



January 14, 2011

MS ANNA DOW, LEGAL COUNSEL
LA AUCTIONEERS LICENSING BOARD
1434 N BURNSIDE STE 14
GONZALES LA 70737-2155

Dear Ms. Dow:

Pursuant to our phone conversation of Monday, January 10, 2011, this letter will document the fact that I relayed to you that I am pleased with the changes in the way in which the LALB has conducted its last two Board Meetings. In sharp contrast to previous meetings leading up to the last two meetings, I have observed no efforts which would demonstrate an intent to exclude audience members from being present for Board deliberations nor have I noticed Chairman Comer denying public members the right to speak. To the contrary, in the last two meetings, Chairman Comer's performance regarding emphasizing that only one speaker at a time is being recognized to speak has, in my opinion, lent considerable professionalism to the manner in which the meetings are being conducted.

As I'm sure you'll recall, the Louisiana Attorney General's Office provided a very detailed and extensive package for all Board members which was distributed at the March 2009 LALB meeting. That package dealt solely and exclusively with Louisiana's Open Meetings Laws. Based on numerous meetings I observed after that dissemination, I openly questioned if any Board Members had even bothered to read the package the Attorney General provided. To be blunt, I saw no effort whatsoever to adhere to Louisiana's Open Meetings Laws, and I expressed those sentiments to you quite often.

It is regrettable that it presumably took a lawsuit on my part naming the LALB as defendant to get the Board to take Louisiana's Open Meetings Laws with the level of seriousness which I believe they should be afforded. Nevertheless, I am pleased with the results the suit appears to have brought about. My suit is not and never was about money (and as I relayed to you, the maximum I can attain is \$100 from each Board Member, or \$700, for which the Board cannot reimburse Board Members), but rather about affecting change regarding adherence to Louisiana's Open Meetings Laws.

With that in mind, as I relayed to you via phone on Monday, January 10, 2011, I am willing to give the LALB the "benefit of the doubt" that its intent is to adhere to those laws going forward. I therefore expressed my willingness to sign a joint motion to dismiss my suit against the Board provided that the Board reimburses me for the \$630 in court filing fees to file suit. As I expressed to you on the phone, should this option be deemed not an avenue the Board wishes to avail itself of to close this matter, I am fully prepared to proceed on with the hearing; however, also as I expressed to you, that will result in inconveniences to the daily schedules of a considerable number of people.

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I am content with whichever direction the Board would like to proceed, but I wanted to provide my offer to the Board in writing in order that it is able to give it proper consideration at the next Board Meeting in March.

I appreciate the opportunity to discuss this matter with you via phone on Monday, and I'll await the Board's decision at the March Board Meeting regarding what I've relayed in this letter.

Sincerely,


Robert Edwin Burns