



OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL
STATE OF OKLAHOMA

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINION
2016-34A

Charla Slabotsky, Executive Director
Oklahoma Real Estate Commission
1915 N. Stiles Ave., Ste. 200
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105

January 13, 2016

Dear Executive Director Slabotsky:

This office has received your request for a written Attorney General Opinion regarding agency action that the Oklahoma Real Estate Commission intends to take with respect to C-2013-031. The proposed action is to impose fines of \$750 and revoke a broker license for failure to notify the Commission of a felony conviction and for commission of a crime involving moral turpitude. The licensee pled guilty to two counts of conspiracy to commit an offense against the United States involving acceptance of gratuities from Iraqi contractors in exchange for favorable treatment while a Captain in the United States Army.

Oklahoma law authorizes the Commission to impose discipline on licensees who “[d]isregard[] or violat[e] any provision of the Oklahoma Real Estate License Code or rules promulgated by the Commission” and on those “[u]nworth[y] to act as a real estate licensee” because of a “crime involving moral turpitude.” 59 O.S.2011, § 858-312(9), (15). The Code further imposes an obligation on a licensee of the Board to “notify the Commission in writing of the conviction or plea of guilty or nolo contendere to any felony offense within thirty (30) days after the plea is taken and also within thirty (30) days of the entering of an order of judgment and sentencing. 59 O.S.2011, § 858-301.2. The action seeks to enforce these statutory requirements with respect to conduct involving receiving unlawful payments while in the employment of the United States. The Board may reasonably believe that a fine and revocation of the license will adequately deter conduct that may harm the public.

It is, therefore, the official opinion of the Attorney General that the Oklahoma Real Estate Commission has adequate support for the conclusion that this action advances the State of Oklahoma’s policy to uphold standards of professionalism and integrity among real estate agents.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E. Scott Pruitt".

E. SCOTT PRUITT
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF OKLAHOMA