

Connecticut State Board of Accountancy

April Minutes

Thursday, April 4, 2013 – 8:30 A.M.

Teleconference Deputy Secretary's Office

30 Trinity St., Hartford, CT 06106

CALL IN PHONE NUMBER – (517) 966-4250 PASSCODE 43384273

State Board of Accountancy Phone Number - 860-509-6179

sboa@ct.gov

Chairman Thomas F. Reynolds called the meeting to order at 08:30 A.M. via telephone conference.

PRESENT VIA TELEPHONE:

Thomas F. Reynolds, CPA, Chairman

Richard L. Sturdevant

Leonard M. Romaniello, Jr., CPA, CITP, CFE, MST – Left the meeting at 9:34 A.M.

Michael Weinshel, CPA

Martha S. Triplett, Esq.

Richard H. Gesseck, CPA

Lee R. Schlesinger

James S. Ciarcia

Philip J. DeCaprio, Jr., CPA/ABV/CFF, CR/FA. CVA. DABFA

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Diane Steir, Interim Manager

Sonia Worrell Asare, Legal Counsel

Stephanie Sheff, Processing Technician

Constance Sakyi, Paralegal

OTHERS PRESENT VIA TELEPHONE:

Art Renner, Executive Director, CT Society of CPA

Noelle Taddei, CPA, CT Society of CPA

OTHERS PRESENT

Leonard Belzer

ACTION REQUIRED - Approve Minutes of March 7, 2013 Board Meeting:

Mr. Weinshel made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Sturdevant seconded the motion. All present Board Members voted in favor.

ACTION REQUIRED – To approve 2013 Board Meeting Dates

Mr. Weinshel made a motion to approve the proposed meeting dates for 2013 Board Meetings. Mr. Sturdevant seconded the motion. All present Board Members voted in favor.

EXAM AND LICENSING

Review of firm permits for approval.

- **Debra A. Kahraman** - Application for Initial Certificate and Initial License; government accounting experience. Mr. Weinshel made a motion to approve. Mr. DeCaprio seconded the motion. All present Board Members voted in favor.

- **Jodi Marie Sacco** - Application for Initial Certificate and Initial License; public and industry accounting experience. Mr. Weinshel made a motion to table the matter for next Board meeting as Board members requested more information regarding applicant's experience. Ms. Triplett seconded the motion. All Board Members present voted in favor.
- **Michael J. Dono** – Application for Initial Certificate and Initial License; public and industry accounting experience. Mr. Decaprio made a motion to approve the application. Mr. Weinshel seconded the motion. All Board Members present voted in favor.
- **Stacey A. Curran** - Application for Initial Certificate and Initial License; industry accounting experience. Mr. Weinshel made a motion to table the matter for the next Board meeting, requesting additional information from applicant. Mr. Sturdevant seconded the motion. All Board Members present voted in favor.
- **James Chapman**- Application for Initial Certificate and Initial License: public and government experience, “no” checked off on page 4 of public accounting experience. Board members had questions about the length of experience on the application. Mr. Schlesinger made a motion to table the matter for the next Board meeting, requesting additional information from applicant. Ms. Triplett seconded the motion. All Board Members present voted in favor.
- **Shaun Cummings** - Application for Initial Certificate and Initial License; industry accounting experience. Mr. Weinshel made a motion to approve. Mr. Romaniello seconded the motion. All present Board Members voted in favor.

PCAOB Inspection Reports Received – member comment on review

- Review date February 20, 2013 Report on **Eide Bailly LLP**
Mayer Hoffman McCann P.C.
KPMG LLP
Deloitte & Touche LLP
Ernst & Young
Raich Ende Malter & Co. LLP

OTHER BUSINESS

Enforcement Cases:

- **2013-7 Karun Harold;** Case was withdrawn.
- **2011079-3709 Moker, Laura Kulas;** Anonymous; Allegation: embezzlement of funds. Substantiated violations: None. Mr. Weinshel made a motion to dismiss. Mr. Schlesinger seconded the motion. All present Board Members voted in favor.
- **2013-5 & 2013-8 Abramowitz, Roy A.;** (Anonymous) and Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (PCAOB); Allegation; engaging in the unauthorized practice of accountancy, false and misleading advertisement, unauthorized use of the CPA title; failure to obtain a firm permit; and failure to obtain a firm license. Substantiated violations: None. Mr. Ciarcia made a motion to dismiss. Mr. Sturdevant seconded the motion. All present Board Members voted in favor.

- **2011077-3706 Buzzeo, Michael V.;** State Board of Accountancy; Allegations: Failure to renew license and permit in a timely manner in 2011. Substantiated violations: None. Mr. Weinshel made a motion to dismiss. Mr. DeCaprio seconded the motion. All present Board Members voted in favor.
- **2011060-3682 Koennecke, Glenn P.;** State Board of Accountancy; Allegations: failure to renew license in timely manner in 2011. Substantiated violations: None. Respondent intended not to renew, because work obligations changed. Mr. Weinshel made a motion to dismiss. Mr. DeCaprio seconded the motion. All present Board Members voted in favor.
- **2011094-3788 Landau, David;** NYC Fraud Group Anonymous; Allegation; lack of independence, and engaging in acts reflecting adversely on the profession of public accountancy. Substantiated violations: None. Mr. DeCaprio made a motion to dismiss. Ms. Triplett seconded the motion. All present Board Members voted in favor.
- **Recommending Settlement:**
2012-103767 Strazza, Steven J.; Steve Berko. Matter previously tabled for further Board review. Allegations: failure to return client records, fraud in the practice of public accountancy, improper filing of tax returns, fraud, lack of independence, and incompetence in preparing tax returns. Substantiated violations: Incompetence in preparing tax returns and improper filing of tax returns. Mr. Decaprio made a motion to settle for 4 hours ethics courses, 4 hours accounting courses and \$500 in civil penalties. Mr. Ciarcia seconded the motion. Mr. Weinshel recused himself. All present Board Members voted in favor.
- **2012-103779 Financial Directions, Inc.;** CT Board of Accountancy. Matter previously tabled for further Board review. Allegations: failure to obtain a firm permit, engaging the unauthorized practice of public accountancy, including issuing compilation reports with financial statements and footnotes for businesses; and failure to undergo peer reviews. Substantiated violations: Failure to obtain a firm permit, engaging the unauthorized practice of public accountancy, including issuing compilation reports with financial statements and footnotes for businesses; and failure to undergo peer reviews. Board members recommended that Respondent cease and desist issuance of compilations; recall all compilation statements issued in the past two years; provide copies of all compilations letters issued in the past two years; civil penalties in the amount of \$1,200.00; and submit a list of all reports issued in the last two years. Ms. Triplett made a motion to approve settlement. Mr. Ciarcia seconded the motion. Mr. Weinshel recused himself. All present Board Members voted in favor.
- **2011063-3685 Maida & Maida, CPA P.C.;** State Board of Accountancy; Allegation; failure to report peer reviews for the years 2008 – 2010. Substantiated violations: Failure to report peer reviews for the years 2008 – 2010. Respondent admits to failure to submit. Mr. Weinshel made a motion to settle the matter for \$1800. Mr. Schlesinger seconded the motion. Mr. Weinshel amended the motion to settle the matter for \$600 in civil penalties. Mr. Schlesinger seconded the amended motion. All present Board Members voted in favor.
- **2011058-3680 Doherty Beals & Banks PC;** State Board of Accountancy; Allegations: failure to renew firm permit in a timely manner in 2011. Substantiated violations: Failure to renew firm permit in a timely manner in 2011. Mr. Schlesinger made a motion to settle the matter for \$250.00 in civil penalties. Mr. Sturdevant seconded the motion. All present Board Members voted in favor.

- **2012-103784 Maher, Michael;** Anonymous: Allegations: failure to obtain a Connecticut license to practice public accountancy, failure to obtain a Connecticut firm permit; false and misleading advertisement, failure to undergo peer reviews, and unauthorized use of CPA title. Substantiated violations: Failure to obtain a Connecticut license to practice public accountancy, failure to obtain a Connecticut firm permit; false and misleading advertisement. Mr. Weinshel made a motion to table the matter for additional information at the next Board meeting. Mr. Schlesinger seconded the motion. All present Board Members voted in favor.

OTHER

PUBLIC COMMENT

Opportunity for members of the public to address the Board.

- 201210-3764 Belzer, Leonard; C.J. Mozzochi, PH.D.- Mr. Belzer attended the meeting to speak to the Board regarding his settlement of \$1,200.00. He requested a reduction of the civil penalties. Ms. Triplett made a motion to affirm the settlement. Mr. Weinshel seconded the motion. All present Board Members voted in favor.
- Mr. Renner, Executive Director of the CT Society of CPA, invited the Board members to the annual meeting of the CT Society of CPA on May 13th, 2013 and the Certificate Awards Ceremony on June 6, 2013 at the Aqua Turf Club, in Plantsville, CT.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:17 A.M. was made by Mr. Reynolds and was seconded by Mr. Weinshel. All present voted in favor.

Next scheduled meeting:

- Thursday, May 2, 2013- 8:30 AM – 30 Trinity Street, 3rd Floor, Hartford, CT