Important December Deadlines

In November, the Board notified the administrative office of all registered CPA firms that each firm must renew its registration and provide peer review compliance information (if applicable) online through the Board’s website, www.nccpaboard.gov, by December 31, 2013.

The link for the renewal is on the right-hand side of the home page under the heading, “How Do I.”

For additional information regarding the online firm renewal/peer review compliance process, please see the November issue of the Activity Review.

If a CPA firm fails to comply with any part of 21 NCAC 08J, Renewals and Registrations, or 21 NCAC 08M, Peer Review Program, the Board may take disciplinary action against the CPA firm’s members as specified in 21 NCAC 08J.0111 and 21 NCAC 08M.0106.

Such action may include a civil penalty assessed against each CPA firm member’s CPA certificate.

In addition, December 31, 2013, is the date by which active CPAs must complete the annual CPE requirement to be eligible for certificate renewal for the 2014-2015 license year.

All active licensees must complete a two-hour regulatory or behavioral ethics course offered by a sponsor registered with this Board or listed on the National Registry of CPE Sponsors (www.learningmarket.org) that is maintained by the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA).

A non-resident licensee may satisfy the ethics CPE requirement by completing the ethics requirement in the jurisdiction in which he or she is licensed and works or resides.

If there is no ethics CPE requirement in the jurisdiction in which the individual is licensed and resides or works, he or she must complete a course that meets the Board’s criteria for ethics CPE courses.

For specific information on the annual CPE requirement, please review 21 NCAC 08G, Continuing Professional Education (CPE).

If a CPA fails to complete the CPE requirement on or before December 31, 2013, but completes the required CPE by June 30, 2014, the Board may issue a Letter of Warning to the licensee for the first such failure within a five (5) calendar year period.

For the second such failure within a five (5) calendar year period, the Board may deny the renewal of the CPA’s certificate for a period of not less than 30 days and until the CPA meets the reinstatement requirements set forth in 21 NCAC 08J.0106.

If you have questions about firm renewal, peer review compliance, or the CPE requirement, please contact Cammie Emery by email at cemery@nccpaboard.gov or by phone at (919) 733-1423. You may also contact Buck Winslow by email at buckw@nccpaboard.gov or by phone at (919) 733-1421.

New NC-4 Required

As a result of the recent tax reform package which is effective for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2014, taxpayers may no longer claim a personal exemption for themselves, their spouse, children, or any other qualifying dependents.

Additionally, many deductions and tax credits that impact North Carolina withholding tax are no longer available for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2014.

As a result of this Act, every employer must have all employees provide a new Employee’s Withholding Allowance Certificate, either Form NC-4 EZ or Form NC-4.

The new form must be completed by the employee and provided to the employer so the correct amount of State income tax is withheld for any payment periods beginning on or after January 1, 2014.

For more information, review the information on the NC Department of Revenue website, www.dornc.com.
Disciplinary Actions

**James E. Avent, Jr., #16850**  
**James E. Avent, Jr., CPA**  
**Greensboro, NC**  
**09/23/2013**

**THIS CAUSE**, coming before the North Carolina State Board of CPA Examiners (“Board”) at its offices at 1101 Oberlin Road, Raleigh, Wake County, North Carolina, with a quorum present. Pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. §150B-41, the Board and Respondents stipulate to the following:

1. Respondent James E. Avent, Jr. (hereinafter “Respondent Avent”) is the holder of North Carolina certificate number 16850 as a Certified Public Accountant.
2. Respondent James E. Avent, Jr., CPA (hereinafter “Respondent Firm”), is a registered certified public accounting firm in North Carolina. Respondent Avent is the sole owner of Respondent Firm and has been indistinguishably responsible for the conduct of Respondent Firm.
3. In September of 2011, the Internal Revenue Service (“IRS”) filed tax liens against Respondents for failure to insure payment of 940 and 941 taxes totaling $14,285.01. Respondents had timely filed all 940 and 941 tax forms, but had not paid all taxes due in full at the time of filing.
4. By April 23, 2012, Respondents paid all of the delinquent taxes. All tax liens were released on May 11, 2012.
5. Respondents wish to resolve these matters by consent and agree that the Board staff and counsel may discuss this Consent Order with the Board ex parte, whether or not the Board accepts this Consent Order as written. Respondents understand and agree that this Consent Order is subject to review and approval by the Board and is not effective until approved by the Board at a duly constituted Board Meeting.

**BASIS UPON THE FOREGOING**, the Board makes the following Conclusions of Law:

1. Respondents are subject to the provisions of Chapter 93 of the North Carolina General Statutes and Title 21, Chapter 08 of the North Carolina Administrative Code, including the Rules of Professional Ethics and Conduct promulgated and adopted therein by the Board.
2. Respondents’ actions as set out above constitute violations of 21 NCAC 08N .0201, .0203(a), and .0207.
3. Per N.C. Gen. Stat. §93-12(9) and also by virtue of Respondents’ consent to this order, Respondents are subject to the discipline set forth below.

**BASIS UPON THE FOREGOING** and in lieu of further proceedings, the Board and Respondents agree to the following Order:

1. Respondent Avent voluntarily surrenders his North Carolina CPA certificate without the ability to apply for reissuance, reinstatement, or modification of discipline. As such, Respondent Avent shall not offer or render services as a CPA or otherwise trade upon or use the CPA title in this State whether through CPA mobility provisions or substantial equivalency practice privileges or in any other manner.
2. Respondent Firm, James E. Avent, Jr., CPA, voluntarily surrenders its firm registration.
3. Respondents waive any rights, privileges, or protections that may be afforded by 21 NCAC 08J .0106, .08J .0104, or N.C. Gen. Stat. §93-10.

Michael H. Lippman, #13596  
**Potomac, MD**  
**09/23/2013**

**THIS CAUSE**, coming before the North Carolina State Board of CPA Examiners (“Board”) at its offices at 1101 Oberlin Road, Raleigh, Wake County, North Carolina, with a quorum present. Pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. §150B-41, the Board and Respondent stipulate to the following Findings of Fact:

1. Michael Lippman (“Respondent”) is the holder of North Carolina certificate number 13596 as a Certified Public Accountant.
2. Beginning in 1998, Respondent was the National Partner in Charge of Na-
including the Rules of Professional Ethics and Conduct promulgated and adopted therein by the Board (“Board Rules”).

2. The aforementioned actions by members of KPMG’s Washington National Tax Practice constitute violations of 21 NCAC 08N .0201, .0202(a), .0203(a) and .0212(2). Those violations are attributable to Respondent by virtue of 21 NCAC 08N .0103, which makes Respondent responsible for assuring compliance by anyone who is his partner or who is supervised by him.

3. Per N.C. Gen. Stat. §93-12(9) and also by virtue of Respondent’s consent to this order, Respondent is subject to the discipline set forth below.

**BASED ON THE FOREGOING** and in lieu of further proceedings, the Board and Respondent agree to the following Order:

1. The Certified Public Accountant certificate issued to Respondent, Michael Lippman, is suspended for five years. That suspension is stayed. The stay may be lifted in the event the Board proves Respondent has violated any provision of the Accountancy Act or Board Rules.

2. Respondent shall remit, with this signed Order, a one thousand dollar ($1,000.00) civil penalty.

3. Respondent shall reimburse the Board for the administrative costs incurred by the Board in its investigation of this matter. Those administrative costs must be remitted to the Board with this signed Order.

4. **BASED UPON THE FOREGOING**, the Board makes the following Conclusions of Law:

   1. Respondent is subject to the provisions of Chapter 93 of the North Carolina General Statutes and Title 21, Chapter 08 of the North Carolina Administrative Code, including the Rules of Professional Ethics and Conduct promulgated and adopted therein by the Board.

   2. **Hovis continued on page 4**

   3. Per N.C. Gen. Stat. §93-12(9) and also by virtue of Respondent’s consent to this order, Respondent is subject to the discipline set forth below.

   **BASED ON THE FOREGOING** and in lieu of further proceedings, the Board and Respondent agree to the following Order:

   **Hovis continued on page 4**
### Reclassifications

#### Reinstatements
- **11/18/13** Deborah McQuitter Ally, #18620  
  Gastonia, NC
- **11/18/13** Susan Denise Balk, #33334  
  Charlotte, NC
- **11/18/13** Beverly Carroll Eckard, #32700  
  Summerfield, NC
- **11/18/13** James Gallatin Mackey, III, #22187  
  Charlotte, NC
- **11/18/13** Gina Eastridge Reynolds #32540  
  Chapel Hill, NC
- **11/18/13** Sandra Blanks Simpson, #15151  
  Holly Springs, NC
- **11/18/13** Elizabeth Ann Staker, #24297  
  Cary, NC
- **11/18/13** David Neal Stoessel, #12468  
  Matthews, NC

#### Reissuance
- **11/18/13** Brenda Love Armstrong, #20155  
  Concord, NC
- **11/18/13** Emma Kaye Atkinson, #28072  
  Beulaville, NC
- **11/18/13** Jamesine Marsden Killorin, #33874  
  Burlington, NC
- **11/18/13** Robert Anthony LaTourette, #36251  
  Charlotte, NC

#### Retired
- Retired, when used to refer to the status of a person, describes one possessing a North Carolina certificate of qualification who verifies to the Board that the applicant does not receive or intend to receive in the future any earned compensation for current personal services in any job whatsoever and will not return to active status. However, retired status does not preclude volunteer services for which the retired CPA receives no direct or indirect compensation so long as the retired CPA does not sign any documents, related to such services, as a CPA [21 NCAC 08A .0301(b)(32)].

#### Inactive
- "Inactive," when used to refer to the status of a person, describes one who has requested inactive status and been approved by the Board and who does not use the title “certified public accountant” nor does he or she allow anyone to refer to him or her as a “certified public accountant,” and neither he nor she nor anyone else refers to him or her in any representation as described in 21 NCAC 08A .0308(b) [21 NCAC 08A .0301(b)(20)].

### Hovis continued from page 3

1. Respondent’s CPA certificate shall be suspended for two (2) years; however, said suspension shall be stayed. If the Respondent fails to timely comply with any and all terms of this Order, the stay of the suspension referenced shall be lifted.

2. Respondent shall remit, with this signed Order, a one thousand dollar ($1,000.00) civil penalty.

3. Respondent shall reimburse the Board seven thousand five hundred dollars ($7,500.00) for the administrative costs incurred by the Board in its investigation of this matter. Those costs must be remitted to the Board no later than six (6) months from the date this Order is approved by the Board.

4. Respondent must provide the Board, over the next two (2) years, with proof that the quarterly payroll obligations for the Firm have been timely filed and paid.

William T. Lovette, III, #30505  
Greensboro, NC  
10/21/2013

THIS CAUSE, coming before the North Carolina State Board of CPA Examiners (“Board”) at its offices at 1101 Oberlin Road, Raleigh, Wake County, North Carolina, with a quorum present. Pursuant to N. C. Gen. Stat. §150B-41, the Board and Respondent stipulate to the following:

1. William T. Lovette, III (hereinafter “Respondent”), is the holder of North Carolina certificate number 30505 as a Certified Public Accountant.

2. Prior to submitting his initial exam application on August 1, 2000, Respondent had been charged and convicted on a number of misdemeanor charges. He failed to disclose any of those charges or convictions on his initial exam application.


4. On his application for licensure submitted to the Board on September 12, 2003, Respondent failed to report those charges and convictions, and additional charges.
5. Subsequent to licensure, Respondent was charged and convicted of four (4) additional misdemeanors. He did not make any disclosures of these four (4) additional misdemeanors in his renewals for 2007, 2010, and 2013.
6. Many of the charges and convictions arose from the Respondent’s repeated drinking and driving.
7. Respondent has admitted that he suffers from the disease of alcoholism and is currently seeking treatment.
8. Respondent wishes to resolve this matter by consent and agrees that the Board staff and counsel may discuss this Consent Order with the Board ex parte, whether or not the Board accepts this Consent Order as written. Respondent understands and agrees that this Consent Order is subject to review and approval by the Board and is not effective until approved by the Board at a duly constituted Board Meeting.

BASED UPON THE FOREGOING, the Board makes the following Conclusions of Law:

1. Respondent is subject to the provisions of Chapter 93 of the North Carolina General Statutes and Title 21, Chapter 08 of the North Carolina Administrative Code, including the Rules of Professional Ethics and Conduct promulgated and adopted therein by the Board.
2. Respondent’s actions as set out above constitute violations of 21 NCAC 08N .0201(a), .0202(a), .0202(b)(3), .0203 and .0208.
3. Per N.C. Gen. Stat. §93-12(9), and also by virtue of Respondent’s consent to this order, Respondent is subject to the discipline set forth below.

BASED ON THE FOREGOING and in lieu of further proceedings, the Board and Respondent agree to the following Order:
1. The Certified Public Accountant certificate issued to Respondent, William T. Lovette, III, is suspended for five years. That suspension is stayed. The stay will be lifted in the event that Respondent violates any provision of this Order, subject to the Respondent’s opportunity to show cause why the stay should not be lifted.
2. Respondent shall remit, with this signed Order, a one thousand dollar ($1,000.00) civil penalty.
3. Respondent shall actively participate in a substance abuse rehabilitation program, such as Alcoholics Anonymous, and provide the Board, on a quarterly basis, with proof from the drug rehabilitation program of Respondent’s active attendance or participation in that program.
4. Respondent shall obtain and provide proof, on a quarterly basis, from a substance testing provider that Respondent has received a clean report from the provider. The testing must be for drugs and alcohol. The provider must be pre-approved by Board staff and the Board staff will randomly request a drug test from the Respondent during the term of the stayed suspension. The Respondent must comply by providing a clean report from the provider within seven (7) days of the request. All testing is at the Respondent’s cost.

Albert Jack Jacobson, #934
Greensboro, NC 08/19/2013

THIS MATTER having come before the Board with a quorum present, and having been consented to by the Respondent, the Board finds and orders as follows:
1. Albert Jack Jacobson (hereinafter “Mr. Jacobson”) is the holder of a certificate as a Certified Public Accountant in North Carolina.
2. Mr. Jacobson failed to timely file the annual firm registration for Albert J. Jacobson, CPA, in accordance with provisions as required by N.C. Gen. Stat. §93-12(7b) and 21 NCAC 08J .0108 (b) and (g), and 08N .0213.
3. Mr. Jacobson subsequently renewed his firm registration, which was received by the Board on February 11, 2013, less than sixty (60) days from the annual firm registration date.

4. Pursuant to 21 NCAC 08J .0111(1), because Mr. Jacobson’s infraction was for a period of less than 60 days, the appropriate penalty is $100.00.
5. Mr. Jacobson has paid his civil penalty and consents to the entry of this Order and has waived any right to a hearing.
6. The Board members present, representing a quorum of the Board, have unanimously decided to accept Mr. Jacobson’s payment as full resolution of the aforementioned rules violation.

Ellen M. McMillan, #18875
Jacksonville, NC 08/19/2013

THIS MATTER having come before the Board with a quorum present, and having been consented to by the Respondent, the Board finds and orders as follows:
1. Ellen M. McMillan (hereinafter “Ms. McMillan”) is the holder of a certificate as a Certified Public Accountant in North Carolina.
2. Ms. McMillan failed to timely file the annual firm registration for Ellen M. McMillan, CPA, in accordance with provisions as required by N. C. Gen. Stat. §93-12(7b) and 21 NCAC 08J .0108 (b) and (g), and 08N .0213.
3. Ms. McMillan subsequently renewed her firm registration, which was received by the Board on February 26, 2013, less than sixty (60) days from the annual firm registration date.

4. Pursuant to 21 NCAC 08J .0111(1), because Ms. McMillan’s infraction was for a period of less than 60 days, the appropriate penalty is $100.00.
5. Ms. McMillan has paid her civil penalty and consents to the entry of this Order and has waived any right to a hearing.
6. The Board members present, representing a quorum of the Board, have unanimously decided to accept Ms. McMillan’s payment as full resolution of the aforementioned rules violation.

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Certificates Issued

At its November 18, 2013, meeting, the Board approved the following applicants for licensure as North Carolina CPAs:

David William Almonte
Abdullah M. Alnwairi
Kari Ann Barrack
Peter Constantine Bitounis
Joshua Michael Boos
Albert Michael Boulus
Michael Brandon Branscome
Teare Monic Brewington
Steven Douglas Bruno
David Lee Bublick
William Edward Callis, III
Ryan Patrick William Chadwell
Andrew Robert Chaney
Stacey Lynn Chicelli
Joseph Coco
Brady Lee Combs
Elizabeth Anne Daniel
Jonathan Burnette Dean
Grant Matthews Dover
Brandi Overstreet Dupuis
Joseph Daniel Egbers
Suzanne Dunlow Evans
Jeffery Alan Frick
Sean B. Gallagher
Matthew Addison Godfrey
Philip Charles Gooding
Graig Sean Harr
Sarah Elyse Head
Jeremy Brian Helms
Robin Denise Hewett
Elise Marilei Hobbs
Thomas North Howard
Daniel Reed Hudson
Anna Carr Ivey
Jordan Vassar McRae Jernigan
Nicole Denise Jones
David Lee Joyner
David Frank Kame
Kathy Elizabeth King
Pieter Volkert Kreuk
Ka Ying Li
Tyler Oliver Lindsey
Justin Patrick Linville
Richard Thomas Livingston
Xingjie Lu
Matthew James Lynch
Fahad Nabeel Majeed
Alan Charles McBrayer
Matthew Patrick McDowell
Dawn Porter Messinger
Tanya Rae Miller
Maaike Gabrielle Mulders
Aastha Jitendriya Naik
Elliot Bradford Nickles
Rihen Alberto Nieto
Carroll Dean Oglesby, III
Lida Taylor Pace
Jennifer Blane Parker
Amanda Stone Patterson
Nathan Bill Phillips
Rebekah Armistead Poirier
Benjamin Gregg Pokorney
Jessica Dawn Propps
Jared Daniel Reynolds
Kathryn Wallick Riedl
Jonathan Chapman Riley
Stephanie Ward Rose
John Howard Ross, III
Christopher Ryan Schaffer
Sara Renee Shelp
Jeremy Robert Shreve
Sydney Lauren Smith
Matthew Edwin Spain
James Leland Spangler
Noel Matthew Swartz
Pamela Jetton Taylor
Robert Thomas Taylor
Samone Latrice Thomas
Edward Lawrence Thompson, III
Heather Anne Upham
James Maxwell Van Dorn
Timothy Francis Wade
Morgan Leigh Wallace
Cong Wang
Amanda Carrie Bruce Warren
Joel Nathan White
Michael David Wilson
Margaret Lankford Winn
Jonathan David Wood
Simon Ho-On Wu
Richard Daren Yan
Matthew Yap
Joanne Zach

Comments or Questions about the Activity Review

Do you have a comment or question about information published in the Activity Review? The Board welcomes your comments and suggestions. Contact us by email at lhearne@nccpaboard.gov.

Check Your CPE Carry-Forward Online

Not sure how many carryforward CPE hours you have? You can find out with a quick visit to the Board’s website, www.nccpaboard.gov.

To verify your hours, use the “Licensee Search” function of the website to search for yourself using your name or certificate number.

After your record is displayed, click on the “details” link. The number of CPE carryforward hours will be displayed below your address and telephone number.

If there is a discrepancy in the number of carryforward hours, please contact Cammie Emery at cemery@nccpaboard.gov so that the hours can be verified and if necessary, adjusted.
# 2014 Board Calendar

*(dates and locations subject to change)*

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 1</td>
<td>Office Closed - New Year’s Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 20</td>
<td>Office Closed - Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Day</td>
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<td>January 27</td>
<td>Board Meeting - Raleigh</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 31</td>
<td>Final Deadline for Firm Renewal &amp; Peer Review Compliance Info</td>
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<tr>
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<td>March</td>
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<td>April 18</td>
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<td>April 22</td>
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<td>May 22</td>
<td>Board Meeting - Raleigh</td>
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<td>May 26</td>
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<td>July 21</td>
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<td>October 23</td>
<td>Board Meeting - Raleigh</td>
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<td>Online Firm Renewal/Peer Review Compliance Available</td>
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<td>November 11</td>
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<td>November 17</td>
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<td>December 15</td>
<td>Board Meeting - Raleigh</td>
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<td>December 24-26</td>
<td>Office Closed - Christmas</td>
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<td>December 31</td>
<td>Firm Renewal/Peer Review Compliance Info Due</td>
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Notice of Address Change

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Mail form to: PO Box 12827, Raleigh, NC 27605
Fax form to: (919) 733-4209

Pursuant to 21 NCAC 08J .0107, all certificate holders and CPA firms must notify the Board in writing within 30 days of any change in address or business location.