



LOUISIANA ASSOCIATION OF
PROFESSIONAL AUCTIONEERS

November 8, 2013

MR JAMES D "BUDDY" CALDWELL
ATTORNEY GENERAL, STATE OF LOUISIANA
P O BOX 94005
BATON ROUGE LA 70804-9005

Dear Attorney General Caldwell:

I wish to file a formal complaint against the Louisiana Auctioneer Licensing Board (LALB) for the Board's steadfast refusal to place a link on the Board's website, www.lalb.org, for the trade association I founded and for which I serve as President, the Louisiana Association of Professional Auctioneers (LAPA). That link is www.auctioneer-la.org.

The Board presently has links for the Louisiana Auctioneer Association and the National Auctioneer Association. LAPA's website provides invaluable guidance for consumers for avoiding problematic auction experiences. Through its repeated and adamant stands refusing to place the link on its website (for which I can provide your office with links for videos of same), I assert the LALB has: #1) blatantly discriminated against me based on my race as I am the only African American auctioneer in Louisiana's history, and #2) blatantly violated my rights under the First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States. The LALB is not some private club but instead is a public agency funded with public funds and therefore does not have the prerogative to discriminate or violate my First Amendment rights. Accordingly, I ask that your office either issue a directive for the LALB to add LAPA's link to the other trade association links on its website or else issue a directive for the LALB to remove the other links presently on its website.

I appreciate your time in considering my complaint, and I look forward to the Attorney General's Office initiating one of the two actions I've outlined in the preceding paragraph.

Sincerely,

Cc: Marjorie Esman, Executive Director – Louisiana ACLU (via email)
Stephen Street, Louisiana State Inspector General (via email)

Rev. Freddie Lee Phillips
LAPA President and Founder