

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

In the matter of:	)	Case No. 04-0195-LOD
	)	
<b>WALTER RICHARDS, III</b>	)	<b>Notice of Intent to Deny Loan Officer License Application</b>
1056 South Belvoir	)	<b>&amp;</b>
South Euclid, Ohio 44121	)	<b>Notice of Opportunity for a Hearing</b>
	)	

---

**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**

**WALTER RICHARDS, III** ("Respondent") has applied to the Division for a loan officer license. His address of record is 1056 South Belvoir, South Euclid, Ohio 44121, and his date of birth is June 15, 1964. Respondent's employer of record is Alternative National Mortgage Company, 1413 Golden Gate Blvd, Suite 270, Mayfield Heights, Ohio 44124.

**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 loan officer license application.

**BASIS FOR PROPOSED ACTION**

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

1. In or around 1988, in the Court of Common Pleas, Cuyahoga County, Ohio, Respondent pleaded guilty to and was convicted of ATTEMPTED ROBBERY, a felony of the third degree. (Case No. CR-227423)
2. In or around 1989, in the Court of Common Pleas, Cuyahoga County, Ohio, Respondent was found to be a probation violator for USE OF COCAINE ON TWO OCCASSIONS. (Case No. CR-227423)
3. In or around 1991, in the Court of Common Pleas, Cuyahoga County, Ohio, Respondent was found to be a probation violator for USE OF COCAINE, FAILURE TO REPORT TO PROBATION OFFICER, FAILURE TO ATTEND ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, AND FAILURE TO SUBMIT URINE SAMPLE. (Case No. CR-227423)
4. In or around 2002, in the Court of Common Pleas, Cuyahoga County, Ohio, Respondent pleaded guilty to and was convicted on two counts of TRAFFICKING IN DRUGS, both felonies of the fifth degree, and on two counts of POSSESSION OF DRUGS, both felonies of the fifth degree. (Case No. CR-420962)
5. On or around April 9, 2003, Respondent attested in a sworn statement that information he provided on a licensing application was truthful, knowing that the information he provided was false.

6. On or around April 11, 2003, Respondent provided untruthful information to the state of Ohio, Department of Commerce, Division of Financial Institutions.

As a result of the findings listed above, the Division has determined that:

- I. Respondent has not proven that he is honest, truthful, and of good reputation, and that there is no basis in fact for believing that he will not commit another criminal offense involving theft, drug trafficking, or any criminal offense involving money or securities. See R.C. sections 1322.031(A)(2) and 1322.041(A)(3).
- II. 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).
- III. Respondent violated R.C. 1322.07(A), which prohibits a loan officer applicant from "mak[ing] any substantial misrepresentation in any registration or license application[.]"
- IV. Respondent violated R.C. 1322.07(B), which prohibits a loan officer applicant from "[m]ak[ing] false or misleading statements of a material fact, [or] omissions of statement required by state law[.]"
- V. Respondent violated R.C. 1322.07(C), which prohibits a loan officer applicant from "[e]ngag[ing] in conduct that constitutes improper, fraudulent, or dishonest dealings."

**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 Respondent a 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: Mark L. Rhea, Consumer Finance Staff Attorney, 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 a loan officer license.

Signed and sealed this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of January, 2004.

---

**ROBERT M. GRIESER**

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