

TEXAS APPRAISER LICENSING
AND CERTIFICATION BOARD

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vs.

DOCKETED COMPLAINT NO.
15-169

JOHN WALTER KIRCHEN
TX-1326155-R

AGREED FINAL ORDER

On the 19 day of February, 2016, the Texas Appraiser Licensing and Certification Board (Board) considered the matter of the certification of John Walter Kirchen (Respondent).

In order to conclude this matter, Respondent neither admits nor denies the truth of the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law contained herein. Respondent further agrees to the disciplinary action set out in this Agreed Final Order. The Board makes the following findings of fact and conclusions of law and enters this Agreed Final Order in accordance with TEX. OCC. CODE § 1103.458.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent is a Texas state certified residential real estate appraiser who holds certification number TX-1326155-R and was certified by the Board during all times material to the above-noted complaint.
2. Respondent appraised residential real property located at 11231 McCree Road, Dallas, Texas 75209 (Property), on or about January 28, 2014.
3. Thereafter, the complaint, numbered 15-169, was filed with the Board by a consumer, on or about March 2, 2015. The Board investigated the complaint to ensure compliance with the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice (USPAP), TEX. OCC. CODE CH. 1103 (Act) and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE CHS. 153 and 155 (Rules).
4. The Board, in accordance with the mandate of the Act and TEX. GOV'T CODE CH. 2001 (APA), notified Respondent of the nature of the accusations involved, on or about March 20, 2015. Respondent was afforded an opportunity to respond to the accusations in the complaint and was also requested to provide certain documentation to the Board. Thereafter, the Respondent responded with documentation, on or about May 11, 2015.
5. As a result of the Board's investigation, the Board finds that Respondent violated TEX. OCC. CODE § 1103.405, 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §§ 153.20(a)(6) and 155.1 by the following acts or omissions which did not conform to USPAP in effect at the time of the appraisal of the Property:

- a. USPAP Record Keeping Rule; USPAP Standards Rules 1-2(e) and 2-2(a)(viii) – Respondent failed to create and maintain a work file containing all data, information, and documentation necessary to support the opinions and conclusions in the appraisal. Respondent also failed to retain plans, specifications, or other documentation sufficient to identify the extent and character of the proposed improvements;
- b. USPAP Scope of Work Rule, USPAP Standards Rules 1-2(h) and 2-2(a)(viii) – Respondent failed to perform the scope of work necessary for credible assignment results;
- c. USPAP Standards Rules 1-2(e)(i), 1-2(e)(iv) and 2-2(a)(iii) – Respondent failed to adequately identify and report the site and improvements description. Respondent also failed to consider and report easements, restrictions, encumbrances, leases, reservations, covenants, contracts, declarations, special assessments, ordinances or other items of a similar nature;
- d. USPAP Standards Rules 1-3(a) and 2-2(a)(viii); 1-1(b) – Respondent failed to identify and analyze the effect on use and of existing land use regulations, economic supply and demand, physical adaptability of the real estate and market area trends; or Respondent failed to support the opinions and conclusions in the Neighborhood section of the appraisal report/ Respondent also failed to develop properly the opinion of highest and best use;
- e. USPAP Standards Rules 1-4(b)(i) and 2-2(a)(viii); 1-1(a) and 1-4(b) – Respondent failed to use an appropriate method or technique to develop a site value determination;
- f. USPAP Standards Rules 1-4(a) and 2-2(a)(viii); 1-1(a) and 1-4(a) – Respondent has failed to collect, verify, analyze and reconcile comparable sales data adequately and has not employed recognized methods and techniques in the sales comparison approach; Respondent did not provide appropriate supporting documentation nor reasoning and a summary of analysis of the sales comparison approach; Respondent also failed to make appropriate adjustments to the sales used, and did not disclose the analysis and reasoning behind the adjustments made or not made;
- g. USPAP Standards Rules 1-5(a) and 2-2(a)(viii) – Respondent failed to disclose and analyze information regarding the property's current contract;
- h. USPAP Standards Rules 1-1(a), 1-1(b), 1-1(c), and 2-1(a) – For the reasons detailed above, Respondent produced an appraisal report for the Property that contained substantial errors of omission or commission by not employing correct methods and techniques. This resulted in an appraisal report that was not credible.

6. Respondent made material misrepresentations and omissions of material fact with respect to the appraisal of the Property as detailed above.

7. In order to reach an expeditious resolution of this matter and avoid the time and expense of litigation, the parties enter into this Agreed Final Order in accordance with TEX. OCC. CODE § 1103.458.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Board has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to the Act.
2. Respondent violated the above-noted provisions of USPAP as prohibited by TEX. OCC. CODE § 1103.405 and 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §§ 155.1 and 153.20(a)(6).
3. Respondent violated 22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 153.20(a)(12) by making material misrepresentations and omissions of material fact.
4. The parties are authorized to resolve their dispute by means of a consent order in accordance with TEX. OCC. CODE § 1103.458.

ORDER

Based on the above findings of fact and conclusions of law, the Board **ORDERS**:

1. **EDUCATION.** On or before November 19, 2016, Respondent shall submit documentation of attendance and successful completion of the classes set out below to the Board. All classes required by this Agreed Final Order must be classes approved by the Board. Unless otherwise noted below, all classes must require in-class attendance. If the class requires an exam, Respondent must receive a passing grade on the exam. None of the required class hours will count toward Respondent's continuing education requirements for licensure. Respondent is solely responsible for locating and scheduling classes to timely satisfy this Agreed Final Order and is urged to do so well in advance of any compliance deadline to ensure adequate time for completion of the course in the event of course cancellation or rescheduling by the course provider.
 - a. A minimum fifteen (15) hour classroom course in USPAP;
2. **MENTORSHIP.** On or before August 19, 2016, Respondent shall complete fifteen (15) hours of in-person mentorship conducted by a certified USPAP instructor approved by the Board in accordance with the schedule and topics set out below. Respondent shall submit a certification of completion signed by the approved certified USPAP instructor and a signed copy of the Guidelines for Texas Appraiser Licensing and Certification Board Mentors and Mentees on or before the due date listed for each mentorship requirement. Respondent is solely responsible for locating and scheduling an approved mentor to timely satisfy this Agreed Final

Order and is urged to do so well in advance of any compliance deadline to ensure adequate time for completion.

- a. Six (6) hours of mentorship concerning the sales comparison approach;
 - b. Six (6) hours of mentorship concerning the highest and best use analysis;
 - c. Three (3) hours of mentorship concerning residential report writing;
3. **ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTY.** On or before March 10, 2016, Respondent shall pay to the Board an administrative penalty of one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00), by cashier's check or money order.
 4. **TRAINEES.** Respondent shall not sponsor any trainees for twelve (12) months, from February 19, 2016 to February 19, 2017.
 5. Respondent shall fully and timely comply with all of the provisions of this Agreed Final Order; and
 6. Respondent shall comply with all provisions of the Act, the Rules of the Board, and USPAP in the future or be subjected to further disciplinary action.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND WAIVER

IF RESPONDENT FAILS TO TIMELY COMPLY WITH ANY TERM IN THIS AGREED FINAL ORDER, WHICH HAS A SPECIFIC, STATED DUE DATE, RESPONDENT SHALL BE ASSESSED A \$1,000 ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTY AND RESPONDENT'S LICENSE, CERTIFICATION, AUTHORIZATION OR REGISTRATION SHALL BE SUSPENDED, UNTIL RESPONDENT IS IN FULL COMPLIANCE WITH THE TERMS OF THIS ORDER AND THE \$1,000 ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTY HAS BEEN RECEIVED BY THE BOARD.

ANY SUCH SUSPENSION SHALL BE EFFECTIVE WITHOUT THE NEED FOR A HEARING OR OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE DUE PROCESS UNDER THE ACT OR THE APA, AND RESPONDENT SPECIFICALLY WAIVES ANY SUCH HEARING OR DUE PROCESS.

Respondent, by signing this Agreed Final Order, waives the Respondent's right to a formal hearing, any motion for rehearing, and any right to seek judicial review of this Agreed Final Order or to bring any civil suit in state or federal court regarding the validity or enforcement of this Agreed Final Order, regardless of the claims asserted. This Agreed Final Order, the findings of fact and the conclusions of law contained in it have been fully and fairly litigated or the parties had an opportunity to so litigate. This matter has been finally adjudicated and resolved via this Agreed Final Order. This Agreed Final Order shall be treated as res judicata, precluding any re-litigation of those claims and extinguishing the right to bring suit on the matter by the parties or those in privity with

them. Information about this Agreed Final Order is subject to public information requests and notice of this Agreed Final Order will be published on the Board's website.

I have read and reviewed this entire Agreed Final Order fully and am entering into it of my own free will to avoid the expense of litigation and to reach an expeditious resolution of the matter. I neither admit nor deny that the findings of fact and conclusions of law contained herein are correct. I understand all of my compliance obligations under this Agreed Final Order and the consequences for failing to comply with those obligations.

I understand that the Board and its staff cannot provide me with legal advice and I am aware of my right to be represented by an attorney of my own choosing. I am aware of my right to a hearing, and hereby waive a hearing and also waive any right to seek judicial review of this Agreed Final Order, including for any subsequent action resulting from my failure to timely comply with an administrative requirement of this Agreed Final Order (e.g. payment of a penalty, completion of remedial education, or failure to provide logs).

DELIVERY OF DOCUMENTS AND PAYMENTS FOR COMPLIANCE

Respondent is solely responsible for timely delivery to the Board of all documents and payments necessary for compliance of this Agreed Final Order. Payment of any administrative penalties due must be in the form of a cashier's check or money order made payable to the "Texas Appraiser Licensing and Certification Board" and delivered via certified mail, return receipt requested. Respondent shall retain documentation (reply email, fax confirmation, return receipt, etc.) confirming timely receipt by the Board of all the documents necessary for compliance of this Agreed Final Order.

Respondent shall send all documents and payments necessary for compliance by: (1) email to: compliance.talcb@talcb.texas.gov; (2) fax to: (512) 936-3966, attn: Compliance; or (3) certified mail, return receipt requested, to: Standards & Enforcement Services, Texas Appraiser Licensing & Certification Board, Stephen F. Austin Building, 1700 N. Congress Ave., Suite 400, Austin, TX 78701.

EXECUTION

This agreement may be executed in one or more counterparts, in form of electronic mail, facsimile, or other written expression of agreement, each of which shall be deemed an original and together shall comprise evidence of full execution of the agreement.

THE DATE OF THIS AGREED FINAL ORDER shall be the date it is executed by the Chairperson of the Texas Appraiser Licensing and Certification Board. The Chairperson has been delegated the authority to sign this Agreed Final Order by the Texas Appraiser Licensing and Certification Board vote.

RESPONDENT

Signed this 30 day of December, 2015.



John Walter Kirchen

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME, the undersigned, on the 30th day of December, 2015, by John Walter Kirchen, to certify which witness my hand and official seal.

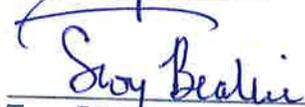




Notary Public's Signature

STANDARDS AND ENFORCEMENT SERVICES DIVISION

Signed by the Standards and Enforcement Services Division this 21st day of January, 2016.



Troy Beaujieu, Director
Texas Appraiser Licensing and Certification Board

COMMISSIONER

Signed by the Commissioner this 21 day of Jan, 2016.



Douglas Olamixon, Commissioner
Texas Appraiser Licensing and Certification Board

CHAIRPERSON

Approved by the Board and Signed this 19 day of February, 2016.



Jamie Wickliffe, Chairperson
Texas Appraiser Licensing and Certification Board