

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINION 2017-698A

Charla Slabotsky, Executive Director Oklahoma Real Estate Commission 1915 N. Stiles Ave., Ste. 200 Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105 September 28, 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 pursuant to a consent order with respect to Board case C-2017-108. The proposed action is to impose a \$750 fine against a sales associate licensee because the licensee pled guilty or nolo contendere to a crime involving moral turpitude.

The Oklahoma Real Estate Code, 59 O.S.2011 & Supp.2016, §§ 858-101 – 858-829, authorizes the Commission to, "upon showing good cause, impose sanctions" on licensees. 59 O.S.2011, § 858-312. Good cause for sanctions includes "[u]nworthiness to act as a real estate licensee . . . because the real estate licensee has been convicted of, or pleaded guilty or nolo contendere to, a crime involving moral turpitude." *Id.* § 858-312(15). The proposed action of the Commission seeks to uphold standards of professional integrity among the Commission's licensees. The Commission may reasonably believe that the imposition of a moderate fine will uphold said standards.

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.

MIKE HUNTER

ATTORNEY GENERAL OF OKLAHOMA

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