



## TEXAS APPRAISER LICENSING AND CERTIFICATION BOARD

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512-465-3900

February 16, 2007

Mr. Ben Henson  
Executive Director  
Appraisal Subcommittee  
2000 K Street, N.W.,  
Suite 310

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Dear Mr. Henson:

On February 9, 2007, I was elected Chairman by the Texas Appraiser Licensing and Certification Board. In that capacity, I am responding to your letter of December 18, 2006 addressed to Shirley Ward, then Chairperson, which our office received on December 27, 2006.

We are pleased with your conclusion that the Board has resolved two of your concerns involving the acceptance of experience affidavits and the approval of two courses which your staff deemed not worthy of appraiser continuing education. Concerning the issue of deferring the continuing education requirements for military personnel on active duty, the Board has acquiesced to your interpretation of AQB criteria and adopted amendments to the previous policy. A copy of the new rule which was proposed in August 2006 and adopted in February 2007 is enclosed.

Your staff objected also to a policy concerning acceptance of courses for which continuing education was awarded by a Sponsor Member of The Appraisal Foundation, the parent body of the Appraiser Qualifications Board charged with adopting continuing education course requirements. The Board has rescinded this policy and will now review all education offerings for conformance to AQB criteria.

Finally, concerning the lack of sufficient resources to promptly close complaints, we are pursuing a loan from the Office of the Governor to allow us to hire a full-time investigator for the remainder of this fiscal year. Additionally, we are considering other possible solutions that would result in faster resolution of the problem. These are designed to alleviate the situation this fiscal year ending August 31, 2007.

Our request for three additional full-time investigators, a full-time legal assistant and converting our part-time attorney to full-time status is being considered currently by the Texas Legislature in its biennial regular session. Such a request would cover the period of September 1, 2007 to August 31, 2009, providing more of a long-term solution to our situation but perhaps not allowing for substantial improvement by the time of the Fall 2007 audit by the staff of your subcommittee. The initial recommendation by the Texas House Appropriations Regulatory Subcommittee was to grant our request contingent on raising appraiser licensing and certification fees sufficient to cover the additional costs involved.

We will inform you of developments as they occur.

Sincerely,

Larry D. Kókel  
Chairman

cc: Members of the Board