

STANDARD BERKSHIRE COUNTY MULTIPLE LISTING SERVICE PURCHASE AND SALE AGREEMENT

▶ **1. PARTIES:**

	SELLER(S)	BUYER(S)
Name(s)	_____	_____
	_____	_____
Address	_____	_____
	_____	_____

▶ **2. DESCRIPTION:** Subject to the terms and conditions hereinafter set forth, the SELLER agrees to sell and the BUYER agrees to buy SELLER's real property located at _____ as more particularly described in a deed dated _____ and recorded in the _____ Registry of Deeds in Book _____, Page _____, or Land Court Certificate # _____ Assessor's Map # _____ Section # _____ Lot # _____ (the "Property").

▶ **3. PURCHASE PRICE:** For the Property, BUYER shall pay the "Purchase Price" sum of\$ _____ of which an initial deposit has been paid on this day in the amount of\$ _____ and within _____ days of SELLER's signed acceptance an additional deposit in the amount of\$ _____ will be paid, resulting in a balance to be paid in the amount of\$ _____ in cash, wired funds, or by certified / bank check at the Closing.

3.1 Escrow: All deposits are to be held by the Listing Broker _____ ("Escrow Agent") in a non-interest bearing escrow account, unless otherwise specified herein.

▶ **4. CLOSING DATE:** The Deed is to be delivered and the Purchase Price paid on _____ at 2:00 p.m. (the "Closing Date") at the appropriate Registry of Deeds or such other location within the county in which the Property is located, as specified by the BUYER.

▶ **5. CONTINGENCY TERMS:** The following terms and dates apply to paragraphs 6, 7 and 8 as the case may be:

- 5.1 Mortgage: Amt: _____ Rate: _____ Type: Fixed Variable Pts: _____ Yrs: _____
- 5.2 Mortgage and/or Insurance Application Date: within _____ days of signed acceptance by SELLER
- 5.3 Mortgage Contingency Date: within _____ days of signed acceptance by SELLER
- 5.4 Insurance Contingency Date: within _____ days of signed acceptance by SELLER
- 5.5 Inspection Contingency Date: within _____ days of signed acceptance by SELLER
- 5.6 Septic System Inspection Date: (if applicable) within _____ days of signed acceptance by SELLER

6. MORTGAGE / INSURANCE CONTINGENCY: The BUYER's obligations hereunder are contingent upon the BUYER's obtaining a written commitment letter from a conventional mortgage lender for a loan consistent with the contingency term used and the BUYER'S satisfaction with the insurability of the Property. Should the BUYER be unable to obtain such a commitment letter or satisfactory insurance binder despite diligent efforts, BUYER may cancel this Agreement by written notice received by the Listing Broker or Seller's Attorney, no later than 5:00 p.m. on the applicable Contingency Date indicated in paragraph 5, whereupon all obligations of the parties under this Agreement shall cease and BUYER's deposits shall be promptly returned in full. BUYER's failure to (a) give such written notice or (b) make a good faith mortgage or insurance application by the Mortgage/Insurance Application Date shall be a waiver of the BUYER's right to cancel under this Paragraph. If the BUYER cancels the agreement, BUYER shall attach a copy of the applicable denial letter to BUYER's cancellation notice.

7. INSPECTION CONTINGENCY: The BUYER's obligations hereunder are contingent upon BUYER's receipt, prior to 5:00 p.m. on the Inspection Contingency Date, of a written inspection report by a licensed professional on the Property satisfactory to the BUYER. Such reports may, at BUYER's option and expense, include but are not limited to: inspections for structural and mechanical matters, pests, including wood-boring insects, lead paint, mold, asbestos, radon gas, other hazardous substances, underground tanks, septic system, well water, wetlands and environmental conditions. Should the results of any such test be unsatisfactory to BUYER, BUYER may



cancel this Agreement by written notice received by the Listing Broker or Seller's Attorney no later than 5:00 p.m. on the Inspection Contingency Date, whereupon all obligations of the parties shall cease and BUYER's deposits shall be promptly returned in full. BUYER's failure to give such notice shall be a waiver of BUYER's right to cancel under this Paragraph. The BUYER and BUYER's consultants shall have the right of access to the Property for the purpose of conducting a home inspection, at reasonable times, upon twenty-four (24) hours advance notice to the SELLER's Agent. In consideration of BUYER's right to inspect and terminate, BUYER acknowledges that by accepting the deed BUYER accepts the condition of the Property and releases the SELLER, SELLER's Agents and BUYER's Agents (which include the Selling and Listing Brokers), from any and all liability relating to any defects in the Property including, without limitation, water seepage from any source.

- ▶ **8. SEWAGE DISPOSAL / SEPTIC SYSTEM:** SELLER represents that the Property is served by a **municipal sewer system** / **septic system** / **other system as outlined in par 36**. If a septic system is present, the SELLER represents that it **is** / **is not** located entirely within the boundaries of the Property, to the best of their knowledge. Further, on or before the Septic System Inspection Date as defined in paragraph 5.6, the SELLER shall provide the BUYER with a Septic System Inspection Report (the "Report") issued less than two (2) years prior to the time of the indicated closing date or less than three (3) years if accompanied by system pumping records that show at least annual pumping during that time. Should the Report indicate that the system is a "failed system" as defined by Title 5 of the State Environmental Code (310 CMR 15.301), the BUYER may, within three (3) days of receipt of Report, cancel this Agreement, and all deposits shall be returned to the BUYER.
- ▶ **9. WATER:** SELLER represents that the property is serviced by a **municipal water system** / **private water company** / **well** / **other as outlined in par 36**. If a well is present, SELLER represents that it **is** / **is not** located entirely within the boundaries of the Property and **does** / **does not** contain defects known to SELLER. BUYER acknowledges that the local Board of Health may adopt regulations that establish criteria for private well siting, construction, water quality and quantity.
- ▶ **10. POSSESSION:** Full possession **free of all** / **subject to existing** tenants and occupants shall be delivered at the Closing Date. The Property shall be free of encroachments burdening the Property and of improvements that encroach on adjoining Property, including but not limited to buildings, septic systems, well and driveway, and has sufficient legal access to a public way.
- ▶ **11. SURVEY:** SELLER represents that **new** / **no new** boundaries are being created by the sale of the Property. If new boundaries are being created, SELLER shall deliver to BUYER at the Closing a survey of the Property, in recordable form. The SELLER shall pay for the preparation and recording of the survey, unless otherwise provided herein.

12. FIXTURES: Included in this sale as part of the Property, unless expressly excluded, are the usual fixtures owned by the SELLER and used in connection therewith including but not limited to, if any, furnaces, heaters, oil and gas burners and fixtures appurtenant thereto, built-in ranges, dishwashers and disposals, hot water heaters (if not rented), mantels, electric and other lighting fixtures, chandeliers, venetian blinds and window shades, attached mirrors, automatic door openers (with remote controls), installed air conditioners, wall brackets and hangers, built-in bookcases and shelving, all installed stair carpeting and wall to wall carpeting, drapery rods, curtain rods, plumbing and electrical covers, screens, screen doors, storm and other detached windows and doors, blinds, awnings, bathroom fixtures, towel bars, medicine cabinets, radio and television antennas, satellite dishes, fences, gates, hardy shrubs, and fire and security systems.

- Additional Personal Property Included: _____
- Fixtures Excluded: _____
- SELLER represents the following items are rented: **Propane Tank** / **Hot Water Heater** / **Water Treatment System** / **Security System** / **Other as outlined in par 36**. BUYER **does** / **does not** agree to assume the rental agreements..

13. ADJUSTMENTS: Current real estate taxes, water rates, sewer use charges and fuel are to be apportioned as of the Closing Date. Rents are to be apportioned only for the month in which the closing occurs and only when collected by either party. Unpaid rents due SELLER from months prior to the month of the Closing Date, shall be the responsibility of the SELLER to collect. If the real estate tax rate is not set as of the Closing Date, the apportionment of real estate taxes shall be made on the basis of the tax assessed for the most recent preceding year, with a readjustment at the request of either party, when the amount of the current year's rate tax is set. If



the amount of the tax is reduced by abatement, the rebate, less the reasonable cost of obtaining it, shall be apportioned between the parties.

- ▶ **14. BETTERMENT ASSESSMENTS:** SELLER represents that the Property **is** / **is not** subject to a betterment assessment. If the Property is subject to a betterment assessment, the **SELLER agrees to pay the total outstanding betterment assessment at the closing** / **BUYER agrees to purchase the Property subject to, and assumes the payment of the betterment assessment.**
- ▶ **15. TITLE:** The Property shall be conveyed by a good and sufficient quitclaim deed unless otherwise specified herein (accompanied by a Certificate of Title, if registered), conveying a good, clear record, marketable and insurable title, free of all encumbrances and exceptions, except:
- a) Real Estate Taxes assessed or to be assessed on the Property to the extent that such taxes then are not yet due and payable.
 - b) Federal, state, and local laws, ordinances, by-laws, and rules regulating the use of land, particularly environmental, building, zoning, health, rent control, and condominium conversion laws, if any, applicable as of the date of this Agreement, provided that as of the Closing Date, the Property may be used as of right for single family residential use or, if the Property is/is not a single family residence, the Property may be used as of right for _____
 - c) Existing rights, if any, in party or partition walls; and
 - d) Utility easements in the adjoining ways.

16. USE OF PROCEEDS TO CLEAR TITLE: To enable SELLER to make conveyance as herein provided, the SELLER may at the time of delivery of the deed, use the purchase money or any portion thereof to clear the title of any or all encumbrances or interests. Upon request, SELLER shall promptly provide BUYER's Attorney with written payoff instructions from all of SELLER's mortgagees. Said payoff instruction shall be in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 183, Section 1, et seq. At closing, BUYER's Attorney shall transmit all of SELLER's payoffs to said mortgagees, and BUYER's Attorney shall be responsible to promptly secure and record the discharges of said mortgages. BUYER's attorney shall be compensated by the SELLER the customary fee associated with securing the discharge or discharges. SELLER shall pay the cost of discharge(s), and SELLER shall reimburse BUYER's Attorney the cost (if any) of overnight mail charges.

17. EXTENSION: If, after a reasonable and diligent effort, SELLER is unable to deliver title as defined in paragraph 15 or convey title of the Property as required hereunder, upon notice by either party, prior to the Closing Date, this Agreement shall be automatically extended for 30 days (or if BUYER's mortgage commitment sooner expires to a date one business day before the expiration of such commitment). SELLER shall remove all mortgages, attachments and other encumbrances incurred or assumed by SELLER which secure the payment of money, provided the total amount thereof does not exceed the Purchase Price, and SELLER shall use reasonable and diligent efforts to remove other defects in title, or to deliver possession as provided herein, or to make the Property conform to the provisions hereof. At the end of the extended period, if all such defects have not been removed, or the SELLER is unable to deliver possession, or the Property does not conform to the requirements of this Agreement, BUYER may elect to terminate this Agreement and to receive back all deposits, upon receipt of which all obligations of the parties hereto shall cease.

18. STANDARDS: Any title matter or practice arising under or relating to this Agreement which is the subject of a Title Standard or a Practice Standard of The Real Estate Bar Association for Massachusetts shall be governed by said Standard to the extent applicable.

19. LEAD LAW. For premises built before 1978 BUYER acknowledges receipt of the "Department of Public Health Property Transfer Notification" regarding the Lead Law, acknowledges verbal notification of the possible presence of lead hazards and the provisions of the Federal and Massachusetts Lead Laws and regulations, including the right to inspect for dangerous levels of lead. Occupancy of premises containing dangerous levels of lead by a child under six years of age is prohibited, subject to exceptions permitted by law. BUYER further acknowledges that neither the SELLER nor any real estate agent has made any representation, express or implied, regarding the absence of lead paint or compliance with any lead law, except as set forth in writing. BUYER assumes full responsibility for compliance with all laws relating to lead paint removal, if required by law, and related matters (in particular, without limitation, Mass. G.L., c.111, 197), and BUYER assumes full responsibility for all tests, lead paint removal and other costs of compliance. Pursuant to 40 CMR 745.113(a), the Property Transfer Notification Certification is attached to this agreement.



20. ASBESTOS: BUYER acknowledges that the Department of Public Health has issued regulations found in [310 CMR 7.00] that govern the maintenance, repair and removal of asbestos material by any owner of real property and that asbestos material is a common insulation material on heating pipes, boilers, and furnaces.

21. RADON GAS: BUYER acknowledges that while there are no Massachusetts or federal regulations that govern naturally occurring radon or radon daughters, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has issued recommendations for screening or testing methods to determine if there is a potential for accumulation of high enough concentration to be a potential health hazard.

▶ **22. STORAGE TANKS:** BUYER acknowledges that the Massachusetts Board of Fire Prevention has issued regulations found in [527 CMR 9.00] that govern the maintenance, repair, and removal of storage tanks used to contain fuel. The SELLER hereby discloses that to the best of SELLER's knowledge, there are **underground oil** / **underground propane** / **aboveground oil** / **aboveground propane** / **other as outlined in par 36** / **no** storage tank(s) within the boundaries of the Property. Further, the SELLER discloses that any **underground tanks** **have** / **have not** been used within the past six (6) months and/or any **aboveground tanks** **have** / **have not** been used within the past twenty-four (24) months exclusively for the storage of fuel for consumption of the Property and to the best of the SELLER'S knowledge there has been no release or leakage of oil from such tank(s).

23. CONDITION OF PROPERTY AT CLOSING: Upon delivery of the Deed, the Property and all appliances therein and utilities serving the same shall be in their present condition, reasonable use and wear of same excepted. The Property is to be left broom clean and all personal property and rubbish removed. With respect thereto, BUYER shall have the right to walk-through the Property within twenty-four hours prior to the closing and if the sale is completed subsequent to said walk-through or if the walk-through is waived by BUYER, the foregoing condition of the Property shall, as between the BUYER and SELLER and their representatives (if applicable), be conclusively presumed to be acceptable to BUYER regardless of condition.

24. NOMINEE: BUYER may require the conveyance to be made to another person, persons, or entity ("Nominee"), upon notification in writing delivered to SELLER at least five days prior to the Date of Closing. The appointment of a Nominee shall not relieve BUYER of any obligation hereunder. Any Note or mortgage or other document to be delivered from BUYER to SELLER shall be executed by or unconditionally guaranteed by BUYER, unless otherwise specified herein.

25. CLOSING: Simultaneously with the delivery of the deed, SELLER shall execute and deliver:

- a) Smoke & Carbon Monoxide Detector Certificate of Compliance;
- b) Wood, Gas, Coal or Pellet Stove and/or Outdoor Wood Burning Furnace permit(s), where applicable
- c) Affidavits and indemnities with respect to parties in possession and mechanic's liens to induce BUYER's title insurance company to issue lender's and owner's policies of title insurance without exception for those matters;
- d) A bill of sale for all personal property included as part of the sale, if requested by the BUYER.
- e) A Certificate of Occupancy for any structure that requires it, and in the case of new construction an assignment of any and all builder's, SELLERS, or manufacturer's warranties on the Property or on any appliances or other property included in the sale.
- f) FNMA Vendor's affidavit FNMA 1099;
- g) An affidavit, satisfying the requirements of Section 1445 of the Internal Revenue Code and regulation issued thereunder, which states, under penalty of perjury, the SELLER's United States taxpayer identification number, that the SELLER is not a foreign person, and the SELLER's address (the "1445 Affidavit");
- h) Internal Revenue Service Form W-8 or Form W-9, as applicable, with SELLER's tax identification number, and an affidavit furnishing the information required for the filing of Form 1099S with the Internal Revenue Service and stating SELLER is not subject to back-up withholding.

26. RISK OF LOSS-INSURANCE AND DAMAGE PRIOR TO CLOSING: Prior to the delivery of the Deed, the risk of loss shall be on the SELLER. SELLER shall continue to carry the fire and extended coverage insurance presently maintained on the buildings on the Property (or, upon the written request of the BUYER, and at the BUYER's expense, in such greater amount as BUYER may reasonably request). If the Property is damaged by fire or other casualty prior to the Closing Date, and SELLER has not restored the Property to their former condition, the BUYER has the option to take an assignment of SELLER'S insurance proceeds or terminate this



Agreement. If BUYER elects to purchase, SELLER shall assign all insurance proceeds to BUYER and the Purchase Price shall be reduced by:

- a) the net amount of any insurance proceeds which a mortgagee has applied to the mortgage debt, less any amount reasonable expended by SELLER for partial renovation.
- b) the amount of any insurance proceeds received by SELLER; and
- c) any deductible amount under SELLER's insurance policy. SELLER will credit BUYER the amount of deductible toward purchase price.

27. ACCEPTANCE OF DEED: Acceptance of the deed by BUYER shall be a full performance and shall discharge every agreement and obligation herein except any agreements which by their terms are to be performed after the Closing. THE BUYER FURTHER ACKNOWLEDGES THAT THE BUYER IS PURCHASING THE PROPERTY 'AS IS' and BUYER has not relied upon any statements or representations, oral or written, regarding the condition or value, present or future, of the Property made either by the SELLER or the SELLERs Agents, which are not otherwise contained in this Agreement and that the SELLER's Agents are acting exclusively upon behalf of the SELLER. All oral or written representations between the parties are merged herein. BUYER further acknowledges it is the BUYER'S responsibility prior to closing to obtain any and all governmental permits for any intended use of the Property including, but not limited to, health or environmental department, planning or zoning board approvals. SELLER and SELLER'S representative(s) make no representations as to the adequacy of the Property being conveyed for BUYER'S intended purposes, disclosed or undisclosed.

28. MERGER: The parties agree that this Agreement contains all of the terms and conditions of this transaction. It is mutually agreed that any oral or prior written representation made by either party prior to the execution of this Agreement is null and void. This Agreement shall be construed as a legal contract under seal and is binding upon the parties, and their respective heirs, successors, and assigns.

29. SURVIVAL: Notwithstanding any presumptions to the contrary, all covenants, conditions, and representations contained in this Agreement, which by their nature, implicitly or explicitly, involve performance in any particular manner after the Closing and delivery of the deed, or which cannot be ascertained to have been fully performed until after the Closing and delivery of the deed, shall survive the Closing.

30. TERMINATION: In the event the BUYER terminates this Contract in accordance with the provisions herein relating to "Mortgage / Insurance Contingency," "Risk of Loss Insurance," "Inspection Contingency," "Septic System Inspection", default by SELLER, or the failure of any contingency shown under special conditions, the Escrow Agent shall forthwith refund such deposit money together with accrued interest thereon (if applicable) to the BUYER.

► **31. BUYER'S DEFAULT:** If the BUYER defaults, BUYER shall be liable to the SELLER in the amount of _____ of the purchase price, as liquidated damages, which shall be SELLER's exclusive remedy in law or in equity. The deposits shall be applied to the payment of said liquidated damages.

32. RELEASE OF DEPOSITS: The deposits (which term shall include all interest earned, if any) made hereunder shall be held in escrow, subject to the terms of this Agreement and shall be duly accounted for at the time for performance of this Agreement. The deposits may not be released from escrow without the assent of both BUYER and SELLER. The recording of the deed to the Property shall constitute such assent. In the event of any disagreement, the Escrow Agent shall retain the deposits pending written instructions by both the SELLER and BUYER, or by a court of competent jurisdiction. So long as Escrow Agent served in good faith, BUYER and SELLER each agrees to hold harmless Escrow Agent from damages, losses, or expenses, arising out of this Agreement or any action or failure to act, including reasonable attorney's fees, related thereto. BUYER and SELLER acknowledge that the Escrow Agent may be counsel or fiduciary to one of the parties and agree that Escrow Agent may continue to act as such counsel or fiduciary notwithstanding any dispute or litigation arising with respect to the deposits or Escrow Agent's duties.

33. AGREEMENT TO MEDIATE DISPUTE OR CLAIMS: Any dispute or claim arising out of or relating to this Agreement, the breach of this Agreement, or the brokerage services provided in relation to this Agreement shall be submitted to mediation in accordance with the Rules and Procedures of the Homesellers / Homebuyers Dispute Resolution System ("DRS"). Disputes and claims shall specifically include, without limitation, representations made by the SELLER, the BUYER, or the Broker(s) in connection with the sale, purchase, finance, condition, or other aspect of the Property to which this Agreement pertains, including without limitation,



allegations of concealment, misrepresentation, negligence and / or fraud. The mediation conference shall be held within 30 days from the date on which the mediator receives notice of the dispute. If the parties reach a settlement, they shall both sign a settlement agreement. If the parties cannot reach a mutually agreeable settlement, they may arbitrate or litigate the dispute without regard to the mediation procedure. The filing of a judicial action to enable the recording of a notice of pending action, for order of attachment, receivership, injunction, or other provisional remedies shall not constitute a waiver of the right to mediate under this paragraph, nor shall such filing constitute a breach of the duty to mediate. The provisions of this paragraph shall survive the closing.

34. GOVERNING LAW: This Agreement is to be governed by the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

35. DISCLOSURES: BUYER and SELLER acknowledge that they have been provided with a completed copy of the 'Mandatory Licensee-Consumer Relationship' form, as mandated by the Massachusetts Board of Registration of Real Estate Brokers and Salespersons. BUYER acknowledges receipt of lead paint disclosure form (for residences built before 1978) and a Home Inspectors Facts for Consumers brochure, prepared by the Office of Consumer Affairs. The BUYER acknowledges that there are no warranties or representations on which BUYER relies in making this Offer, except those previously made in writing.

▶ **36. SPECIAL CONDITIONS / ADDENDA:** See attached addendum(s), incorporated here by reference.

▶ **37. TERMINATION OF OFFER:** This offer is subject to acceptance by SELLER by (time) am / pm and (date) _____, after which time this offer is void and terminated, and deposit paid by BUYER shall be returned.

38. TIME: Time is of the essence of all provisions of this agreement, unless otherwise specified elsewhere in this agreement. Any reference to "days" shall mean calendar days and is not intended to mean only business days.

39. COUNTERPARTS: This Agreement may be executed in two or more counterparts, each of which together shall be deemed an original, but all of which together shall constitute one and the same instrument. In the event that any signature is delivered by facsimile transmission, e-mail delivery of a ".pdf" format data file, or through a secure electronic signature service, such signatures shall create a valid and binding obligation of the party(s) executing (or on whose behalf such signature is executed) with the same force and effect as if such facsimile or electronic signature page were an original thereof.

40. THIS IS A LEGALLY BINDING CONTRACT. IF NOT UNDERSTOOD, SEEK LEGAL COUNSEL: Executed under seal by the Parties hereto as of the latter of all dates set forth below, and incorporating all provisions on pages 1 through 6, together with referenced additions, if any.

▶ _____
SELLER: DATE BUYER: DATE

SELLER: DATE BUYER: DATE

SELLER's Attorney's Name BUYER's Attorney's Name

