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October 17, 2000

23

Mr. Thomas E. Watson, Jr., Chairman
The Appraisal Subcommittee
2000 K Street, NW, Suite 310
Washington, DC 20006

Dear Mr. Watson:

Thank you for providing this opportunity to respond to the Appraisal Subcommittee's (ASC) review of the California Office of Real Estate Appraisers (OREA) regulatory program. Over the last two and one half years, management and staff of OREA have worked diligently to resolve the issues identified in previous reviews. We have reduced the backlog of unresolved complaints and have significantly reduced the time required to process complaints and to issue new and renewal licenses. I believe our program fully implements state and federal requirements for regulation of real estate appraisal activities.

I do appreciate Mr. Henson's identification of sections of California's licensing and regulation statute and rules that need modification to ensure that they are fully consistent with Title XI and ASC Policy Statements. As I indicated to Mr. Henson during his review, we are in the process of revising OREA's administrative rules and will be drafting the recommended changes as part of that process. I also indicated to Mr. Henson that, while we currently have no statutory revisions in process, we will recommend the necessary changes at the first opportunity.

With regard to the collection and remittance of National Registry fees, we have made a commitment to reconcile invoices promptly upon receipt. In addition, in September 2000, OREA began submitting California licensee data to the ASC twice each month. We believe these actions should resolve the Appraisal Subcommittee's concerns regarding National Registry fees.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr. Henson and Mr. Greene for their efforts in reviewing our program. The results of their review have assured us that our recent efforts to improve our program have indeed been successful.

Sincerely,

Anthony F. Majewski
Acting Director