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Spokane, Wash.-Area Realtors May Seek Background Checks for Applicants.

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By Bill Morlin, The Spokesman-Review, Spokane, Wash. Knight Ridder/Tribune Business News

Jan. 28--A former police officer attempting to sell her Spokane Valley house returned a few days ago to a big surprise.

While she was away, her home was shown to prospective buyers by a real estate agent with convictions for robbery, burglary and theft.

From the business card Realtor Nicholas A. Granly left behind, the ex-cop remembered he was involved in a shotgun standoff with Spokane sheriff's deputies five years ago.

"How can a guy like this be in my home?" asked the homeowner and now business owner, who asked not to be identified. "I'm outraged, and I'm mad."

The incident is now prompting a review of Washington real-estate licensing procedures. Currently, Washington has no laws prohibiting felons from becoming licensed to sell real estate.

In Idaho, real-estate licensing procedures are much stricter.



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