

KEY ACTIVITIES

2012

MAY

- Commencement of CEA's audit of Approved Course Providers to ensure the quality and standard of Real Estate Agency (REA)/Real Estate Salesperson (RES) courses.
- Hosted an educational visit by the Legal Department, Housing & Development Board.
- Unregistered salesperson, Sim Soon Leong Raymond, sentenced to fine under the Estate Agents Act.

JUNE

- Successfully completed the transition of provisionally registered salespersons to the new regulatory regime. The one-and-a-half-year transition ended on 30 June 2012. CEA conducted 20 RES examinations during the transition period. A two-month extension was given to salespersons who had made at least one RES examination attempt to pass the examination by 31 August 2012.
- CEA and the Urban Redevelopment Authority issued a joint Circular on the marketing of industrial properties to remind estate agents not to do misleading advertisements on the usage of the properties.
- Formed a Review Regulations Working Group comprising representatives from the industry, CASE and government agencies to review the Estate Agents Regulations.
- Registered salesperson, Kee Lee Ping, was sentenced to suspension and fine under CEA disciplinary framework.
- Unregistered salesperson, Lim Beng Kwang, sentenced to fine under the Estate Agents Act.

JULY

- Registered salesperson, Su Yeow Hui Anthony, sentenced to suspension and fine under CEA disciplinary framework.
- Registered salesperson, Ting Seng Keng Edward, sentenced to fine under CEA disciplinary framework.

AUGUST

- Launched "CEAenergy", a bi-monthly e-newsletter to update consumers and the industry on CEA's policies and initiatives, as well as provide consumer tips.
- CEA received the Minister's Award (Team) 2012 for its initiative on Licensing of Estate Agents and Registration of Salespersons.

SEPTEMBER

- Unregistered salesperson, Tan Hock Khin, prosecuted under the Estate Agents Act.
- The Professional Service Manual Working Group completed the draft manual which was circulated to a wider segment of the industry for comments.

OCTOBER

- Launched "CEA@SG", the mobile version of the Public Register of Estate Agents and Salespersons to facilitate consumers to verify information on the go.
- CEA welcomed its first scholar, Kao Hwee Ling, under the MND Family – Singapore Polytechnic Diploma scholarship programme.
- Appointed the Licensing & Practice Committee, the Examinations & Professional Development Committee and the Disciplinary Panel for a new two-year term.
- Commenced the annual licence and registration renewal/continuation exercise. The Estate Agencies Information Technology System was enhanced to allow salespersons to use SingPass for the first time to submit e-applications to CEA through their estate agents.

NOVEMBER

- Announced findings of the inaugural public perception survey on the real estate agency industry to gauge consumer awareness and satisfaction of the industry.
- Set up an online Consumer Resource Centre on CEA website to provide useful information and guides for consumers on a one-stop platform.
- Collaborated with Police in a prosecution case against a KEO, Lee Pit Chin James, for unlicensed moneylending activities, the first such case since CEA's formation.
- Unregistered salesperson, Yap Zhi Yi Jason, sentenced to fine under the Estate Agents Act.

KEY ACTIVITIES

DECEMBER

- Implemented new requirements for Core Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Activity Providers to state key information in advertising their core CPD courses, and to obtain feedback from course participants using CEA's post-course evaluation form.
- Participated in the "Responsible and Ethical Advertising" seminar organised by the Advertising Standards Authority of Singapore.
- Unregistered salesperson, Lum Chap Heng, sentenced to fine for posting flyers in public.
- First registered salesperson, Ghazali Bin Mohamed Rasul, prosecuted for moneylender referrals.
- Informed Approved Course Providers of the revised RES examination format to be implemented in May 2013. The revised format introduces examination questions related to case studies.
- Appointed NTUC LearningHub Pte Ltd for the conduct and administration of the RES and REA examinations.

2013

JANUARY

- Completed the annual licence and registration renewal/continuation exercise. As at 1 Jan 2013, there were 31,040 registered salespersons and 1,492 licensed estate agents.
- Collaborated with the Law Society of Singapore to introduce a new core CPD activity to equip salespersons with knowledge relating to the conveyancing process and regulations.
- Implemented administrative fee for the assessment of education qualifications from foreign and local non-government educational institutions submitted by applicants prior to RES course attendance.
- Implemented administrative fee for the assessment of core CPD course applications.
- Embarked on a Best Practice Sharing Sessions initiative which aims to build a knowledge database of industry best practices through visits to estate agents.
- Issued a Practice Circular reminding the industry to comply with the relevant rules relating to the Additional Buyer's Stamp Duty for residential properties and the Seller's Stamp Duty for industrial properties.
- Unregistered salesperson, Lailatul Asha Bte Hassim, prosecuted under the Estate Agents Act.

FEBRUARY

- First registered salesperson, Chan Wai Meng Dominic, prosecuted for handling transaction money.
- Carried out industry consultations on the draft Professional Service Manual. The Manual was officially launched on 27 April 2013.
- Registered salesperson, Chua Cheng Thian Benny, sentenced to suspension and fine under CEA disciplinary framework.

MARCH

- Supported the inaugural Asia Pacific Real Estate Convention & Expo (APRECE) 2013 organised by the Institute of Estate Agents. CEA also had a meeting with the President and senior members of the National Association of Realtors, USA on the sidelines of APRECE.
- Supported the launch of the Singapore Industrial & Services Employees Union (SISEU) Real Estate Professionals' Chapter which announced the tie-up between SISEU and SAEA Ltd.
- Collaborated with the Infocomm Development Authority and the industry associations to appoint solution providers for the development of cost-effective and scalable Software-as-a-Service-based agency management applications for estate agents.
- Conducted industry consultations on the review of RES examination syllabus. The objective was to ensure that the syllabus was more comprehensive and updated with industry practices and existing policies/regulations governing estate agency work.
- First registered salesperson, Nangoi Demelza Carmelita, prosecuted for dual representation.