# PURCHASING IN A NEW DEVELOPMENT 2 CREDIT HOURS

# New Development Projects (1 HOUR)

- "Sponsor" Owner or Developer
- Offering Plan ("OP"), a/k/a Black Book or Prospectus
  - o Filed with the Office of the Attorney General
  - Includes declaration and disclosure statement with New York Attorney General's Office
  - Special Risks
    - "For a period of time following your closing, continuing work conditions may create a noisy and disruptive condition in the building and there may be a disruption in certain services and building systems."
    - "The real estate taxes are subject to a 421 421-a abatement and will be fully assessed after ten (10) years will periodic phase in increase during this ten (10) year period. There is no assurance that such exemption and/or abatement will become effective."
    - NO FINANCING CONTINGENCY
    - Resident Manager's Unit
      - Purchase must be financed by unit owners by certain period of time (usually five years)
    - Sponsor retaining unused development rights
      - Ex. Sponsor merge zoning lot with adjacent lot to develop that lot
        - In this scenario, views may be obstructed
    - Sponsor retains right to rent rather than sell
      - Affects ability of purchasers to obtain financing
    - No representation with respect to use of Commercial Units
    - Lot Line Windows
    - Minimum occupancy requirements
      - Some services and amenities not available until certain percentage of building occupied

## **Building Conversions (20 MINUTES)**

- Developer can file Offering Plan to develop existing building and form new Condominium or Coop
  - Condominium vs. Coop Apartments
    - Cooperative Apartment
      - Cooperative Corporation
        - Owns Real Estate (land, buildings, property rights and all interests)
        - Title to Property is in the name of Corporation
        - Managed by Board of comprised of shareholders
          - Control of building operations may not be ceded from Sponsor immediately, see SPECIAL RISKS
      - Ownership interest in a Coop Corp. is evidenced by shares of stock
        - Stock Certificate
        - Proprietary Lease
          - Rights and obligations of lessee (shareholder) and lessor (Coop Corp.)

- Long term lease of estate of years
- By-Laws
- House Rules
- Leasehold Coops (Coops with Ground Lease)
- Sponsor usually retains certain rights and privileges via the Offering Plan not granted to the Coop shareholders
  - Subletting without Board approval
  - Selling Units without Board approval
  - Holder of Unsold Shares
    - 80/20 Rule concerning passive income activity
    - Passive income activity can be rental activity
    - For tax benefits, at least 80% of Coop's gross revenue must be from shareholders
- Condominium
  - Fee Simple Ownership Interest in Real Estate
    - o Deed
    - Real Estate Tax Bill
    - Mortgage
    - Title Insurance
  - Condominium Declaration
    - Establishes separate tax lots for each Unit
    - Units possess % common interest
    - Common elements and common charges
    - Must be recorded prior to first sale in building
  - Use subject to By-Laws of Condominium
  - Waiver of Right of First Refusal

# **Price Changes (10 MINUTES)**

- Building Conversion
  - NYS law mandates when development files an OP with the Attorney General to convert and existing building to a Condominium or Coop, the tenants must be granted a 90-day exclusive right to buy
    - During this period, Sponsor cannot negotiate separate prices
- New Construction
  - o Sponsor can separately negotiate price of apartment
- Why and When Developers Raise Prices
  - Developers sell few apartments at once; if units sell quickly, developer raises prices
- Current Market Practice
  - o Price increases in new buildings when units initially marketed

## **Certificate of Occupancy (10 MINUTES)**

- Certificate of Occupancy ("CO") documents legal use and/or occupancy of building
- Requirements for obtaining:
  - When completed work complied with submitted plans and applicable laws
  - o Must be final or temporary CO ("TCO") before new building can be legally occupied
  - TCO can be renewed but no closings can occur when the TCO has lapsed

## Flipping/Simultaneous Closing (10 MINUTES)

- Flipping occurs when investor buys property at one price and immediately selling at higher price
  - o Can inflate purchase prices
  - Investor may be in Contract for
- To prevent flipping, Purchase Agreement may require investors to live in project before they can rent or sell
- Offering Plan may prevent advertising or listing the unit for a certain amount of time post-Closing

# Closing Costs (10 MINUTES)

- Inquire about buyer credentials and bank references before purchase
- Common Charges for upkeep, insurance and salaries of building staff
- Adjustments
- Resident Manager's Unit
- Legal Fees (Buyer's attorney and Sponsor's attorney)
- Fees to defray cost of forming Condominium
- Real Estate Taxes unit owners responsible for paying real property tax
  - Tax Abatements and Exceptions
    - Sponsor may apply for abatements/exceptions (ex. 421A) but eligibility and approval are not guaranteed
    - Buyers risk paying significantly more in taxes if estimates are prepared with abatement/exception but abatement/exception not granted
- NYS and NYC Transfer Taxes
  - Seller pays by statute, but some Sponsors may require Purchasers to pay
  - Buyer beware: counts as additional taxable consideration when calculating NYS Mansion
     Tax
- NYS Mansion Tax

#### **COURSE MATERIALS**

Course Outline (Attached)

## **BOOKS UTILIZED IN COURSE**

N/A

#### INDIVIDUALS AUTHORIZED TO SIGN CERTIFICATES

Jamie Heiberger Harrison, Esq.

SIGNATURE

### LIVE DISTANCE EDUCATION

PROPOSED METHOD: Zoom Video Conferencing/Webinar

This course shall be offered in person via Classroom Instruction or as a Live Distance Education Course.

As a Live Distance Education Course, the Instructor, Jamie Heiberger Harrison, Esq., shall teach using Zoom Video Conferencing/Webinar, utilizing both video and microphone. The Instructor shall monitor attendance and maintain an attendance roster, verifying remote attendance. All attendees must "attend" the course on a device with video and/or microphone for required participation and verification. Course materials shall be distributed to attendees via email.