

CITY OF AUSTIN

Telecommunications and Regulatory Affairs

P.O. Box 1088

Austin TX 78767



March 19, 2012

In 2011, the Austin City Council approved Ordinance 20110818-075, relating to the registration and oversight of credit access businesses (CABs) operating within the City of Austin limits. The ordinance specifically pertains to credit access businesses that provide payday loans and/or auto title loans to consumers. I urge you to carefully review the enclosed ordinance in its entirety. In addition to the registration requirements, CABs must follow lending guidelines that place restrictions on extension of consumer credit. The Office of Telecommunications and Regulatory Affairs (TARA) has been designated to manage the Credit Access Business Program and to enforce the ordinance.

The City of Austin extended the registration deadline from January 1, 2012 to May 1, 2012 to allow adequate time for the CABs to obtain FINAL license from the Texas Office of Consumer Credit Commissioner. All credit access businesses registered with the state and operating and/or conducting business within the City of Austin must also have submitted a complete application to the City of Austin, before May 1, 2012.

Enclosed is the application packet, which contains: 1) Application for Credit Access Business Registration; 2) Checklist and Instructions for Credit Access Business Registration; and 3) a copy of City of Austin Ordinance 20110818-0785.

All documents and information requested in the application and a \$50 nonrefundable application fee per CAB location must be received before the application review and approval process can commence. Incomplete applications cannot be processed. Staff will contact the designated contact person (reference Section 2 of the application) for clarification and/or concerning any deficiency in the submitted registration application. The corrected application must be received by the City of Austin, within ten (10) calendar days from the date that the credit access business was notified of the deficiency(s) and/or request for clarification(s). Requested information that is not resubmitted within the ten (10) day timeframe will require a new application process and application fee.

For additional information, please visit the Telecommunications and Regulatory Affairs website at: www.austintexas.gov/department/telecommunications. Each of the documents included in the application packet, are available online. The registration application can be downloaded. Please submit all documents in hardcopy via postal service. Please contact Martha Hernandez, Regulatory Monitor, at 512.974.2466, for any assistance that you may need.

In effort to provide assistance and support to both the business community and consumer community, the Telecommunications and Regulatory Affairs staff is continuing to develop resources and monitoring processes to further ensure compliance with requirements of the ordinance. We look forward to working with you and welcome any questions you may have.

Sincerely,



Rondella M. Hawkins, Officer
Office of Telecommunications & Regulatory Affairs