

Personal Statement

I'm asking for your vote to serve as a Director for the Board for the Raleigh Regional Association of Realtors.

A few years back, I decided to enter the real estate industry to assist homebuyers and sellers in one of the most important life experiences they will have. While everything indicated that it is a lucrative career, the desire to assist was more appealing to me. In fact, my first transaction ever was a short-sale that took nearly a year to close. It was a painful experience, but certainly rewarding, because at that very moment I had the opportunity to assist a client in crisis. Several years later, I am now helping the same client who lost his house reclaim his right to homeownership.

I quickly understood that real estate is more than selling and buying houses; that many agents also donate their time and talent at the service of our Raleigh Regional Association of Realtors. I didn't really want to get involved for many reasons-- until a couple of years ago when I was asked to serve as the Chair of the Triangle International Council. My team (to whom I am forever grateful) and I, with the help off many leaders of our Board, took the RRAR and the TIC; now the Global Advisory Board from Gold status to Platinum status for the Global Achievement Program at the NAR.

While this was such a great experience, I feel that there is more to do and that I have more to give. In French we say "L'appetit vient en mangeant" meaning "The appetite comes while eating". I have been yearning for something more exciting to do to contribute to our Board efforts to serve our fellow agents and consumers that we come into contact with daily. While waiting for the next opportunity, I served the "Priorities and Issues" Committee, the "Strategic Planning" Committee as well as the President's Diversity Advisory Group.

That is why I'm running for a Director position.

I want to continue the work that I started with the Raleigh Regional Association of Realtors, but in a different capacity, by using my God given talents, abilities, skills and experiences to serve our Board. I want to contribute to the everyday discussions and decisions that shape the future of our association and the wellbeing of our members, to participate in the collective efforts of our leadership to make our Board a vibrant association-- one that positions itself among the leading Associations nationally and globally.

Separately, we can do *something*, but together can be unstoppable! It has been a pleasure to serve and it will be an honor to serve again as your Director.

Codjo Cossou_