

STATE OF OHIO
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Division of Financial Institutions
Consumer Finance

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| In the matter of: |) | Case No. 2009-1175 |
| |) | |
| RICHARD A. SMITH |) | Notice of Intent to Refuse Loan Officer License Renewal |
| 11421 West Ridge Road |) | & |
| Elyria, OH 44035 |) | Notice of Opportunity for a Hearing |
| |) | |

JURISDICTION

The Ohio Department of Commerce, by and through the Superintendent of the Division of Financial Institutions ("Division"), is charged with the responsibility of administering and enforcing the Ohio Mortgage Broker Act, codified in Ohio Revised Code ("R.C.") Chapter 1322. In accordance therewith, the Division is accountable for the licensing of individuals as residential mortgage loan officers.

RESPONDENT

RICHARD A. SMITH ("Respondent") is an individual that held a loan officer license (LO.024060) issued by the Division to originate residential mortgage loans pursuant to R.C. Chapter 1322. Respondent's loan officer license expired on April 30, 2009, and Respondent filed an application to renew his license; that renewal application remains pending. Respondent's address of record is 11421 West Ridge Road, Elyria, Ohio 44035. Respondent has no employer of record.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED ACTION

In accordance with R.C. sections 1322.041 and 1322.10 and R.C. Chapter 119, the Division intends to REFUSE to renew Respondent's loan officer license.

BASIS FOR PROPOSED ACTION

The Division has conducted an investigation of Respondent, pursuant to R.C. 1322.031(B) and R.C. 1322.10(B), and has found the following:

- A. Pursuant to R.C. 1322.041(B)(3), in order for a loan officer license to be renewed, the Division must find that the applicant's character and general fitness command the confidence of the public and warrant the belief that the business will be operated honestly and fairly and in compliance with the purposes of the Ohio Mortgage Broker Act. See R.C. 1322.041(A)(6).
- B. Respondent was required to submit an FBI background check as part of his renewal application.
- C. In letters dated June 19, 2009 and September 1, 2009, the Division informed Respondent that it had not received a copy of his FBI background check.

- D. As of the date of this Notice, Respondent has not submitted an FBI background check to the Division.
- E. Because Respondent has not submitted an FBI background check to the Division, the Division cannot find that Respondent's character and general fitness meets the renewal requirement set forth in R.C. 1322.041(A)(6) and (B)(3).

As a result of the findings listed above, the superintendent is authorized to refuse the renewal application for failure to meet all of the requirements for renewal set forth in R.C. 1322.041(B).

NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR A HEARING ON PROPOSED ACTION

Therefore, pursuant to R.C. Chapters 1322 and 119, Respondent is hereby notified that thirty-one (31) days from the date of the mailing of this Notice, the Superintendent intends to issue an order refusing to renew Respondent's loan officer license under the Ohio Mortgage Broker Act.

Respondent is further notified, pursuant to R.C. Chapter 119, that Respondent is entitled to a hearing on this matter. If Respondent desires to request a hearing, the request must be made in writing, and must be received in the offices of the Ohio Division of Financial Institutions within thirty (30) days of the time of the mailing of this Notice. Hearing requests should be addressed: Ohio Division of Financial Institutions, Attn: Lori A. Massey, Consumer Finance Attorney, 77 South High Street, 21st Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215-6120.

At the hearing, Respondent may appear in person, by Respondent's attorney, or by such other representative as is permitted to practice before the Agency, or Respondent may present its position, arguments, or contentions in writing, and, at the hearing, may present evidence and examine witnesses appearing for and against Respondent.

If the Ohio Division of Financial Institutions does not receive a written request for a hearing in its offices within thirty (30) days of the time of the mailing of this Notice, the Superintendent will issue an order refusing to renew Respondent's loan officer license.

Signed and sealed this 7th day of April, 2010.

LEIGH A. WILLIS

Deputy Superintendent for Consumer Finance
Division of Financial Institutions
Ohio Department of Commerce