

Office of Attorney General State of Oklahoma

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINION 2018-177A

June 8, 2018

John W. Maile, Executive Director Oklahoma Used Motor Vehicle and Parts Commission 2401 N.W. 23rd Street, Suite 57 Oklahoma City, OK 73107

Dear Executive Director Maile:

This office has received your request for a written Attorney General Opinion regarding action that the Oklahoma Used Motor Vehicle and Parts Commission intends to take pursuant to consent agreement with used motor vehicle dealer licensee UD-0279. The licensee was not operating from a licensed location and allowed unlicensed salespersons to buy and sell 75 vehicles under his license. The Commission proposes to fine the licensee \$150 per violation for a total fine of \$14,250.

Oklahoma law authorizes the Commission to fine a licensee that "employs unlicensed salespersons" or has "willful[ly] fail[ed] to comply with any provision of Section 581... or with any rule promulgated by the Commission." 47 O.S.Supp.2017, § 584(A)(3), (7)(b). The Commission's rules prohibit "[a] used motor vehicle dealer [from] allow[ing] an unlicensed individual or a salesperson to act as a dealer using the dealer's license, or allow[ing] any unlicensed person to use the dealer's name, license, or dealer number for any prerogative reserved to a dealer." OAC 765:10-3-5. The Commission may reasonably believe that the proposed action is necessary to deter future violations.

It is, therefore, the official opinion of the Attorney General that the Oklahoma Used Motor Vehicle and Parts Commission has adequate support for the conclusion that this action advances the State's policy of protecting the public by requiring that used motor vehicle dealers meet minimum licensing requirements.

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