

TEXAS APPRAISER LICENSING AND CERTIFICATION BOARD

Mail: P.O. Box 12188, Austin, Texas 78711-2188 • Street Address: 1101 Camino La Costa, Austin, Texas 78752 Phone: (512) 465-3950 • Fax: (512) 465-3953 • E-mail: info@talcb.state.tx.us • Web site: http://www.talcb.state.tx.us

L. W. (Wayne) Mayo Chair Appraiser Member Richardson

November 21, 2003

28

Ted Whitmer Vice Chair Appraiser Member College Station Mr. Ben Henson
Executive Director
Appraisal Subcommittee
Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council
2000 K St., N.W., Suite 310
!ashington, !C 20006

Dona S. Scurry Secretary Public Member El Paso

Re: Your letter dated June 20, 2003

Elroy Carson Public Member Lubbock

Dear Mr. Henson

Malcolm J. Deason Public Member Diboll Thank you for your letter of June 20, 2003. The Texas Appraiser Licensing and Certification Board (TALCB) further discussed the Appraisal Subcommittee (ASC) concerns and comments at the September 19, 2003, meeting.

Wm. A. (Rusty) Faulk, Jr. Public Member Brownsville

k, Jr. mber sville

Brownsville

Larry D. Kokel Appraiser Member Georgetown

Paul E. Moore Ex-officio Member Executive Secretary Veterans Land Board

> Shirley Ward Appraiser Member Alpine

Austin

Margarita White Interim Commissioner The TALCB is extremely concerned about the viability of the enforcement process during the FY-2004 and FY-2005 biennium. As noted in our earlier letters, state agencies have received significantly decreased appropriations for FY 2004 and FY-2005. We did not suffer the 12.5% reductions of most agencies, and an additional \$13,000 per year was appropriated for expert witnesses in the enforcement process. With this additional funding, our appropriation is approximately 7% less than the original FY-2003 level - before retirement considerations.

Commissioner Liner and Assistant Commissioner Barnes both retired on August 31, 2003.

The associated "retirement incentives" reduced the TALCB's appropriations for both FY-2004 and FY-2005 by approximately \$35,850 (i.e., 35% of their salaries). Additionally, approximately \$12,700 will be required in FY-2004 to cover their unused "accrued vacation" lump-sum payments. In order to meet these restrictions, the TALCB was going to delay hiring a new Commissioner for a number of months and eliminating the Assistant Commissioner's position. This would have placed even more responsibility and workload on the two half-time investigators and the members of the Board.

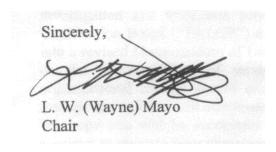
However, on a positive note, the TALCB entered into a revised Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Texas Real Estate Commission (TREC) at its November 13, 2003, Board meeting. Wayne Thorburn, TREC's Administrator was designated Commissioner of the TALCB, without remuneration. The Texas Real Estate Commission is scheduled to ratify the MOU at its December 1, 2003, Commission meeting. Once both agencies have signed the MOU, and the budget is fully re-analyzed, it is the Board's intent

Mr. Ben Henson November 21, 2003 Page 2

to hire an enforcement investigator whose function is to manage the enforcement administrative responsibilities and provide investigative assistance. We believe that this move will alleviate the complaint backlog and expedite complaint resolution time.

The TALCB by rule or procedure may not change the provisions in our Act (Chapter 1013, Occupations Code) regarding temporary practice and the specific time-frame. That issue will be brought before the next session of the legislature in January 2005. In the meantime, we will endeavor to make the extension process as smooth as possible.

We will continue to make every effort to ensure that Texas addresses your concerns and complies with Title XI mandates.



Copy: Margarita White, Interim Commissioner
Honorable Todd Staples, Texas State Senate
Jody Wright, Legislative Budget Board
Logan Spence, Governor's Office of Budget and Planning
Wayne Thorburn, Texas Real Estate Commission