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Appraisal Subcommittee

Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council

December 23, 1998

Carl Dutch
The Chicopee Group
3301-R Coors Rd NW #255
Albuquerque, NM 87120

Dear Mr. Dutch:

We received your November 20, 1998 letter and reviewed the materials provided. Based on that information, you, on behalf of The Chicopee Group, filed for approval of a seven-hour Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice ("USPAP") course with the Indiana Real Estate Appraiser Licensure and Certification Board ("Board"). Your request was tabled several times, pending receipt of additional information and, later, was denied by the Board. You allege your application was denied because The Chicopee Group is an out-of-State provider. You, therefore, have asked for our review of the situation in terms of ASC Policy Statement 7: Prohibition against Discrimination.

We found no evidence that the Board discriminates against out-of-State appraisal organizations. Attached is a listing of approved course providers given to us this summer in anticipation of our July 1998 field review. The list identifies 45 providers. We note that 22 of the 45 providers are not located in Indiana and that many are proprietary schools, like The Chicopee Group. Moreover, our review of the education files during our July 1998 visit did not reveal a practice of discriminating against non-Indiana based organizations.

We understand your frustration. Nevertheless, we cannot provide the assistance that you desire. We did, however, speak with the chairman of the Board's Education Committee. He said the Board continues to believe the application submitted does not reflect a 15-hour USPAP course, as required by Board regulations. We also were told that you failed to appear at the Board's December 11, 1998 hearing regarding this matter. We further understand that this hearing was rescheduled at your request because of your inability to attend on the originally scheduled date, October 30, 1998. Consequently, the Board's decision to deny the Chicopee Group application will stand. The Board invites you to reapply.

If we can be of further assistance, please contact us.

Sincerely,

Ben Henson
Executive Director