

# SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

#009217-2003/2004CE

This Settlement Agreement is entered into by and between:

THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
DIVISION OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Consumer Finance Section

77 South High Street, 21<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Columbus, OH 43215-6120

Hereinafter referred to as "DFI."

&

CHARLES C. DICKS

35545 Sedge Circle  
Solon, Ohio 44139

Hereinafter referred to as "Respondent."

DFI is a state agency charged with the responsibility of administering and enforcing the Ohio Mortgage Broker Act ("OMBA"), codified in Chapter 1322 of the Ohio Revised Code ("R.C."). Respondent is an individual that held loan officer licenses during the 2003 and 2004 calendar years. These licenses were cancelled because Respondent failed to pass the loan officer license examinations. On January 10, 2005, Respondent submitted a new application for a loan officer license, which remains pending.

Respondent voluntarily enters into this Settlement Agreement being fully informed of the right to representation by counsel, and the right to reject this Settlement Agreement and to proceed to a formal adjudicative hearing, pursuant to R.C. Chapter 19, on the issues considered herein.

## **STIPULATIONS AND ADMISSIONS**

This Settlement Agreement is entered into on the basis of the following stipulations, admissions and understandings:

- A. DFI is empowered by R.C. 1322.041 to issue an applicant a loan officer license if DFI finds, among other things, that the applicant has complied with sections 1322.01 to 1322.12 of the Revised Code.
- B. R.C. 1322.052 requires every loan officer to complete at least six (6) hours of approved continuing education every calendar year (by December 31<sup>st</sup>).
- C. Respondent held a loan officer license during the 2003 and 2004 calendar years.

- D. Respondent admits that he failed to complete the required CE credit hours for the 2003 and 2004 calendar years.
- E. Because Respondent failed to comply with R.C. 1322.052, DFI has the authority to refuse to issue Respondent a loan officer license.
- F. DFI enters into this Settlement Agreement in lieu of formal proceedings under R.C. Chapter 119 to deny Respondent's 2005 application for a loan officer license on the basis of Respondent's admitted noncompliance with the OMBA.
- G. DFI expressly reserves the right to institute formal proceedings based upon any violation of or noncompliance with any provision of the OMBA not specifically addressed herein, whether occurring before or after the effective date of this Settlement Agreement.

### **AGREED CONDITIONS**

Wherefore, in consideration of the foregoing and mutual promises hereinafter set forth, and in lieu of continuing with any formal disciplinary proceedings at this time, Respondent knowingly and voluntarily agrees with DFI to the following terms, conditions and limitations:

1. As penalty for the violation of law described herein, Respondent agrees to pay a fine of one thousand dollars (\$1000.00). Payment shall be in the form of a cashier's check or money order, made payable to "DFI Consumer Finance," and shall be submitted to DFI with this Settlement Agreement.
2. Respondent has completed six (6) hours of approved CE, which shall be applied toward the 2003 calendar year CE requirement. The CE certificates of completion are attached to this settlement agreement. Respondent agrees to submit a copy of the attendance certificate(s) issued by the CE Provider with this Settlement Agreement, and to write in **RED INK on the face of a copy of the attendance certificate(s) "PLEASE APPLY TO 2003 CE REQUIREMENT."**
3. Respondent has completed an additional six (6) hours of approved CE, which shall be applied toward the 2004 calendar year CE requirement. The CE certificates of completion are attached to this settlement agreement. Respondent agrees to submit a copy of the attendance certificate(s) issued by the CE Provider with this Settlement Agreement, and to write in **RED INK on the face of a copy of the attendance certificate(s) "PLEASE APPLY TO 2004 CE REQUIREMENT."**
4. Respondent understands and agrees that the six (6) hours of CE credits earned are to be applied to Respondent's 2003 CE requirement; the remaining six (6) hours are to be applied to Respondent's 2004 CE requirement. These credits cannot be applied to Respondent's 2006 CE requirement, which must be completed by December 31, 2006.
5. Respondent understands and agrees that by executing this Settlement Agreement, Respondent hereby withdraws his request for a hearing, admits that he has twice violated R.C. Section 1322.052, and has been penalized in the form of a fine for this violation.
6. Respondent understands that for this Settlement Agreement to be considered for acceptance by DFI, Respondent must be in compliance with every provision of this Settlement Agreement, and

that the ORIGINAL properly executed Settlement Agreement, with all pages attached must be received in the offices of DFI on or before **May 31, 2006**. Should Respondent fully comply with every provision of this agreement, DFI agrees to execute the same, approve Respondent's 2005 loan officer license application, terminate the February 16, 2006 Notice of Intent to Deny Loan Officer Application, and issue Respondent a loan officer license.

7. Should DFI discover that Respondent has provided DFI with false, fraudulent, misleading, or incomplete information pertaining to this Agreement, Respondent agrees that such evidence will firmly establish that Respondent's character and general fitness do not command the confidence of the public and warrant the belief that he will conduct business honestly and fairly in compliance with the purposes of the OMBA. Respondent further agrees that such discovery is grounds for permanent revocation of his loan officer license.
8. The above-described terms, conditions and limitations may be amended or terminated at any time upon the written agreement of both parties.

### **FAILURE TO COMPLY**

If, in the discretion of DFI, Respondent appears to have violated or breached any term or condition of this Settlement Agreement, DFI reserves the right to institute formal disciplinary proceedings for any and all possible violations or breaches, including but not limited to, alleged violations of any law occurring before, on, or after the effective date of this Settlement Agreement.

### **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS/LIABILITY RELEASE**

Respondent acknowledges that he has been advised by DFI to seek legal counsel if he has any question concerning the terms and/or effect of this Settlement Agreement.

Respondent hereby releases DFI, its members, employees, agents, officers and representatives jointly and severally from any and all liability arising from the within matter. Respondent shall not seek attorney fees or other costs arising from the within matter.

This Settlement Agreement shall be considered a public record as that term is used in R.C. 149.43, and may be reported to appropriate organizations, data banks, and governmental bodies, or released to the general public.

This Settlement Agreement in no way binds or limits future actions DFI may take with respect to Respondent or any other person, individual, or company, for the same or similar violations.

**EFFECTIVE DATE**

It is expressly understood that this Settlement Agreement shall become effective upon the last date of signature below.

**The ORIGINAL, signed Agreement with all pages attached must be returned by May 31, 2006. Keep a copy for your records.**

PRINTED Name of Respondent: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE of Respondent: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
ROBERT M. GRIESER                      DATE  
Deputy Superintendent for Consumer Finance  
Ohio Division of Financial Institutions

\_\_\_\_\_  
ANTHONY D. SICILIANO                      DATE  
Consumer Finance General Counsel  
Ohio Division of Financial Institutions