

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

In the matter of:	)	Case No. 04-0464-LOD
	)	
<b>Steven H. Leffel</b>	)	<b>Notice of Intent to Deny Loan Officer License Renewal</b>
2056 Commons Road N.	)	<b>&amp;</b>
Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068	)	<b>Notice of Opportunity for a Hearing</b>
	)	

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**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, and the rules adopted thereunder.

**RESPONDENT**

Steven H. Leffel ("Respondent") is an individual that held a loan officer license issued by the Division to originate residential mortgage loans pursuant to R.C. Chapter 1322. Respondent's loan officer license expired on April 30, 2004, and Respondent filed an application to renew his license; that renewal application remains pending. His address of record is (2056 Commons road N., Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068), and his date of birth is (April 24, 1967). Respondent's employer of record is (Pinnacle First Mortgage Company, 2020 Brice Road Suite 260, Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068).

**NOTICE OF PROPOSED ACTION**

In accordance with sections 1322.041 and 1322.10 of the R.C., and R.C. Chapter 119, the Division intends to DENY Respondent's renewal application for a loan officer license.

**BASIS FOR PROPOSED ACTION**

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

- A. The Division is authorized by R.C. 1322.10(A)(1)(a) to refuse to renew a loan officer license if the Division finds that the licensee has violated "or fail[ed] to comply with any provision of sections 1322.01 to 1322.12 of the Revised Code or the rules adopted under those sections or any other law applicable to the business conducted[.]"
- B. R.C. 1322.052 requires every licensed loan officer to complete at least six (6) hours of approved continuing education ("CE") every calendar year (by December 31<sup>st</sup>).
- C. Respondent failed to comply with the 2003 CE requirements.
- D. Because Respondent failed to comply with R.C. 1322.052, the Division finds Respondent's character and general fitness do not command the confidence of the public and warrant the belief that the business will be operated honestly and fairly in compliance with the purposes of the Ohio Mortgage Broker Act. See R.C. 1322.041(A)(5) & (B)(3)

- E. Because Respondent failed to comply with R.C. 1322.052 and did not meet the condition outlined in R.C. 1322.041(A)(5) & (B)(3), the Division has the authority to refuse to renew Respondent's loan officer license.

**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 denying the application for renewal of Respondent's loan officer license.

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: Amanda Axtell, Consumer Finance Counsel, 77 South High Street, 21<sup>st</sup> 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 denying Respondent's loan officer license.

Signed and sealed this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of December 2004.

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**ROBERT M. GRIESER**  
Deputy Superintendent for Consumer Finance  
Division of Financial Institutions  
Ohio Department of Commerce

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