

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINION 2019-63A

Christine McEntire, Director Oklahoma Real Estate Appraiser Board 3625 N.W. 56th St., Ste. 100 Oklahoma City, OK 73112 February 20, 2019

Dear Director McEntire:

This office has received your request for a written Attorney General Opinion regarding action that the Oklahoma Real Estate Appraiser Board intends to take with respect to licensees 13033CGA and 13289CGA. The Board proposes to suspend the licensees' certification for failure to pay annual fees.

The Oklahoma Certified Real Estate Appraisers Act authorizes the Board to issue certificates to individuals who wish to engage in real estate appraisal. 59 O.S.Supp.2018, § 858-706(B)(3). The certificates last for three years and automatically expire at the end of the term if not renewed. 59 O.S.2011, § 858-714. Annual dues must be paid during the term of the certificate, see 59 O.S.Supp.2018, § 858-708(A), and are deposited into the Oklahoma Certified Real Estate Appraisers Revolving Fund to cover the Board's operating expenses. *Id.* § 858-730. The Board allows certificate holders to surrender the certificate prior to its expiration if they no longer wish to pay annual fees, see OAC 600:10-1-12(a), but the licensees did not do so. The Board may reasonably believe that the proposed action is necessary to prevent future violations.

It is, therefore, the official opinion of the Attorney General that the Oklahoma Real Estate Appraiser Board has adequate support for the conclusion that the proposed action advances the State's policy to fund the Board through user fees rather than with tax revenues.

MIKE HUNTER

ATTORNEY GENERAL OF OKLAHOMA

AMANDA OTIS

ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL