

OCCC CASE NO. L21-00055

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|-----------------------------|---|---------------------|
| IN THE MATTER OF: | § | BEFORE THE |
| | § | |
| MASTER FILE NO.: 1600054973 | § | OFFICE OF CONSUMER |
| ATHENS PAWN SHOP INC. | § | |
| 607 E. TYLER ST. | § | CREDIT COMMISSIONER |
| ATHENS, TEXAS 75751 | § | |
| | § | STATE OF TEXAS |

ORDER TO FILE TIMELY AND ACCURATE ANNUAL REPORTS

The Office of Consumer Credit Commissioner (“OCCC”) issues this Order to File Timely and Accurate Annual Reports against Athens Pawn Shop Inc. (“Athens Pawn Shop”).¹

Statement of Facts and Law

Athens Pawn Shop is a pawnshop licensed by the OCCC under Chapter 371 of the Texas Finance Code. Athens Pawn Shop operates under master file number 1600054973 at one licensed location, under license number 154969. Athens Pawn Shop’s compliance officer is Scott Benson, and its designated contact address is 607 E. Tyler St., Athens Texas 75751.

A pawnshop must file annual reports with the Consumer Credit Commissioner (“Commissioner”).² For each pawnshop licensed location, a pawnshop must file an annual report by July 31 for the prior calendar year’s activity, and must comply with all instructions related to submitting the report.³

Athens Pawn Shop did not file its 2019 annual report with the Commissioner for one licensed location, under license number 154969 by July 31, 2020.

¹ Tex. Fin. Code § 14.208.

² Tex. Fin. Code § 371.201; 7 Tex. Admin. Code § 85.502.

³ Tex. Fin. Code § 371.201; 7 Tex. Admin. Code § 85.502; <https://occc.texas.gov/industry/pawnshops-and-pawn-employees/annual-reports>

The Commissioner may issue an injunction ordering a pawnshop to file one or more complete, accurate, and timely annual reports if the Commissioner has reasonable cause to believe that the pawnshop is violating Chapter 371 of the Texas Finance Code.⁴

The Commissioner has reasonable cause to believe that Athens Pawn Shop is violating Chapter 371 of the Texas Finance Code, and therefore issues this Order, because Athens Pawn Shop failed to timely file its 2019 annual report.

Order

IT IS ORDERED that Athens Pawn Shop Inc.:

1. comply with, and cease and desist from violating, the reporting requirements set forth in 371.201 of the Texas Finance Code and Title 7, Section 85.502 of the Texas Administrative Code;
2. file its 2019 annual report within 30 days of service of this Order, if it has not already done so; and
3. timely file complete and accurate future annual reports.

Pawnshop annual reports must be submitted either by mail to 2601 N. Lamar Blvd., Austin, Texas 78705 through the OCCC's Application Licensing Examination and Compliance System (ALECS): alecs.occ.texas.gov. Instructions are available by clicking the "File Annual Report" button on the OCCC's home page, occ.texas.gov.

Violation of Order

If you violate this Order, the OCCC may impose an administrative penalty of up to \$1,000 for each day.⁵ Multiple violations may also result in the suspension or revocation of your license.⁶

⁴ Tex. Fin. Code § 14.208, 371.302(a).

⁵ Tex. Fin. Code §§ 14.208(c), 371.303; 7 Tex. Admin. Code § 85.604(b).

⁶ Tex. Fin. Code § 371.251; 7 Tex. Admin. Code § 85.604(b).

Right to Request Hearing

You have the right to request a hearing regarding this Order.⁷ 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:

Audrey Spalding
Office of Consumer Credit Commissioner
2601 N. Lamar Blvd.
Austin, Texas 78705
Fax: (512) 936-7610
audrey.spalding@occc.texas.gov

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.⁸ If you fail to request a hearing by this deadline, this Order is considered final and enforceable.⁹

All communications with the OCCC concerning this matter must be through Audrey Spalding, Assistant General Counsel, who may be contacted by mail at 2601 N. Lamar Blvd., Austin, Texas 78705, by telephone at (512) 936-7659, or by email to audrey.spalding@occc.texas.gov.

Signed this 6 day of November, 2020.

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

⁷ Tex. Fin. Code § 14.208(b).

⁸ Tex. Fin. Code § 14.208(b).

⁹ Tex. Fin. Code § 14.208(c).

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that on November 6, 2020, a true and correct copy of this Order to File Timely and Accurate Annual Reports has been sent to Athens Pawn Shop Inc. by regular mail and certified mail, return receipt requested, at:

CMRRR# 9214 8901 9403 8300 0022 5572 60

Athens Pawn Shop Inc.

Attn: Scott Benson, Compliance Officer

607 E. Tyler St.

Athens, TX 75751

CMRRR# 9214 8901 9403 8300 0022 5572 77

Athens Pawn Shop Inc.

Attn: Royce Scott Benson, Registered Agent

3929 San Saba

Athens, TX 75752

/s/Audrey Spalding_____

Audrey Spalding

Assistant General Counsel

Office of Consumer Credit Commissioner

State Bar No. 24111055

North Lamar Blvd.

Austin, Texas 78705

(512) 936-7659

(512) 936-7610 (fax)

audrey.spalding@occc.texas.gov