

OCCC CASE NO. L20-00178

IN THE MATTER OF:	§	BEFORE THE
	§	
MASTER FILE NO.: 2644	§	OFFICE OF CONSUMER
BELL PAWN, LTD.	§	
2610 S. IH 35	§	CREDIT COMMISSIONER
BELTON, TEXAS 76513	§	
	§	STATE OF TEXAS

**ORDER TO ENSURE TIMELY FILING OF
PAWNSHOP EMPLOYEE LICENSE APPLICATIONS**

The Office of Consumer Credit Commissioner (“OCCC”) issues this Order to Ensure Timely Filing of Pawnshop Employee License Applications against Bell Pawn, Ltd. (“Bell Pawn”) based on the violations of law described below.¹

Statement of Facts and Law

Bell Pawn is licensed by the OCCC as a pawnshop under Chapter 371 of the Texas Finance Code. Bell Pawn operates under master file number 2644. Bell Pawn’s compliance officer is Troy Fox, and its designated contact address is 2610 S. IH 35, Belton, Texas 76513.

A pawnbroker may, but is not required to, participate in the pawnshop employee license program.² If a pawnbroker participates in the pawnshop employee license program, then the pawnbroker may not employ an individual to write pawn transactions unless the individual holds a pawnshop employee license, or applies for a license within 75 days after beginning employment.³ An employee who works at a participating pawnshop must, as a condition of employment, apply for a license with the OCCC within 75 days after employment begins.⁴ A pawnbroker is responsible for the acts of its employees in the conduct of pawnshop business.⁵

¹ Tex. Fin. Code § 14.208.

² Tex. Fin. Code § 371.101(a).

³ Tex. Fin. Code § 371.101(c).

⁴ Tex. Fin. Code § 371.101(b).

⁵ Tex. Fin. Code § 371.074; 7 Tex. Admin. Code § 85.604(c)(9).

Bell Pawn has chosen to participate in the pawnshop employee license program. Bell Pawn employed each of the following individuals as a pawnshop employee for more than 75 days, without the individuals' holding or applying for a pawnshop employee license:

Applicant Name	Application ID Number	License Status	Application Date	Days Employed Before Applying
William Valdez	38792	Approved	3/5/2020	80

If the Commissioner has reasonable cause to believe that a person is violating Chapter 371 of the Texas Finance Code, the Commissioner may issue an order to cease and desist from the violation, take affirmative action, or both, to enforce compliance.⁶

The Commissioner has reasonable cause to believe that Bell Pawn violated Chapter 371 by employing one or more individuals to write pawn transactions for more than 75 days, without the individuals' holding or applying for a pawnshop employee license. Bell Pawn is responsible for its employees' failure to file timely pawnshop employee license applications.

Order

IT IS ORDERED that Bell Pawn, Ltd.:

1. comply with, and cease and desist from violating, the pawnshop employee licensing and application requirements of Section 371.101 of the Texas Finance Code; and
2. ensure that all future pawnshop employee license applications are timely filed, not later than the 75th day after the individual begins employment.

⁶ Tex. Fin. Code § 14.208(a).

Violation of Order

If you violate this Order, the OCCC may impose an administrative penalty of up to \$1,000 per day.⁷ Multiple violations may also result in the suspension or revocation of your license.⁸

Right to Request Hearing

You have the right to request a hearing regarding this Order.⁹ Your request must be made in writing and sent to the OCCC not later than 30 days after you receive this Order. You must send your request to:

Matthew Nance
Office of Consumer Credit Commissioner
2601 N. Lamar Blvd.
Austin, Texas 78705

If you request a hearing, a hearing on this matter will be set and conducted in accordance with Chapter 2001 of the Texas Government Code.¹⁰ If you fail to request a hearing by this deadline, this Order is considered final and enforceable.¹¹

All communications with the OCCC concerning this matter must be through Matthew Nance, Deputy General Counsel, who may be contacted by mail at 2601 N. Lamar Blvd., Austin, Texas 78705, by telephone at (512) 936-7660, or by email to matthew.nance@occc.texas.gov.

Signed this 11th day of September, 2020.

/s/ Leslie Pettijohn
Leslie L. Pettijohn
Consumer Credit Commissioner
State of Texas

⁷ Tex. Fin. Code § 14.208(c).

⁸ Tex. Fin. Code § 371.251; 7 Tex. Admin. Code § 85.604(b)(4).

⁹ Tex. Fin. Code § 14.208(b).

¹⁰ Tex. Fin. Code § 14.208(b).

¹¹ Tex. Fin. Code § 14.208(c).

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that on September 11, 2020, a true and correct copy of this Order to Ensure Timely Filing of Pawnshop Employee License Applications has been sent to Bell Pawn, Ltd. by regular mail and certified mail, return receipt requested, at:

CMRRR# 9214 8901 9403 8300 0019 2819 70

Bell Pawn, Ltd.

Attn: Troy Fox, Compliance Officer

2610 S. IH 35

Belton, TX 76513

CMRRR# 9214 8901 9403 8300 0019 2819 87

Bell Pawn, Ltd.

Attn: Troy B. Fox, Registered Agent

P.O. Box 502

Marble Falls, TX 78654

/s/ Matthew Nance

Matthew Nance

Deputy General Counsel

Office of Consumer Credit Commissioner

State Bar No. 24074794

2601 North Lamar Blvd.

Austin, Texas 78705

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