

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINION 2017-5A

Charla Slabotsky, Executive Director Oklahoma Real Estate Commission 1915 N. Stiles Ave., Ste. 200 Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105 January 3, 2017

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 regarding Board case C-2016-050. The proposed action is to impose a \$500 fine on a sales associate licensee. The licensee failed to provide a signed copy of the listing agreement to the homeowner.

The Oklahoma Real Estate Code authorizes the Commission to impose sanctions on licensees who "[f]ail[], within a reasonable time, to account for or to remit any . . . documents . . . coming into possession of the licensee which belong to others" and who "violat[e] any provision of the Oklahoma Real Estate Code or rules promulgated by the Commission" 59 O.S.2011, § 858-312(6), (9). Pursuant to Commission rules, the obligation to remit documents to the client includes the obligation to deliver a copy of all documents which pertain to the real estate transaction. OAC 605:10-13-2(2). The action seeks to uphold standards of competence and integrity in the performance of real estate activities. The Commission may reasonably believe that a fine is necessary to prevent future violations.

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 requiring professionalism and integrity among real estate licensees.

E. SCOTT PRUITT

ATTORNEY GENERAL OF OKLAHOMA