

ATTORNEY GENERAL (AGO)

General information (AGO)

Duties

The Ohio Attorney General's Office has played a vital role in shaping Ohio's past and present. And the work it does today helps chart the state's future. The office consists of nearly 30 distinct sections that advocate for consumers and victims of crime, assist the criminal justice community, provide legal counsel for state offices and agencies, and enforce certain state laws. In these and other capacities, staff members interact with tens of thousands of Ohioans each year.

Membership *(Current members, chairperson and other officers, and selection process.)*

Dave Yost, Ohio Attorney General (Elected)

Brenda Rinehart, First Assistant Attorney General (Appointed)

Benjamin Marrison, Chief of Staff (Hired)

Budget *(Current budget, description of budgeting process, sources of funding, and expected increases or decreases in budget or funding in future years.)*

AGO Current FY21 Appropriated budget \$409,680,704

Each Biennium the office submits suggested fund appropriation levels to OBM within the parameters outlined by OBM. OBM reviews and makes recommendations to the General Assembly who approve final appropriation levels.

Fund 1060: MOU's with other state agencies for legal services, BCI and FBI background check fees.

Fund 4180: Charitable foundation fees for registration and licensing.

Budget *(Current budget, description of budgeting process, sources of funding, and expected increases or decreases in budget or funding in future years.)*

Fund 4190: Percentage of debt collected from past due debts owed to the State.

Fund 6310: Court ordered settlement fees.

Fund 4210: OPOTA training fees.

Fund 5LR0: Casino revenue fees.

Federal Funding: Crime Victim Assistance, Crime Victim Compensation, Equitable Sharing, and Medicaid Fraud Control.

Fund 1060 (General Reimbursement) and Fund 4180 (Charitable Foundations) appropriations are expected to increase in FY22/23 due to proposed agency fee changes to help provide operating support. In addition, the AGO is seeking increased appropriation level for federal grant fund 3FV0 (i.e., Crime Victim Compensation)

Workload *(Assess current, past, and anticipated workload. Has the workload increased or decreased significantly in the preceding six years?)*

Workload continues to increase steadily as the Attorney General's office continues to serve the needs of its clients and Ohioans across the state.

Staffing *(How many staff are currently employed by the board? What are their roles? Are staffing levels proportionate to the board's current and anticipated workload?)*

As of the pay period ending 9/12/2020 the AGO had 1477 FTEs.

The AGO is seeking to increase BCI FTE due to the ever-increasing workload. We are also seeking to increase our Information technology FTE due to increased workload with implementation of the new debt collection system.

Administrative hearings and public complaints *(Describe the Board's processes for administering discipline and addressing complaints. Assess the efficiency of the processes.)*

The Attorney General's office does not conduct administrative hearings on behalf of the office itself. Rather, the office provides counsel to other boards and commissions as they carry out their own hearings.

Professional solicitor registration

Survey responses (AGO)

Description

With some limited exceptions, a professional solicitor is any person, group, or other entity that, for compensation, performs on behalf of or for the benefit of a charitable organization any service in connection with which contributions are or will be solicited in Ohio by the compensated professional or by any person it employs, procures, or otherwise engages directly or indirectly to solicit contributions; this is found in Ohio Revised Code (ORC) Section 1716.01.

Professional Solicitors must register annually and file a Solicitation Notice for each fundraising campaign conducted in Ohio. A yearly financial report is also required for each fundraising campaign.

Type *(See R.C. 4798.01 for relevant definitions.)*

Registration

If the regulation is a registration, certification, or license requirement, please complete the following:	
Number issued annually	89 in 2019
Number renewed annually	89 of 102 professional solicitors renewed registration from 2018 to 2019.
Have there been significant increases or decreases in active registrations, certifications or licenses in the preceding six years?	No significant increase or decrease.
Education or training requirements	None
Experience requirements	None
Examination requirements (<i>Who administers the exam? How is the exam and administrator selected? What fees are charged? Does the Board receive any proceeds of those fees? If so, how are the proceeds used?</i>)	None
Continuing education requirements (<i>Including a description of the curriculum and the process of setting it.</i>)	None
Initial fee	\$200
Duration	For up to one year. Each organization must renew their registration by March 31 each year.

If the regulation is a registration, certification, or license requirement, please complete the following:	
Renewal fee <i>(If different from initial fee, please explain why.)</i>	\$200. Although the registration fee is the same each year, if it is submitted late, their organization may be assessed a \$200 late fee. This late fee may also be assessed if a campaign is started in Ohio prior to completing their registration requirements.
Does the Board recognize uniform licensure requirements or allow for reciprocity?	No
Are there any similar national registrations, certifications, or licenses? Could they be used as a substitute for the state regulation?	At this time, there is no national registration requirement. Charitable organizations are required to provide information on their 990s filed with the IRS.
Are there any circumstances in which an individual may practice elements of the occupation without being regulated by the board?	No, any individual or business is required to register with the Charitable Law Section if they are a professional solicitor.
Is the Board permitted to exercise discretion in determining whether to register, certify, or license an individual?	Yes, our office may review contracts between a professional solicitor and charitable organization to determine if there is a registration requirement.
Other information <i>(Significant attributes or prerequisites to licensure not addressed in this chart.)</i>	In addition to the registration requirement, each professional solicitor is required to submit a Solicitation Notice and a copy of the contract they have with a charitable organization prior to soliciting on the charity's behalf, and file a Campaign Financial Report to within a certain amount of time dictated in R.C. 1716.07.

Oversight and disciplinary authority of the Board respecting individuals engaged in the occupation.

The Charitable Law section has oversight from R.C. 1716. With this, there are civil penalties the section is able to issue under R.C. 1716.99.

How much revenue is derived from fees charged by the Board to individuals engaged in the occupation (such as license and renewal fees)? How is that revenue used?

Approximately \$20,400. The funds are used to assist the Ohio Attorney General's Charitable Law Section to maintain the registration and filing requirements, along with investigations into any complaints received and assisting in the filing requirements.

Describe any federal regulations that apply to the occupation. Does federal law require the state to regulate the occupation?

Currently, there are no federal regulations for professional solicitors to register, nor is there a federal law that requires the state to regulate these organizations.

What is the “harm” that the regulation seeks to prevent? (See, R.C. 4798.02(B).)

The Ohio Attorney General’s Charitable Law section seeks to protect Ohioans insuring they are not misled in any charitable solicitation that takes place and help eliminate any deceptive practices from professional solicitors, such as claiming to be the charitable organization or not providing notice of the percent guarantee going to the contracted charity.

Is the regulation effective at preventing the harm described above? Are there other, less restrictive ways to prevent the harm?

The professional solicitor regulations and registration appear to be adequate. Our section has entered into multiple settlements and AOD’s from organizations that have misled Ohioans. We do not believe that there are less restrictive ways to prevent the harm.

Are there any changes the Board would like to see implemented?

Our section would like to see changes to R.C. 1716.07 to require filing fees associated with each solicitation campaign in addition to the registration fee for each solicitor.

Comparison to other states (How many other states regulate the occupation? How do Ohio's regulations compare to those others states? Is Ohio more restrictive? Less restrictive? Or somewhere in between?)

There are 40 states that currently require professional solicitors to register.

Ohio regulations appear to be similar to other states where registration is required.

Other states registration fees range from \$0 to \$1,000. The majority of the states have initial registration fees that are between \$200 to \$500. Illinois requires additional fees per fundraising campaign.

Surrounding state comparison (LSC)

Professional Solicitor						
	Ohio	Indiana	Kentucky	Michigan	Pennsylvania	West Virginia
License required?	Yes, registration with Attorney General (<i>R.C. 1716.07</i>)	Yes, registration with Attorney General (<i>Ind. Code Ann. 23-7-8-2 and 23-7-8-4</i>)	Yes, registration with Attorney General (<i>Ky. Rev. Stat. Ann. 367.652</i>)	Yes, registration with Attorney General (<i>Mich. Comp. Laws 400.287</i>) Separate registration provisions apply if solicitation is for or on behalf of a public safety organization (<i>Mich. Comp. Laws 14.302 to 14.304</i>)	Yes, registration with Department of State (<i>10 Pa. Cons. Stat. 162.9</i>)	Yes, registration with Secretary of State (<i>W. Va. Code Ann. 29-19-9</i>)

Professional Solicitor						
	Ohio	Indiana	Kentucky	Michigan	Pennsylvania	West Virginia
Education or training	No	No	No	No	No	No
Experience	No	No	No	No	No	No
Exam	No	No	No	No	No	No
Continuing education	No	No	No	No	No	No
Initial licensure fee	\$200, plus bond of \$25,000	\$1,000	\$300, plus bond of \$25,000	None specified	\$250, also bond of \$25,000 or greater amount prescribed by Department	\$100, plus bond of \$10,000
License duration	One year	One year	One year	One year	One year	One year
Renewal fee	\$200, plus bond of \$25,000	\$50	\$300, plus bond of \$25,000	None specified	\$250, also bond of \$25,000 or greater amount prescribed by Department	\$100, plus bond of \$10,000

Fund-raising counsel registration

Survey responses (AGO)

Description
<p>With some limited exceptions, a fund-raising counsel is any person, group, or other entity that, for compensation, plans, manages, advises, consults, or prepares material for or with respect to the solicitation in Ohio of contributions for any charitable organization or at any time has custody of contributions from a solicitation, but does not solicit contributions and does not employ, procure, or otherwise engage any compensated person to solicit contributions pursuant to ORC 1716.01.</p> <p>Fund-raising counsels are required to register with the Ohio Attorney General only if they will at any time have custody of charitable contributions from a solicitation conducted in Ohio.</p>

Type <i>(See R.C. 4798.01 for relevant definitions.)</i>
Registration

If the regulation is a registration, certification, or license requirement, please complete the following:	
Number issued annually	3
Number renewed annually	All 3 fundraising counsels renewed from 2018 to 2019.

If the regulation is a registration, certification, or license requirement, please complete the following:	
Have there been significant increases or decreases in active registrations, certifications or licenses in the preceding six years?	Slight increase, but overall numbers are small. 0 fundraising counsels registered in 2013 – 3 registered in 2018 and 2019. Very few fundraising counsel organizations meet requirements to register.
Education or training requirements	None
Experience requirements	None
Examination requirements (<i>Who administers the exam? How is the exam and administrator selected? What fees are charged? Does the Board receive any proceeds of those fees? If so, how are the proceeds used?</i>)	None
Continuing education requirements (<i>Including a description of the curriculum and the process of setting it.</i>)	None
Initial fee	\$200
Duration	For up to one year. Each organization must renew their registration by March 31 each year.
Renewal fee (<i>If different from initial fee, please explain why.</i>)	Currently up to \$200. Although the registration fee is the same each year, if it is submitted late, their organization may be assessed a \$200 late fee. This late fee may also be assessed if a campaign is started in Ohio prior to completing their registration requirements.

If the regulation is a registration, certification, or license requirement, please complete the following:	
Does the Board recognize uniform licensure requirements or allow for reciprocity?	No
Are there any similar national registrations, certifications, or licenses? Could they be used as a substitute for the state regulation?	At this time, there is no national registration requirement. Charitable organizations are required to provide information on their 990s filed with the IRS.
Are there any circumstances in which an individual may practice elements of the occupation without being regulated by the board?	Fundraising counsels are only required to complete registration if they have custody of the contributions during their campaign in Ohio. If not, a fundraising counsel may be active in Ohio and does not meet a registration requirement.
Is the Board permitted to exercise discretion in determining whether to register, certify, or license an individual?	At times, our office may review contracts the fundraising counsel has with any charitable organization to determine if there is a registration requirement.
Other information (<i>Significant attributes or prerequisites to licensure not addressed in this chart.</i>)	In addition to registering with the Attorney General's office, each registered fundraising counsel must submit an accounting of all contributions collected and expenses paid, to the charitable organization with which the fund-raising counsel has contracted. The accounting shall be in writing and shall be retained by the charitable organization for three years. The fundraising counsel shall file a copy of the accounting with the attorney general not later than seven days after it is furnished to the charitable organization.

Oversight and disciplinary authority of the Board respecting individuals engaged in the occupation.

The Charitable Law section has oversight from R.C. 1716. With this, there are civil penalties the section is able to issue under R.C. 1716.99.

How much revenue is derived from fees charged by the Board to individuals engaged in the occupation (such as license and renewal fees)? How is that revenue used?

Approximately \$600. The funds are used to assist the Ohio Attorney General's Charitable Law Section to maintain the registration and filing requirements, along with investigations into any complaints received and assisting in the filing requirements.

Describe any federal regulations that apply to the occupation. Does federal law require the state to regulate the occupation?

Currently, there are no federal regulations for professional solicitors to register, nor is there a federal law that requires the state to regulate these organizations.

What is the “harm” that the regulation seeks to prevent? (See, R.C. 4798.02(B).)

The Ohio Attorney General’s Charitable Law section seeks to protect Ohioans by guarding against misleading charitable solicitation practices.

Is the regulation effective at preventing the harm described above? Are there other, less restrictive ways to prevent the harm?

Yes. Regulation of fundraising counsels are very minimal and non-restrictive.

Are there any changes the Board would like to see implemented?

Our section could require all fundraising counsels to complete registration with our office and submit an accounting document on a form proscribed by our office regardless of whether they maintain custody of contributions. This would give the state a better understanding of what organizations are active in Ohio and better accountability from for-profit organizations working with charitable organizations and better oversight of the industry.

Comparison to other states (*How many other states regulate the occupation? How do Ohio's regulations compare to those others states? Is Ohio more restrictive? Less restrictive? Or somewhere in between?*)

There are 28 other states that currently require registration for fundraising counsels.

In terms of fees, Ohio appears to be average. Other states' registration fees range from \$0 to \$1,000 with the majority being between \$100 to \$400.

The majority of these states appear to require registration regardless of whether fundraising counsels have custody of contributions, so Ohio may be less restrictive since we allow fundraising counsels to operate in Ohio without registration if they do not have custody of the contributions from their activities in Ohio.

Surrounding state comparison (LSC)

Fund-raising Counsel						
	Ohio	Indiana	Kentucky	Michigan	Pennsylvania	West Virginia
License required?	Yes, registration with Attorney General (<i>R.C. 1716.05</i>)	Yes, registration with Attorney General – professional fundraiser consultant (<i>Ind. Code Ann. 23-7-8-2 and 23-7-8-4</i>)	Yes, registration with Attorney General – fundraising consultant (<i>Ky. Rev. Stat. Ann. 367.652</i>)	Yes, licensed by Attorney General – professional fundraiser (<i>Mich. Comp. Laws 400.287</i>) Separate registration provisions apply if solicitation is for or on behalf of a public safety organization (<i>Mich. Comp.</i>	Yes, registration with Department of State – professional fundraising counsel (<i>10 Pa. Cons. Stat. 162.8</i>)	Yes, registration with Secretary of State – professional fundraising counsel (<i>W. Va. Code Ann. 29-19-9</i>)

Fund-raising Counsel						
	Ohio	Indiana	Kentucky	Michigan	Pennsylvania	West Virginia
				<i>Laws 14.302 to 14.304)</i>		
Education or training	No	No	No	No	No	No
Experience	No	No	No	No	No	No
Exam	No	No	No	No	No	No
Continuing education	No	No	No	No	No	No
Initial licensure fee	\$200, plus bond of \$25,000	\$1,000	\$50	None specified, but bond of \$10,000	\$250	\$100, plus bond of \$10,000
License duration	One year	One year	One year	One year	One year	One year
Renewal fee	\$200, plus bond of \$25,000	\$50	\$50	None specified, but bond of \$10,000	\$250	\$100, plus bond of \$10,000

Telephone solicitor registration

Survey responses (AGO)

Description	
<p>The Telephone Solicitation Sales Act (TSSA), RC 4719.01 et seq. requires registration of non-exempt persons that engage in telephone solicitation directly or through one or more salespersons either from a location in this state, or from a location outside this state to persons in this state. "Telephone solicitor" includes, but is not limited to, any such person that is an owner, operator, officer, or director of, partner in, or other individual engaged in the management activities of, a business that solicit. Further, the TSSA requires solicitors maintain a \$50,000 surety bond, provide specific verbal disclosures and evidence transactions with specific written disclosures and cancellation rights. The TSSA provides remedies for a violation which include a private civil cause of action, private and AGO civil remedies under the Consumer Sales Practices Act, RC 1345.01, AGO criminal investigative authority and criminal penalties of fourth or fifth degree felonies.</p>	
Type (See R.C. 4798.01 for relevant definitions.)	
<p>Registration. The Telephone Solicitations Sales Act also includes a bonding/insurance requirement and regulation of process (solicitors required to provide specific verbal disclosures and evidence transactions with specific written disclosures and cancellation rights)</p>	
If the regulation is a registration, certification, or license requirement, please complete the following:	
Number issued annually	Average of 11, based on years 2015 to present
Number renewed annually	Average of 7, based on years 2015 to present

If the regulation is a registration, certification, or license requirement, please complete the following:	
Have there been significant increases or decreases in active registrations, certifications or licenses in the preceding six years?	No significant changes, but there is a slight decrease in applications received
Education or training requirements	None
Experience requirements	None
Examination requirements (<i>Who administers the exam? How is the exam and administrator selected? What fees are charged? Does the Board receive any proceeds of those fees? If so, how are the proceeds used?</i>)	None
Continuing education requirements (<i>Including a description of the curriculum and the process of setting it.</i>)	None
Initial fee	\$250
Duration	One year from date of issuance of registration.
Renewal fee (<i>If different from initial fee, please explain why.</i>)	\$250

If the regulation is a registration, certification, or license requirement, please complete the following:	
Does the Board recognize uniform licensure requirements or allow for reciprocity?	No
Are there any similar national registrations, certifications, or licenses? Could they be used as a substitute for the state regulation?	No
Are there any circumstances in which an individual may practice elements of the occupation without being regulated by the board?	Yes, telephone solicitors may meet any of the twenty-seven exemption to the statute; exemptions are generally available for solicitors that are regulated by other statutes or do business.
Is the Board permitted to exercise discretion in determining whether to register, certify, or license an individual?	<p>The AG is required to issue a certificate to any applicant that submits application with complete information required by the statute, R.C. 4719.02 and pays the fee.</p> <p>The AG may deny, suspend or revoke a certificate of registration after an adjudication conducted in accordance with Chapter 119, if the AG finds by a preponderance of the evidence that any of the following conditions apply:</p> <p>(1) the applicant or registrant obtained a certificate of registration through any false or fraudulent representation or made any material misrepresentation in any application;</p> <p>(2) the applicant or registrant made false promises through advertising or other means or engaged in a continued course of misrepresentations.</p> <p>(3) The applicant or registrant violated any provision of Consumer Sales Practices Act, RC. 1345.01 et or the TSSA, RC 4719.01 to 4719.18 or a rule adopted under that chapter or those sections;</p> <p>(4) In a court of competent jurisdiction of this state or any other state or of the United States, the applicant or registrant was convicted of, pleaded guilty to, or entered a plea of no contest for a felony, engaging in a pattern of corrupt activity, racketeering, a violation of federal or state securities law, or a theft offense as defined R.C. 2913. or in a similar law of any other state or of</p>

If the regulation is a registration, certification, or license requirement, please complete the following:

	<p>the United States, or failed to notify the attorney general of any conviction of that type as required under division (H) of R.C. 4719.08; or</p> <p>(5) The applicant or registrant engaged in conduct that constituted improper, fraudulent, or dishonest dealings.</p> <p>The AG has not denied, suspended or revoked a certificate of registration since the enactment of the statute. Historically, applicants who apply but do not obtain a certificate of registration fail to submit complete application information or after further review of the application and statute discover that an exemption applies and they revoke or abandon their application.</p>
<p>Other information (<i>Significant attributes or prerequisites to licensure not addressed in this chart.</i>)</p>	<p>The are no significant attributes or prerequisites to registration. The application largely requires only disclosures about the applicant, business organization, product/service offered, solicitation practices, and copies of solicitation and transactional materials used to sell or given to purchasers.</p>

Oversight and disciplinary authority of the Board respecting individuals engaged in the occupation.

The AG regularly takes enforcement actions for failure to comply with the requirements of the TSSA. The actions include the filing of civil actions which generally also include violations of the Consumer Sales Practices and/or federal telemarketing regulations, negotiated Assurance of Voluntary Compliance and Cease and Desist Orders.

How much revenue is derived from fees charged by the Board to individuals engaged in the occupation (such as license and renewal fees)? How is that revenue used?

The approximate revenue generate year is \$4666, based on fees collected 2015 to present. The funds are used to pay the expenses reasonably related to the administration of the TSSA, include the registration unit function and the investigation and enforcement action costs or for educational activities.

Describe any federal regulations that apply to the occupation. Does federal law require the state to regulate the occupation?

There are two specific federal telemarketing statutes and regulations enforced by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the Federal Trade Commission (FTC). The FCC enforces the Telephone Consumer Protection Act 47 US 227 and its rules, 47 CFR 64.1200 and 47 CFR 64.1600 et seq. The FTC enforces the Telemarketing and Consumer Fraud and Abuse Prevention Act, 15 USC 6101 and its rule, 16 CFR 310. The federal laws do not require the state to regulate telephone solicitors and specifically preempt conflicting laws.

What is the “harm” that the regulation seeks to prevent? (See, R.C. 4798.02(B).)

The TSSA was enacted to protect purchasers from telephone solicitors and salespersons that commit unfair, unlawful, deceptive, or unconscionable acts or practices and to encourage the development of reasonable and fair telephone solicitation sales practices.

Is the regulation effective at preventing the harm described above? Are there other, less restrictive ways to prevent the harm?

It is difficult to measure the effective of harm *prevented* by the TSSA. However, the AG regularly uses the investigative and enforcement authority provided by the TSSA which includes subpoena authority and a range of remedies to enjoin violations and recover restitution, civil penalties and costs. The AG’s office has historically been very active in the area of telemarketing regulation, in both fraud-related and do-not-call enforcement case. The TSSA is an effective tool for both types of cases and is frequently enforced as a companion action to do-not-call actions. The AG announced the formation of a Robocall Enforcement Unit in March of 2020 which focuses specifically on robocall and telemarketing enforcement efforts which will likely result it even more reliance on this valuable statute.

Are there any changes the Board would like to see implemented?

There are no changes recommended at this time.

Comparison to other states *(How many other states regulate the occupation? How do Ohio’s regulations compare to those others states? Is Ohio more restrictive? Less restrictive? Or somewhere in between?)*

Approximately 33 states have similar telephone solicitor registration and regulation statutes. We believe the regulation portion of Ohio’s statute falls in the moderate to strong range of regulation compared to other states. Ohio’s statute is strong in the area of required verbal disclosures, written disclosures required to evidence transactions and fair cancellation rights.

Surrounding state comparison (LSC)

Telephone Solicitor						
	Ohio	Indiana	Kentucky	Michigan	Pennsylvania	West Virginia
License required?	Yes, registration with Attorney General (<i>R.C. 4719.02 to 4719.04; O.A.C. 109:4-6-04 and 109:4-6-05</i>)	No, generally, but telephone solicitations are regulated by statute (<i>Ind. Code Ann. Title 24, Article 4.7</i>) Registration with Attorney General is required if solicitor will make a specified type of misleading statement in a solicitation (<i>Ind. Code Ann. 24-5-12-1 to 24-5-12-15</i>)	No, generally, for individuals but companies and telephone solicitations regulated by statute and rule (<i>Ky. Rev. Stat. Ann. 367.46971; 40 Ky. Admin. Regs. Chapter 2</i>) Permit from Attorney General is required if solicitor uses automated calling equipment (<i>Ky. Rev. Stat. Ann. 367.469; 40 Ky. Admin. Regs. 2:040</i>)	No, generally, but telephone solicitations regulated by statute (<i>Mich. Comp. Laws 445.111 to 445.117</i>)	Yes, registration with Attorney General (<i>73 Pa. Cons. Stat. 2243 and 2244</i>)	Yes, registration with Department of Tax and Revenue (<i>W. Va. Code Ann. 46A-6F-301 and 46A-6F-302; W. Va. Code R. 119-301-2</i>)
Education or training	No	No	No	N/A	No	No
Experience	No	No	No	N/A	No	No

Telephone Solicitor						
	Ohio	Indiana	Kentucky	Michigan	Pennsylvania	West Virginia
Exam	No	No	No	N/A	No	No
Continuing education	No	No	No	N/A	No	No
Initial licensure fee	\$250, also bond of \$50,000	\$50	None specified, but bond of \$10,000	N/A	\$500, also bond of \$50,000	\$250 (or \$200 if registration done through website), also bond of \$300,000 or \$500,000 (bond is for three years)
License duration	One year	One year	One year	N/A	Two years	One year
Renewal fee	\$250, also bond of \$50,000	\$50	None specified, but bond of \$10,000	N/A	\$500, also bond of \$50,000	\$250 (or \$200 if registration done through website), also bond of \$300,000 or \$500,000 (bond is for three years)