



Fact Sheet – MLS Declaration

What: The Declaration of MLS Stewardship Principles, also described as an "MLS Constitution," establishes a common foundation for what an MLS is, what it protects, and what it is responsible for.

Its nine principles include:

- Stewardship of the Marketplace
- Stewardship of Information
- Stewardship of Standards
- Stewardship of Trust
- Stewardship of the Opportunity to Compete
- Stewardship of Data Cooperation
- Stewardship of the Boundary Between Marketplace and Public Marketing
- Stewardship of Innovation, Data, and Sustainable Operations
- Stewardship of Local Market Knowledge

The Declaration's central premise is simple: A Multiple Listing Service is the steward of a nimble and trusted real estate marketplace.

Why: The real estate marketplace is changing rapidly as the industry confronts private listing strategies, changing approaches to cooperation and public marketing, questions about data ownership and licensing, artificial intelligence, consolidation and new business models. The Declaration gives the industry a common foundation for those conversations by identifying the responsibilities of MLS stewardship that should endure as the marketplace evolves.

Where: The complete Declaration is available at ncrmls.com/declaration. Individuals who support its principles can select "Support This Declaration" to show their support and receive a PDF copy. Supporters will also be able to use a shareable badge to show their support through social media and other digital channels.

When: The Declaration, created over several months of discussions with other leading MLS executives, formally launched on September 22, 2026, timed to spark discussion among MLS leadership nationwide.