ATTENTION MORTGAGE BROKERS AND MORTGAGE LOAN ORIGINATORS

THRESHOLD FICO SCORE SET AT 550

The newly enacted Oklahoma Secure and Fair Enforcement for Mortgage Licensing Act ("SAFE Act") requires the Administrator to review the credit reports of applicants seeking to become licensed mortgage loan originators and the credit reports of owners, officers, directors and partners of mortgage broker applicants. Governor Henry recently approved emergency rules to implement the requirements of the SAFE Act, including financial responsibility standards. The emergency rules require the Administrator to set a threshold FICO score (defined by the emergency rules at OKLA. ADMIN. CODE § 160:55-1-2 as the number calculated statistically with information from a person’s credit files that represents the credit worthiness of the person) to assist in the determination of financial responsibility. OKLA. ADMIN. CODE § 160:55-3-12.

A threshold FICO score of 550 has been set for purposes of assisting in the determination of financial responsibility. A mortgage loan originator applicant’s FICO score of 550 or above shall be deemed to have demonstrated financial responsibility for purposes of the SAFE Act’s licensing requirements. Likewise, if all owners, officers, directors or partners of a mortgage broker have a FICO score of 550 or above, the mortgage broker applicant is deemed to have demonstrated financial responsibility for purposes of the SAFE Act’s licensing requirements.

If a mortgage loan originator applicant’s FICO score is less than 550, the Administrator shall review the applicant’s credit report for any current outstanding judgments, tax liens, other government liens, foreclosures within the past three (3) years and serious delinquent accounts within the past three (3) years to determine the applicant’s financial responsibility. If the FICO score of any owner, officer, director or partner of a mortgage broker applicant is less than 550, the Administrator shall review the credit report of such owner, officer, director or partner for any outstanding judgments, tax liens, other government liens, foreclosures within the past three (3) years and serious delinquent accounts within the past three (3) years to determine the applicant’s financial responsibility.

SCOTT LESHER
ADMINISTRATOR