

## *Disclosure Regarding Agency Relationship*



When you enter into a discussion regarding a business opportunity transaction, you should from the outset understand what type of agency relationship or representation you have with a Business Broker.

### **AGENT IS REPRESENTING BOTH SELLER AND BUYER**

A Business Broker, a California licensed Real Estate Salesperson or Real Estate Broker, can legally be the agent of both the Seller and the Buyer in a transaction (dual agency) and is hereby notifying you that this is the situation in this transaction.

In a dual agency situation, the Business Broker has the following affirmative obligations to both the Seller and the Buyer:

- (a) A fiduciary duty of utmost care, integrity, honesty and loyalty in the dealings with both the Seller and the Buyer.
- (b) Diligent exercise of reasonable skill and care in performance of the agent's duties.
- (c) A duty of honest and fair dealing and good faith.
- (d) A duty to disclose all facts known to the agent materially affecting the value or desirability of the business that are not known to, or within the diligent attention and observation of, the parties.
- (e) A duty to disclose all facts known to the agent materially affecting the desirability of the Buyer - financial history, creditworthiness and background of the Buyer that are not known to, or within the diligent attention and observation of, the parties.

A Business Broker is not obligated to reveal to either party any confidential information obtained from the other party that does not involve the affirmative duties set forth above.

In representing both Seller and Buyer, the agent may not, without the express permission of the respective party, disclose to the other party that the Seller will accept a price less than the asking price or that the Buyer will pay a price greater than the price offered.

The above duties of the agent in a business opportunity transaction do not relieve a Seller or Buyer from the responsibility to protect his/her own interests. You should carefully read all agreements to assure that they adequately express your understanding of the transaction. A business broker is a person qualified to advise about buying and/or selling business opportunities. If legal or tax advice is desired, consult a competent professional.

Throughout your business opportunity transaction you may receive more than one disclosure form, depending upon the number of Business Brokers assisting in the transaction. The law requires each agent with whom you have more than a casual relationship to present you with this disclosure form.

Unless the potential buyer discloses to Sunbelt at this time that they are currently represented by a broker, the potential buyer acknowledges that they are not represented by another broker and that Sunbelt will be acting as a dual agent. Buyer retains the right to their own representation; however, by signing, they recognize that Sunbelt is not under compulsion or responsible to co-broke, once signed.

### **I/WE ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF A COPY OF THIS DISCLOSURE.**

BUYER/SELLER \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

BUYER/SELLER \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

BUSINESS BROKER \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Sunbelt • Business Sales & Acquisitions

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