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Real Estate Council of Ontario

## News Release

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

December 7, 2007

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### RECO INVESTIGATION LEADS TO CONVICTION OF FORMER REAL ESTATE SALESPERSON

#### Desmond Allen convicted of trading in real estate while not registered

December 7, 2007 – On Tuesday, December 4, 2007, Desmond Allen, a former real estate salesperson, was convicted for trading in real estate while not registered.

The Real Estate Council of Ontario (RECO) was notified by a consumer and a real estate brokerage that Mr. Allen was identifying himself and trading as a salesperson after his registration entitling him to trade in real estate had been revoked. RECO investigated the matter and as a result, laid charges against Mr. Allen.

On December 4, 2007, Mr. Allen appeared at the Brampton Provincial Offences Act court for trial where he pleaded guilty to two counts of performing the functions of a salesperson while not registered. The court ordered him to pay a penalty of \$25,000 within one year on one count and suspended his sentence on the second count.

Prior to this judgment, on May 8, 2006, the Registrar under the *Real Estate and Business Brokers Act, 2002* issued a proposal to revoke the registration of Mr. Allen based on the findings of an earlier investigation.

Mr. Allen did not exercise his right to a hearing in this matter and on June 5, 2006, the Registrar issued a final notice to Mr. Allen notifying him that his registration under the *Real Estate and Business Brokers Act, 2002* had been revoked.

The Registrar can propose to revoke the registration of an individual if, in the Registrar's opinion, the individual will not act with honesty, integrity or in accordance with the law.

Consumers are advised to use RECO's online search feature to confirm that the real estate broker or salesperson they plan to work with is registered.

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*The Real Estate Council of Ontario (RECO) is the delegated administrative authority responsible for administering the Real Estate and Business Brokers Act, 2002 and associated regulations on behalf of the Ontario Ministry of Government and Consumer Services. In order to trade in real estate in Ontario, brokers and salespersons must be registered under the Real Estate and Business Brokers Act, 2002.*

*RECO's mission is to regulate the activity of trading in real estate in the public interest. For more information about the Real Estate Council of Ontario, visit [www.reco.on.ca](http://www.reco.on.ca)*