has not filed an annual report in accordance with § [55.1-1979](#) for three or more consecutive years; or
2. The declarant's registration with the State Corporation Commission, if applicable, has not been active for five or more consecutive years.

2012, cc. [481](#), [797](#), § 55-79.93:2; 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1982. (Effective October 1, 2019) Conversion condominiums; special provisions.**

A. For the purposes of this section:

"Affordable rent" means a monthly rent that does not exceed the greater of 30 percent of the annual gross income of the tenant household or 30 percent of the imputed income limit applicable to such

unit size, as published by the Virginia Housing Development Authority for compliance with the Low Income Housing Tax Credit program.

"Certified nonprofit housing corporation" means a nonprofit organization exempt from taxation under § 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code that has been certified by a locality as actively engaged in producing or preserving affordable housing as determined by criteria established by the locality.

"Disabled" means a person suffering from a severe, chronic physical or mental impairment that results in substantial functional imitations.

"Elderly" means a person not less than 62 years of age.

B. Any declarant of a conversion condominium shall include in his public offering statement in addition to the requirements of § [55.1-1976](#) the following:

1. A specific statement of the amount of any initial or special condominium fee due from the purchaser on or before settlement of the purchase contract and the basis of such fee;
2. Information on the actual expenditures made on all repairs, maintenance, operation, or upkeep of the subject building within the last three years, set forth in a tabular format with the proposed budget of the condominium and cumulatively broken down on a per unit basis in proportion to the relative voting strengths allocated to the units by the bylaws. If such building has not been occupied for a period of three years, then the information shall be set forth for the maximum period such building has been occupied;
3. A description of any provisions made in the budget for reserves for capital expenditures and an explanation of the basis for such reserves, or, if no provision is made for such reserves, a statement to that effect;
4. A statement of the declarant as to the present condition of all structural components and major utility installations in the condominium, including the approximate dates of construction, installation, and major repairs and the expected useful life of each such item, together with the estimated cost of replacing each such item;
5. If any building included or that may be included in the condominium was substantially completed prior to July 1, 1978, a statement that each such building has been inspected for asbestos in accordance with standards in effect at the time of inspection, or that an asbestos inspection will be conducted, and whether asbestos requiring response actions has been found and, if found, that response actions have been or will be completed in accordance with applicable standards prior to the conveyance of any unit in such building. Any asbestos management program or response action undertaken by the building owner shall comply with the standards promulgated pursuant to § [2.2-1164](#).

C. In the case of a conversion condominium, the declarant shall give, at the time specified in

subsection D, formal notice to each of the tenants of the building that the declarant has submitted or intends to submit to the provisions of this chapter. This notice shall advise each tenant of (i) the offering price of the unit he occupies; (ii) the projected common expense assessments against that unit for at least the first year of the condominium's operation; (iii) any relocation services or assistance, public or private, of which the declarant is aware; (iv) any measures taken or to be taken by the declarant to reduce the incidence of tenant dislocation; and (v) the details of the relocation plan, if any is provided by the declarant, to assist tenants in relocating. During the first 60 days after such notice is mailed or hand delivered, each of the tenants shall have the exclusive right to purchase the unit he occupies, but only if such unit is to be retained in the conversion condominium without substantial alteration in its physical layout. If the conversion condominium is subject to local ordinances that have been adopted pursuant to subsections G and H, any tenant who is disabled or elderly may assign the exclusive right to purchase his unit to a governmental agency, housing authority, or certified nonprofit housing corporation, which shall then offer the tenant a lease at an affordable rent, following the provisions of subsection G. The acquisition of such units by the governmental agency, housing authority, or certified nonprofit housing corporation shall not (a) exceed the greater of one unit or five percent of the total number of units in the condominium or (b) impede the condominium conversion process. In determining which, if any, units shall be acquired pursuant to this subsection, preference shall be given to elderly or disabled tenants.

The notice required in this subsection shall be hand delivered or sent by first-class mail, return receipt requested, and shall inform the tenants of the conversion to condominium. Such notice may also constitute the notice to terminate the tenancy as provided for in § [55.1-1410](#), except that, despite the provisions of § [55.1-1410](#), a tenancy from month-to-month may only be terminated upon 120 days' notice when such termination is in regard to the creation of a conversion condominium. If, however, a tenant so notified remains in possession of the unit he occupies after the expiration of the 120-day period with the permission of the declarant, in order to then terminate the tenancy, such declarant shall give the tenant a further notice as provided in § [55.1-1410](#). Until the expiration of the 120-day period, the declarant shall have no right of access to the unit except as provided by subsection A of § [55.1-1229](#) and except that, upon 45 days' written notice to the tenant, the declarant may enter the unit in order to make additional repairs, decorations, alterations, or improvements, provided that (i) the making of the same does not constitute an actual or constructive eviction of the tenant and (ii) such entry is made either with the consent of the tenant or only at times when the tenant is absent from the unit. The declarant shall also provide general notice to the tenants of the condominium or proposed condominium at the time of application to the Common Interest Community Board in addition to the formal notice required by this subsection.

D. The declarant of a conversion condominium shall, in addition to the requirements of § [55.1-1975](#), include with the application for registration a copy of the formal notice set forth in subsection C and a certified statement that such notice, fully complying with the provisions of subsection C, shall be at the time of the registration of such condominium mailed or delivered to each of the tenants in the building for which registration is sought. The price and projected common expense assessments for each unit need not be filed with the Common Interest Community Board until such notice is mailed to the tenants.

E. Notwithstanding the provisions of § [55.1-1901](#), in the case of any conversion condominium created under the provisions of the Horizontal Property Act (§ [55.1-2000](#) et seq.) for which a final report has not been issued by the Common Interest Community Board pursuant to former § [55-79.21](#) prior to June 1, 1975, the provisions of subsections B and C shall apply and the declarant shall be required to furnish evidence of full compliance with subsections B and C prior to the issuance by the Common Interest Community Board of a final report for such conversion condominium.

F. Any locality may require by ordinance that the declarant of a conversion condominium file with that governing body all information that is required by the Common Interest Community Board pursuant to § [55.1-1975](#) and a copy of the formal notice required by subsection C. Such information shall be filed with that governing body when the application for registration is filed with the Common Interest Community Board, and such copy of the formal notice shall be filed with that governing body. There shall be no fees for such filings.

G. The governing body of any locality may enact an ordinance requiring that elderly or disabled tenants occupying as their residence, at the time of issuance of the general notice required by subsection C, apartments or units in a conversion condominium be offered leases or extensions of leases on the apartments or units they then occupied, or on other apartments or units of at least equal size and overall quality. The terms and conditions of such leases or extensions shall be as agreed upon by the lessor and the lessee, provided that the rent for such apartment or unit shall not be in excess of reasonable rent for comparable apartments or units in the same market area as such conversion condominium and such lease shall include or incorporate by reference the bylaws or rules and regulations, if any, of the association. No such ordinance shall require that such leases or extensions be offered on more than 20 percent of the apartments or units in such conversion condominium, nor shall any such ordinance require that such leases or extensions extend beyond three years from the date of such notice. Such leases or extensions shall not be required, however, in the case of any apartments or units that will in the course of the conversion be substantially altered in the physical layout, restricted exclusively to nonresidential use, or be converted in such a manner as to require relocation of the tenant in premises outside of the project being converted.

H. The governing body of any county utilizing the optional urban county executive form of government (§ [15.2-800](#) et seq.) or the optional county manager plan of government (§ [15.2-702](#) et seq.), or of any city or town adjoining any such county, may require by ordinance that the declarant of any residential condominium converted from multi-family rental use shall reimburse any tenant displaced by the conversion for amounts actually expended to relocate as a result of such dislocation. The reimbursement shall not be required to exceed the amount that the tenant would have been entitled to receive under §§ [25.1-407](#) and [25.1-415](#) if the real estate comprising the condominium had been condemned by the Department of Transportation.

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.94; 1975, c. 415; 1980, cc. 727, 738; 1981, cc. 455, 503; 1982, cc. 273, 475, 663; 1983, c. 310; 1984, cc. 321, 601; 1985, c. 69; 1987, c. 412; 1988, c. 723; 1989, c. 398; 1991, c. 497; 1993, c. 634; 2007, cc. [602](#), [665](#); 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1983. (Effective October 1, 2019) Escrow of deposits.**

A. Any deposit made in regard to any disposition of a unit, including a nonbinding reservation agreement, shall be held in escrow until delivered at settlement. Such escrow funds shall be deposited in a separate account designated for this purpose that is federally insured and located in the Commonwealth, except where such deposits are being held by a real estate broker or attorney licensed under the laws of the Commonwealth, in which case such funds may be placed in that broker's or attorney's regular escrow account and need not be placed in a separate designated account. Such escrow funds shall not be subject to attachment by the creditors of either the purchaser or the declarant.

B. In lieu of escrowing deposits as provided in subsection A, the declarant of a condominium consisting of more than 50 units may:

1. Obtain and maintain a corporate surety bond issued by a surety authorized to do business in the Commonwealth, in the form and amount set forth below; or
2. Obtain and maintain an irrevocable letter of credit issued by a financial institution whose accounts are insured by the FDIC, in the form and amount set forth below.

The surety bond or letter of credit shall be maintained until (i) the granting of a deed to the unit, (ii) the purchaser's default under a purchase contract for the unit entitling the declarant to retain the deposit, or (iii) the refund of the deposit to the purchaser, whichever occurs first.

C. The surety bond shall be payable to the Commonwealth for the use and benefit of every person protected under the provisions of this chapter. The declarant shall file the bond with the Common Interest Community Board. The surety bond may be either in the form of an individual bond for each deposit accepted by the declarant or, if the total amount of the deposits accepted by the declarant under this chapter exceeds \$10,000, it may be in the form of a blanket bond. If the bond is a blanket bond, the amount shall be as follows. If the amount of such deposits is:

1. \$75,000 or less, the blanket bond shall be \$75,000;
2. More than \$75,000 but less than \$200,000, the blanket bond shall be \$200,000;
3. \$200,000 or more but less than \$500,000, the blanket bond shall be \$500,000;
4. \$500,000 or more but less than \$1 million, the blanket bond shall be \$1 million; and
5. \$1 million or more, the blanket bond shall be 100 percent of the amount of such deposits.

D. The letter of credit shall be payable to the Commonwealth for use and benefit of every person protected under this chapter. The declarant shall file the letter of credit with the Common Interest Community Board. The letter of credit may be either in the form of an individual letter of credit for each deposit accepted by the declarant or, if the total amount of the deposits accepted by the declarant under this chapter exceeds \$10,000, it may be in the form of a blanket letter of credit. If

the letter of credit is a blanket letter of credit, the amount shall be as follows. If the amount of such deposits is:

1. \$75,000 or less, the blanket letter of credit shall be \$75,000;
2. More than \$75,000 but less than \$200,000, the blanket letter of credit shall be \$200,000;
3. \$200,000 or more but less than \$500,000, the blanket letter of credit shall be \$500,000;
4. \$500,000 or more but less than \$1 million, the blanket letter of credit shall be \$1 million; and
5. \$1 million or more, the blanket letter of credit shall be 100 percent of the amount of such deposits.

For the purposes of determining the amount of any blanket letter of credit that a declarant maintains in any calendar year, the total amount of deposits considered held by the declarant shall be determined as of May 31 in each calendar year and the amount of the letter of credit shall be in accordance with the amount of deposits held as of May 31.

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.95; 1977, c. 91; 2007, c. [445](#); 2008, cc. [851](#), [871](#); 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1984. (Effective October 1, 2019) Declarant to deliver declaration to purchaser.**

The declarant shall within 10 days of recordation of the condominium instruments as provided for in §§ [55.1-1907](#) and [55.1-1911](#) forward to each purchaser at his last known address by first-class mail, return receipt requested, an exact copy of the recorded declaration and bylaws.

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.96; 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1985. (Effective October 1, 2019) Investigations and proceedings.**

A. Whenever the Common Interest Community Board receives a written complaint that appears to state a valid claim, the Common Interest Community Board shall make necessary public or private investigations in accordance with law within or outside of the Commonwealth to determine whether any declarant or its agents, employees, or other representatives have violated or are about to violate this chapter or any Common Interest Community Board regulation or order, or to aid in the enforcement of this chapter or in the prescribing of Common Interest Community Board regulations and forms. The Common Interest Community Board may also in like manner and with like authority investigate written complaints against persons other than the declarant or its agents, employees, or other representatives.

B. For the purpose of any investigation or proceeding under this chapter, the Common Interest Community Board or any officer designated by regulation may administer oaths or affirmations and upon its own motion or upon request of any party shall subpoena witnesses, compel their attendance, take evidence, and require the production of any matter that is relevant to the

investigation, including the existence, description, nature, custody, condition, and location of any books, documents, or other tangible things and the identity and location of persons having knowledge of relevant facts or any other matter reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of material evidence.

C. Upon failure to obey a subpoena or to answer questions propounded by the investigating officer and upon reasonable notice to all persons affected by such failure, the Common Interest Community Board may apply to the Circuit Court of the County of Henrico for an order compelling compliance.

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.99; 1993, c. 198; 2011, c. [605](#); 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1986. (Effective October 1, 2019) Cease and desist orders.**

A. The Common Interest Community Board may issue an order requiring a person to cease and desist from any of the unlawful practices enumerated in subdivisions 1 through 5 and to take such affirmative action as in the judgment of the Common Interest Community Board will carry out the purposes of this chapter if the Common Interest Community Board determines after notice and hearing that such person has:

1. Violated any provision of this chapter;
2. Directly or through an agent or employee knowingly engaged in any false, deceptive, or misleading advertising, promotional, or sales methods to offer or dispose of a unit;
3. Made any substantial change in the plan of disposition and development of the condominium subsequent to the order of registration without notifying the Common Interest Community Board;
4. Disposed of any units that have not been registered with the Common Interest Community Board; or
5. Violated any lawful order or regulation of the Common Interest Community Board.

B. If the Common Interest Community Board makes a finding of fact in writing that the public interest will be irreparably harmed by delay in issuing an order, it may issue a temporary order to cease and desist or to take such affirmative action as may be deemed appropriate by the Common Interest Community Board. Prior to issuing the temporary order, the Common Interest Community Board shall give notice of the proposal to issue a temporary order to the person. Every temporary order shall include in its terms a provision that upon request a hearing will be held promptly to determine whether it becomes permanent.

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.100; 1975, c. 415; 2019, cc. [467](#), [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1987. (Effective October 1, 2019) Revocation of registration.**

A. A registration may be revoked by the Common Interest Community Board after notice and hearing upon a written finding of fact in accordance with the Administrative Process Act (§ [2.2-4000](#) et seq.) that the declarant has:

1. Failed to comply with the terms of a cease and desist order;
2. Been convicted in any court subsequent to the filing of the application for registration for a crime involving fraud, deception, false pretenses, misrepresentation, false advertising, or dishonest dealing in real estate transactions;
3. Disposed of, concealed, or diverted any funds or assets of any person so as to defeat the rights of unit purchasers;
4. Failed faithfully to perform any stipulation or agreement made with the Common Interest Community Board as an inducement to grant any registration, to reinstate any registration, or to approve any promotional plan or public offering statement; or
5. Made intentional misrepresentations or concealed material facts in an application for registration.

B. If the Common Interest Community Board finds after notice and a hearing that the developer has been guilty of a violation for which revocation could be ordered, it may issue a cease and desist order instead.

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.101; 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1988. (Effective October 1, 2019) Judicial review.**

Proceedings for judicial review shall be in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Process Act (§ [2.2-4000](#) et seq.).

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.102; 1996, c. [573](#); 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1989. (Effective October 1, 2019) Penalties.**

Any person who willfully violates any provision of § [55.1-1972](#), [55.1-1974](#), [55.1-1975](#), [55.1-1976](#), [55.1-1979](#), [55.1-1982](#), or [55.1-1983](#) or any regulation adopted under or order issued pursuant to § [55.1-1971](#), or any person who willfully in an application for registration makes any untrue statement of a material fact or omits to state a material fact is guilty of a misdemeanor and may be fined not less than \$1,000 or double the amount of gain from the transaction, whichever is the larger, but not more than \$50,000, or he may be imprisoned for not more than six months, or both, for each offense.

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.103; 2019, c. [712](#).

## Article 5. Disclosure Requirements; Authorized Fees

### § 55.1-1990. (Effective October 1, 2019) Resale by purchaser; contract disclosure; right of cancellation.

A. For purposes of this article:

"Delivery" means that the resale certificate is delivered to the purchaser or purchaser's authorized agent by one of the methods specified in this article.

"Financial update" means an update of the financial information referenced in subdivisions A 2 through 7 of § [55.1-1991](#).

"Purchaser's authorized agent" means any person designated by such purchaser in a ratified real estate contract for purchase and sale of residential real property or other writing designating such agent.

"Receives," "received," or "receiving" the resale certificate means that the purchaser or purchaser's authorized agent has received the resale certificate by one of the methods specified in this article.

"Resale certificate update" means an update of the financial information referenced in subdivisions A 2 through 9 and 12 of § [55.1-1991](#). The update shall include a copy of the original resale certificate.

"Seller's authorized agent" means a person designated by such seller in a ratified real estate contract for purchase and sale of residential real property or other writing designating such agent.

B. In the event of any resale of a condominium unit by a unit owner other than the declarant, and subject to the provisions of subsection F and subsection A of § [55.1-1972](#), the unit owner shall disclose in the contract that (i) the unit is located within a development that is subject to the Condominium Act; (ii) the Condominium Act requires the seller to obtain from the unit owners' association a resale certificate and provide it to the purchaser; (iii) the purchaser may cancel the contract within three days after receiving the resale certificate or being notified that the resale certificate will not be available; (iv) if the purchaser has received the resale certificate, the purchaser has a right to request a resale certificate update or financial update in accordance with § [55.1-1992](#), as appropriate; and (v) the right to receive the resale certificate and the right to cancel the contract are waived conclusively if not exercised before settlement.

For purposes of clause (iii), the resale certificate shall be deemed not to be available if (a) a current annual report has not been filed by the unit owners' association with either the State Corporation Commission pursuant to § [13.1-936](#) or the Common Interest Community Board pursuant to § [55.1-1980](#), (b) the seller has made a written request to the unit owners' association that the resale certificate be provided and no such resale certificate has been received within 14 days in accordance with subsection C of § [55.1-1991](#), or (c) written notice has been provided by the unit owners' association that a resale certificate is not available.

C. If the contract does not contain the disclosure required by subsection B, the purchaser's sole remedy is to cancel the contract prior to settlement.

D. The information contained in the resale certificate shall be current as of a date specified on the resale certificate. A resale certificate update or a financial update may be requested as provided in § [55.1-1992](#), as appropriate. The purchaser may cancel the contract (i) within three days after the date of the contract, if on or before the date that the purchaser signs the contract, the purchaser receives the resale certificate, is notified that the resale certificate will not be available, or receives a resale certificate that does not contain the information required by this subsection to be included in the resale certificate; (ii) within three days after receiving the resale certificate if the resale certificate, notice that the resale certificate will not be available, or a resale certificate that does not contain the information required by this subsection to be included in the resale certificate is hand delivered, delivered by electronic means, or delivered by a commercial overnight delivery service or the United States Postal Service, and a receipt is obtained; or (iii) within six days after the postmark date if the resale certificate, notice that the resale certificate will not be available, or a resale certificate that does not contain the information required by this subsection to be included in the resale certificate is sent to the purchaser by United States mail. The purchaser may also cancel the contract at any time prior to settlement if the purchaser has not been notified that the resale certificate will not be available and the resale certificate is not delivered to the purchaser.

Notice of cancellation shall be provided to the unit owner or his agent by one of the following methods:

1. Hand delivery;
2. United States mail, postage prepaid, provided that the sender retains sufficient proof of mailing in the form of a certificate of service prepared by the sender confirming such mailing;
3. Electronic means, provided that the sender retains sufficient proof of the electronic delivery, which may be an electronic receipt of delivery, a confirmation that the notice was sent by facsimile, or a certificate of service prepared by the sender confirming the electronic delivery; or

4. Overnight delivery using a commercial service or the United States Postal Service.

In the event of a dispute, the sender shall have the burden to demonstrate delivery of the notice of cancellation. Such cancellation shall be without penalty, and the unit owner shall cause any deposit to be returned promptly to the purchaser.

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.97; 1975, c. 415; 1978, cc. 234, 290; 1983, c. 60; 1984, cc. 29, 103; 1990, c. 662; 1991, c. 497; 1994, c. [172](#); 1997, c. [222](#); 1998, cc. [32](#), [454](#), [463](#); 1999, c. [263](#); 2001, c. [556](#); 2002, cc. [459](#), [509](#); 2005, c. [415](#); 2007, cc. [696](#), [712](#), [854](#), [910](#); 2008, cc. [851](#), [871](#); 2011, c. [334](#); 2013, cc. [357](#), [492](#); 2014, c. [216](#); 2015, c. [277](#); 2016, c. [471](#); 2017, cc. [393](#), [406](#); 2018, c. [70](#); 2019, cc. [364](#), [513](#), [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1991. (Effective October 1, 2019) Contents of resale certificate; delivery.**

A. A resale certificate shall include the following:

1. An appropriate statement pursuant to subsection H of § [55.1-1966](#), which need not be notarized, and, if applicable, an appropriate statement pursuant to § [55.1-1969](#);
2. A statement of any expenditure of funds approved by the unit owners' association or the executive board that requires an assessment in addition to the regular assessment during the current or the immediately succeeding fiscal year;
3. A statement, including the amount, of all assessments and any other fees or charges currently imposed by the unit owners' association, together with any known post-closing fee charged by the common interest community manager, if any, and associated with the purchase, disposition, and maintenance of the condominium unit and the use of the common elements, and the status of the account;
4. A statement of whether there is any other entity or facility to which the unit owner may be liable for fees or other charges;
5. The current reserve study report or a summary of such report and a statement of the status and amount of any reserve or replacement fund and any portion of the fund designated for any specified project by the executive board;
6. A copy of the unit owners' association's current budget or a summary of such budget prepared by the unit owners' association and a copy of the statement of its financial position (balance sheet) for the last fiscal year for which a statement is available, including a statement of the balance due of any outstanding loans of the unit owners' association;
7. A statement of the nature and status of any pending actions or unpaid judgments to which the unit owners' association is a party that either could or would have a material impact on the unit owners' association or the unit owners or that relates to the unit being purchased;
8. A statement setting forth what insurance coverage is provided for all unit owners by the unit owners' association, including the fidelity bond maintained by the unit owners' association, and what additional insurance coverage would normally be secured by each individual unit owner;
9. A statement that any improvements or alterations made to the unit, or the limited common elements assigned thereto, are or are not in violation of the condominium instruments;
10. A copy of the current bylaws, rules and regulations, and architectural guidelines adopted by the unit owners' association and the amendments to any such documents;
11. A statement of whether any portion of the condominium is located within a development subject to the Property Owners' Association Act (§ [55.1-1800](#) et seq.);
12. A copy of the notice given to the unit owner by the unit owners' association of any current or

pending rule or architectural violation;

13. A copy of any approved minutes of the executive board and unit owners' association meetings for the six calendar months preceding the request for the resale certificate;

14. Certification that the unit owners' association has filed with the Common Interest Community Board the annual report required by § [55.1-1980](#), the filing number assigned by the Common Interest Community Board, and the expiration date of such filing;

15. A statement of any limitation on the number of persons who may occupy a unit as a dwelling;

16. A statement setting forth any restrictions, limitation, or prohibition on the right of a unit owner to display the flag of the United States, including reasonable restrictions as to the size, time, place, and manner of placement or display of such flag;

17. A statement setting forth any restriction, limitation, or prohibition on the right of a unit owner to install or use solar energy collection devices on the unit owner's property;

18. A statement indicating any known project approvals currently in effect issued by secondary mortgage market agencies; and

19. A copy of the fully completed form developed by the Common Interest Community Board pursuant to § [54.1-2350](#).

B. Failure to receive a resale certificate shall not excuse any failure to comply with the provisions of the condominium instruments, articles of incorporation, or rules or regulations.

C. The resale certificate shall be delivered in accordance with the written request and instructions of the seller or the seller's authorized agent, including whether the resale certificate shall be delivered electronically or in hard copy, at the option of the seller or the seller's authorized agent, and shall specify the complete contact information for the parties to whom the resale certificate shall be delivered. The resale certificate shall be delivered within 14 days of receipt of such request. The resale certificate shall not, in and of itself, be deemed a security within the meaning of § [13.1-501](#).

D. The seller or the seller's authorized agent may request that the resale certificate be provided in hard copy or in electronic form. A unit owners' association or common interest community manager may provide the resale certificate electronically; however, the seller or the seller's authorized agent shall have the right to request that the resale certificate be provided in hard copy. The seller or the seller's authorized agent shall continue to have the right to request a hard copy of the resale certificate in person at the principal place of business of the unit owners' association. If the seller or the seller's authorized agent requests that the resale certificate be provided in electronic format, neither the unit owners' association nor its common interest community manager may require the seller or the seller's authorized agent to pay any fees to use the provider's electronic network or system. The resale certificate shall not be delivered in hard copy if the requester has requested

delivery of such resale certificate electronically. If the resale certificate is provided electronically by a website link, the preparer shall not cause the website link to expire within the subsequent 90-day period. The preparer shall not charge another fee during the subsequent 12-month period, except that the preparer may charge an update fee for a financial update or for an inspection as provided in § [55.1-1992](#). If the seller or the seller's authorized agent asks that the resale certificate be provided in electronic format, the seller or the seller's authorized agent may request that an electronic copy be provided to each of the following named in the request: the seller, the seller's authorized agent, the purchaser, the purchaser's authorized agent, and not more than one other person designated by the requester. If so requested, the unit owners' association or its common interest community manager may require the seller or the seller's authorized agent to pay the fee specified in § [55.1-1992](#). Regardless of whether the resale certificate is delivered in paper form or electronically, the preparer of the resale certificate shall provide such resale certificate directly to the persons designated by the requester to the addresses or, if applicable, the email addresses provided by the requester.

E. Subject to the provisions of § [55.1-1972](#), but notwithstanding any other provisions of this chapter, the provisions and requirements of this section shall apply to any such resale of a condominium unit created under the provisions of the Horizontal Property Act (§ [55.1-2000](#) et seq.).

F. Unless otherwise provided in the ratified real estate contract or other writing, delivery to the purchaser's authorized agent shall require delivery to such agent and not to a person other than such agent. Delivery of the resale certificate may be made by the unit owner or the seller's authorized agent.

G. If the unit is governed by more than one association, the purchaser's right of cancellation may be exercised within the required time frames following delivery of the last resale certificate or disclosure packet.

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.97; 1975, c. 415; 1978, cc. 234, 290; 1983, c. 60; 1984, cc. 29, 103; 1990, c. 662; 1991, c. 497; 1994, c. [172](#); 1997, c. [222](#); 1998, cc. [32](#), [454](#), [463](#); 1999, c. [263](#); 2001, c. [556](#); 2002, cc. [459](#), [509](#); 2005, c. [415](#); 2007, cc. [696](#), [712](#), [854](#), [910](#); 2008, cc. [851](#), [871](#); 2011, c. [334](#); 2013, cc. [357](#), [492](#); 2014, c. [216](#); 2015, c. [277](#); 2016, c. [471](#); 2017, cc. [393](#), [406](#); 2018, c. [70](#); 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1992. (Effective October 1, 2019) Fees for resale certificate.**

A. The unit owners' association may charge fees as authorized by this section for the inspection of the property, for the preparation and issuance of the resale certificate required by §§ [55.1-1990](#) and [55.1-1991](#), and for such other services as are set out in this section. Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to authorize the unit owners' association or common interest community manager to charge an inspection fee for a unit except as provided in this section.

B. A reasonable fee may be charged by the preparer of the resale certificate as follows:

1. For the inspection of the unit, as authorized in the declaration and as required to prepare the resale certificate, a fee not to exceed \$100;
2. For preparation and delivery of the resale certificate in (i) paper format, a fee not to exceed \$150 for no more than two hard copies or (ii) electronic format, a fee not to exceed a total of \$125, for an electronic copy to each of the following named in the request: the seller, the seller's authorized agent, the purchaser, the purchaser's authorized agent, and not more than one other person designated by the requester. Only one fee shall be charged for the preparation and delivery of the resale certificate;
3. At the option of the seller or the seller's authorized agent, with the consent of the unit owners' association or the common interest community manager, for expediting the inspection, preparation, and delivery of the resale certificate, an additional expedite fee not to exceed \$50;
4. At the option of the seller or the seller's authorized agent, for an additional hard copy of the resale certificate, a fee not to exceed \$25 per hard copy;
5. At the option of the seller or the seller's authorized agent, for hand delivery or overnight delivery of the resale certificate, a fee not to exceed an amount equal to the actual cost paid to a third-party commercial delivery service; and
6. A post-closing fee to the purchaser of the unit, collected at settlement, for the purpose of establishing the purchaser as the owner of the unit in the records of the unit owners' association, a fee not to exceed \$50.

Neither the unit owners' association nor its common interest community manager shall require cash, check, certified funds, or credit card payments at the time the request for the resale certificate is made. The resale certificate shall state that all fees and costs for the resale certificate shall be the personal obligation of the unit owner and shall be an assessment against the unit and collectible as any other assessment in accordance with the provisions of the condominium instruments and [§ 55.1-1964](#), if not paid at settlement or within 60 days of the delivery of the resale certificate, whichever occurs first.

For purposes of this section, an expedite fee shall be charged only if the inspection and preparation of delivery of the resale certificate are completed within five business days of the request for a resale certificate.

C. No fees other than those specified in this section, and as limited by this section, shall be charged by the unit owners' association or its common interest community manager for compliance with the duties and responsibilities of the unit owners' association under this section. No additional fee shall be charged for access to the unit owners' association's or common interest community manager's website. The unit owners' association or its common interest community manager shall publish and make available in paper or electronic format, or both, a schedule of the applicable fees so that the seller or the seller's authorized agent will know such fees at the time of requesting the resale certificate.

D. Any fees charged pursuant to this section shall be collected at the time settlement occurs on the sale of the unit and shall be due and payable out of the settlement proceeds in accordance with this section. The seller shall be responsible for all costs associated with the preparation and delivery of the resale certificate, except for the costs of any resale certificate update or financial update, which costs shall be the responsibility of the requester, payable at settlement. The settlement agent shall escrow a sum sufficient to pay such costs at settlement. Neither the unit owners' association nor its common interest community manager shall require cash, check, certified funds, or credit card payments at the time the request is made for the resale certificate.

E. If settlement does not occur within 60 days of the delivery of the resale certificate, or funds are not collected at settlement and disbursed to the unit owners' association or the common interest community manager, all fees, including those costs that would have otherwise been the responsibility of the purchaser or settlement agent, shall be (i) assessed within one year after delivery of the resale certificate against the unit owner, (ii) the personal obligation of the unit owner, and (iii) an assessment against the unit and collectible as any other assessment in accordance with the provisions of the condominium instruments and § [55.1-1964](#). The seller may pay the unit owners' association by cash, check, certified funds, or credit card, if credit card payment is an option offered by the unit owners' association. The unit owners' association shall pay the common interest community manager the amount due from the unit owner within 30 days after invoice.

F. The maximum allowable fees charged in accordance with this section shall adjust every five years, as of January 1 of that year, in an amount equal to the annual increases for that five-year period in the United States Average Consumer Price Index for all items, all urban consumers (CPI-U), as published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor.

G. If a resale certificate has been issued within the preceding 12-month period, a person specified in the written instructions of the seller or the seller's authorized agent, including the seller or the seller's authorized agent or the purchaser or the purchaser's authorized agent, may request a resale certificate update. The requester shall specify whether the resale certificate update shall be delivered electronically or in hard copy and shall specify the complete contact information of the parties to whom the update shall be delivered. The resale certificate update shall be delivered within 10 days of the written request.

H. The settlement agent may request a financial update. The requester shall specify whether the financial update shall be delivered electronically or in hard copy and shall specify the complete contact information of the parties to whom the update shall be delivered. The financial update shall be delivered within three business days of the written request.

I. A reasonable fee for the resale certificate update or financial update may be charged by the preparer, not to exceed \$50. At the option of the purchaser or the purchaser's authorized agent, the requester may request that the unit owners' association or the common interest community manager perform an additional inspection of the unit, as authorized in the declaration, for a fee not to exceed \$100. Any fees charged for the specified update shall be collected at the time settlement occurs on the sale of the property. The settlement agent shall escrow a sum sufficient to pay such costs at

settlement. Neither the unit owners' association nor its common interest community manager, if any, shall require cash, check, certified funds, or credit card payments at the time the request is made for the resale certificate update. The requester may request that the specified update be provided in hard copy or in electronic form.

J. No unit owners' association or common interest community manager may require the requester to request the specified update electronically. The seller or the seller's authorized agent shall continue to have the right to request a hard copy of the specified update in person at the principal place of business of the unit owners' association. If the requester asks that the specified update be provided in electronic format, neither the unit owners' association nor its common interest community manager may require the requester to pay any fees to use the provider's electronic network or system. A copy of the specified update shall be provided to the seller or the seller's authorized agent.

K. When a resale certificate has been delivered as required by § [55.1-1991](#), the unit owners' association shall, as to the purchaser, be bound by the statements set forth in the certificate as to the status of the assessment account and the status of the unit with respect to any violation of the condominium instruments as of the date of the statement unless the purchaser had actual knowledge that the contents of the resale certificate were in error.

L. If the unit owners' association or its common interest community manager has been requested in writing to furnish the resale certificate required by § [55.1-1991](#), failure to provide the resale certificate substantially in the form provided in this section shall be deemed a waiver of any claim for delinquent assessments or of any violation of the declaration, bylaws, rules and regulations, or architectural guidelines existing as of the date of the request with respect to the subject unit. The preparer of the resale certificate shall be liable to the seller in an amount equal to the actual damages sustained by the seller in an amount not to exceed \$1,000. The purchaser shall nevertheless be obligated to abide by the condominium instruments, rules and regulations, and architectural guidelines of the unit owners' association as to all matters arising after the date of the settlement of the sale.

M. The Common Interest Community Board may assess a monetary penalty for failure to deliver the resale certificate within 14 days against any (i) unit owners' association pursuant to § [54.1-2351](#) or (ii) common interest community manager pursuant to § [54.1-2349](#) and regulations promulgated thereto, and may issue a cease and desist order pursuant to § [54.1-2349](#) or [54.1-2352](#), as applicable.

2008, cc. [851](#), [871](#), § 55-79.97:1; 2011, cc. [334](#), [577](#), [585](#); 2014, c. [216](#); 2015, c. [277](#); 2016, c. [471](#); 2017, cc. [393](#), [406](#); 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1993. (Effective October 1, 2019) Properties subject to more than one declaration.**

If the unit is subject to more than one declaration, the unit owners' association or its common interest community manager may charge the fee authorized by § [55.1-1992](#) for each of the applicable associations, provided, however, that no association shall charge an inspection fee unless the association has architectural control over the unit.

2008, cc. [851](#), [871](#), § 55-79.97:2; 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1994. (Effective October 1, 2019) Requests by settlement agents.**

A. The settlement agent may request a financial update from the preparer of the resale certificate. The preparer of the resale certificate shall, upon request from the settlement agent, provide the settlement agent with written escrow instructions directing the amount of any funds to be paid from the settlement proceeds to the association or the common interest community manager. There shall be no fees charged for a response by the association or its common interest community manager to a request from the settlement agent for written escrow instructions; however, a fee may be charged for a financial update pursuant to this chapter.

B. The settlement agent, when transmitting funds to the unit owners' association or the common interest community manager, shall, unless otherwise directed in writing, provide the preparer of the resale certificate with (i) the complete record name of the seller, (ii) the address of the subject unit, (iii) the complete name of the purchaser, (iv) the date of settlement, and (v) a brief explanation of the application of any funds transmitted or by providing a copy of a settlement statement, unless otherwise prohibited.

2008, cc. [851](#), [871](#), § 55-79.97:3; 2019, c. [712](#).

**§ 55.1-1995. (Effective October 1, 2019) Exceptions to disclosure requirements.**

A. The resale certificate required by this article need not be provided in the case of:

1. A disposition of a unit by gift;
2. A disposition of a unit pursuant to court order if the court so directs;
3. A disposition of a unit by foreclosure or deed in lieu of foreclosure; or
4. A disposition of a unit by a sale at auction when the resale certificate was made available as part of the auction package for prospective purchasers prior to the auction.

B. In any transaction in which a resale certificate is required and a trustee acts as the seller in the sale or resale of a unit, the trustee shall obtain the resale certificate from the unit owners' association and provide the resale certificate to the purchaser.

1974, c. 416, § 55-79.97; 1975, c. 415; 1978, cc. 234, 290; 1983, c. 60; 1984, cc. 29, 103; 1990, c. 662; 1991, c. 497; 1994, c. [172](#); 1997, c. [222](#); 1998, cc. [32](#), [454](#), [463](#); 1999, c. [263](#); 2001, c. [556](#); 2002, cc. [459](#), [509](#); 2005, c. [415](#); 2007, cc. [696](#), [712](#), [854](#), [910](#); 2008, cc. [851](#), [871](#); 2011, c. [334](#); 2013, cc. [357](#), [492](#); 2014, c. [216](#); 2015, c. [277](#); 2016, c. [471](#); 2017, cc. [393](#), [406](#); 2018, c. [70](#); 2019, c. [712](#).