MEMBERS ATTENDING: Gary R. Massey, CPA, President; Bernita W. Demery, CPA, Vice President; Maria M. Lynch, Esq, Secretary-Treasurer; Jodi K. Kruse, CPA; D. Michael (Mickey) Payseur, CPA; and Jennifer Van Zant, Esq.

STAFF ATTENDING: David R. Nance, CPA, Executive Director; S. Lynne Sanders, CPA, Deputy Director; Frank Trainor, Esq., Staff Attorney; Lisa Hearne-Bogle, Communications Officer; and Noel L. Allen, Esq., Legal Counsel.

GUESTS: Patricia Hartman, Director of Client Services, NASBA; Sharon Bryson, CEO, NCACPA; Robert Broome, Director of Advocacy, NCACPA; Scott Showalter, Director, Jenkins Master of Accounting Program, NCSU; Dr. Roby Sawyers, Director of Undergraduate Programs, Department of Accounting, NCSU; Kelly Hardy, Associate Director, Career Services and Student Programs, Jenkins Master of Accounting Program, NCSU; Jay Arrington, Director of Admissions, Jenkins Master of Accounting Program; Jessica Moran, Assistant Director of Academic Programs, Poole College of Management, NCSU; Master of Accountancy and Bachelor of Science in Accounting students; and David Ratelade, Raleigh Police Department.

CALL TO ORDER: Mr. Massey called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. in Room 3220, Nelson Hall, 2801 Founders Drive, Raleigh, NC.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST: Ms. Van Zant recused herself from two items on the Professional Standards Committee agenda; the recusals are indicated in the Committee report. Ms. Demery recused herself from an item on the Professional Education and Applications agenda; the Committee report notes the recusal.

AGENDA: Mr. Massey added Item VI-D, Updates from Board President, to the agenda. Ms. Kruse moved, and Ms. Lynch seconded the motion to approve the agenda as amended. The motion passed with six (6) affirmative votes and zero (0) negative votes.

MINUTES: Ms. Demery moved, and Ms. Kruse seconded the motion to approve the August 29, 2022, meeting minutes as submitted. The motion passed with six (6) affirmative votes and zero (0) negative votes.

FINANCIAL AND BUDGETARY ITEMS: Ms. Demery moved, and Mr. Payseur seconded the motion to approve the July 2022 financial statements as submitted. The motion passed with six (6) affirmative votes and zero (0) negative votes.
LEGISLATIVE AND RULEMAKING ITEMS: Ms. Kruse moved, and Ms. Demery seconded the motion authorizing the Executive Staff to proceed with rulemaking. Motion passed with six (6) affirmative votes and zero (0) negative votes.

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION ITEMS: Ms. Van Zant moved, and Ms. Demery seconded the motion to approve the response to the AICPA Exposure Draft, *Maintaining the Relevance of the Uniform CPA Examination: Aligning the Exam with the CPA Evolution Licensure Model* (Appendix I). The motion passed with six (6) affirmative votes and zero (0) negative votes.

Mr. Massey stated that he, Mr. Nance, and Ms. Sanders participated in the NASBA Middle-Atlantic Region conference call on September 20, 2022

STATE AND LOCAL ORGANIZATION ITEMS: Mr. Massey stated that the NCACPA invited the Board to participate in its 83rd Annual Symposium on November 14-16, 2022, in Greensboro. Mr. Massey stated that he would be available to participate. Ms. Demery, Ms. Van Zant, and Mr. Payseur volunteered to serve as panelists representing the Board.

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMITTEE REPORT: The Board approved with six (6) affirmative votes and zero (0) negative votes the following recommendations of the Committee as presented by Ms. Van Zant.

Case No. C2022077 - Catherine Michelle Kelly - Approve the signed Consent Order (Appendix II).

Case No. C2022084 - Joy M. Coleman Brannen - Approve the signed Consent Order (Appendix III).

Case No. C2022149 - Close the case without prejudice with a Letter of Warning and an $11,000 administrative penalty. Ms. Van Zant recused herself from this matter.

Case No. C2022186 - Close the case without prejudice. Ms. Van Zant recused herself from this matter.

Case Nos. C2021212-1, C2021212-2, C2021212-3, and C2021212-4 - Close the cases without prejudice with a Letter of Warning to the Respondent Firm.

Case Nos. C2022213-1 and C2022213-2 - Close the cases without prejudice with a Letter of Warning.

Case No. C2022138 - Close the case without prejudice.

Case No. C2022144 - Close the case without prejudice.

Case No. C2022164 - Close the case without prejudice.
Case No. C2022192 - Close the case without prejudice.

Case No. C2022193 - Close the case without prejudice with a Letter of Warning.

Ms. Van Zant reported that the Committee provided guidance on one (1) case.

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION AND APPLICATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT: The Board approved with six (6) affirmative votes and zero (0) negative votes the following recommendations of the Committee as presented by Ms. Demery.

Transfer of Uniform CPA Exam Grades - Approve the following applications for the transfer of Uniform CPA Exam grades:

Jacob Richard Eno
Kathryn Rose Ferraguti
Maria Lou Lindstrom
Miles Kenner Weiss

Original CPA Certificate Applications - Approve the following applications for original CPA certification:

Stephanie Antonette Alsay
Alec Joseph Altman
Madison Couch Bencini
Christopher David Buckner
Allyson Neeley Davis
Bridget Elaine Demery
Donald Kent DeWoody III
Jacob Richard Eno
Kathryn Rose Ferraguti
Samantha Brook Frink
Hope Alexis Gibson
Monica Elizabeth Glaescher
Jacquelynn Marie Huckert
Mekeia D. Jenkins
Maria Lou Lindstrom

Brianne Marie Lockee
Jessica Nicole MacConnie
Jonathan Labi Malote
Henson Haivuong Nguyen
Jana Jenson Reeve
Casey Elizabeth Snodgrass
Monica Dalston Sorensen
Hudson Lawson Sowders
Andrew Conner Takes
Christopher MacNeal Thomas
Caleb Webel Wagner
Katelyn Grace Ellen Weiss
Miles Kenner Weiss
Jacob Coleman Wemyss
Tadeusz James Zmarzly

Ms. Demery recused herself from the vote on approving the original certificate application submitted by Bridget Demery.

Reciprocal CPA Certificate Applications - Approve the following application for reciprocal CPA certification:

Neekis Don Hammond
Temporary Permits - Approve the following temporary permits approved by the Executive Director:

- Samuel Joseph Howard, T13384
- Erin Lynn Peden, T13385
- Nicholas Sampson Peden, T13386
- Lea Elizabeth Fegley, T13387
- Colleen Clare McDermott, T13388
- Michael Andrew Shamblin, T13389
- Jared Jay Mills, T13390
- Ebenezer Sampene, T13391
- Joseph David Kane, T13392
- Susan Marie Kinsey, T13393
- Bryan David Adams, T13394
- Logan James Hundley, T13395
- Samantha June Layo, T13396
- Marc Anthony Conrad Jackson, T13397
- Kevin Bradford Harriott, T13398
- Peter R. Colasanti, T13400
- Teresa Elaine Leyh, T13401
- Scott L. Meredith, T13426
- Jacqueline Ann Benzino, T13427
- Jonah Gray Gurley, T13428
- Roel Antonius Swinkels, T13429
- Jordan Matthew Barsanti, T13430
- Katie Marie Schea, T13431
- Steven Robert Amoroso, T13432
- Laura Ann Walker, T13433
- Taylor Ann Pelusi, T13434
- Scott Kenneth Wierschem, T13435
- Richard Trang, T13436
- Charles James Kolenik, T13437
- Mariia Zubach, T13438
- Xin Gu, T13439
- David Lauren Scouten, T13440

Reinstatements - Approve the applications for reinstatement of their CPA certificate submitted by the following individuals:

- Rebecca Jane Beilstein, #28200
- Justin Holt Cribb, #37334
- Litsa Nicole McKinnon, #29432

Reissuance of New Certificate - Approve the applications for reissuance of their CPA certificate submitted by the following individuals:

- William Henry Bunch, #14555
- Amanda Nicole Fontana, #41126
- Kenan A. Patel, #41928

Rescind CPE Letters of Warning - Approve rescinding the CPE Letters of Warning issued to the following individuals:

- David William Gora, #35284
- Marcus Spencer Hulbert, #45325
- Gary Wize, #37466

Uniform CPA Exam Applications - Approve the applications for the Uniform CPA Exam submitted by the following individuals:

- Erika Alandt
- Daniel Allwurden
- Julio Alvarez
- Jazmine Anderson
- Gardner Atkinson
- Nicholas Aycock
Eva Azmoudeh
Brian Baccaglini
James Badgett
Kellie Baker
Kathleen Baryenbruch
John Batten
Hannah Bayliff
Clara Blackstock
Bethany Blanke
Madison Bonello
Sarah Botts
Christian Brill
George Brown
Anna Byrd
William Byron
Anna Caldwell
Michele Calloway
Alyssa Carey
Sara Cauthen
Darby Cayson
Lacy Chesnutt
Karen Chilcott
Breelyn Clark
Shawna Clausen
Drew Coble
Spenser Collins
Nicole Colmenares
Kylie Conlon
Ceara Corbett
Patricia Costagliola
John Cox
John Craig
Eva Cruz Rivera
Turner Cunningham
Gabriel Davis
Nicholas DeMarco
Manan Desai
Benjamin Doby
Isabelle Dotlich
Kearsten Dozier
Alicia Driver
Drew Dubauskas
James Eldridge
Aaron Eller
Karlee Evancho
Rachel Evatt
Madison Ferguson
Cory Fidurko
Anna-Kelly Fink
Matthew Finney
Codey Flickinger
John Folck
Jared Foshee
Sarah Freeman
Kaitlyn Frey
John Gibson
Kelly Greene
Emily Greer
Nicholas Hagopian
Andrew Hall
Mohamed Hamed
Reese Hanshaw
Derick Hamed
Syun Hasebe
William Hensley
Anna Hergenrader
Pablo Hernandez
Delaney Hodnett
Stuart Holmes
Connor Hunt
Kathryn Ivancevich
Stacy James
Shanette Jenkins
Meghan Job
Juliana Jordan
Keyana Jordan
Barbara Joyner
Leigh Kagan
Jacob Kauffman
Jonathan Keller
Keri Kenkel
Ruth Kinyua
Ashlyn Kirby
William Knabe
Abraham Koroma
Brittney Kudla
Claire Kunkel
Edward Laiewski
Miscellaneous  - Approve a Uniform CPA Exam score extension request due to medical circumstances.
CPA Firm Registration - Approve the CPA firm registration application submitted by the following firm:

PYA, P.C.

EXECUTIVE STAFF AND LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT: The Board reviewed the July 2022 operational metrics and the August Executive Staff Report. Ms. Sanders told the Board the licensee survey concluded on September 21, 2022, and the Board would receive a summary at the October 24, 2022, meeting.

Ms. Demery moved, and Ms. Kruse seconded the motion to approve the proposed 2023 meeting dates (Appendix IV). Motion passed with six affirmative votes and zero (0) negative votes.

Mr. Massey thanked the faculty and staff of the Jenkins Master of Accounting Program and Poole College of Management for hosting the Board meeting and allowing the Board members to interact with students interested in the CPA profession.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Ms. Bryson spoke on various topics, including the CPA pipeline, the proposed Joint Task Force on Retired Status, CPA Evolution, and the NCACPA’s Accounting Educators’ Conference.

Mr. Trainor responded to Dr. Sawyers’ questions about the Board’s disciplinary process, the origin of cases, and the distribution of civil penalties paid by respondents.

ADJOURNMENT: Ms. Demery moved, and Ms. Lynch seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:31 a.m. The motion passed with six (6) affirmative votes and zero (0) negative votes.

Respectfully submitted:  Attested to by:

David R. Nance, CPA  Gary R. Massey, CPA
Executive Director
American Institute of Certified Public Accountants
220 Leigh Farm Road
Durham, North Carolina 27707-8110

The North Carolina State Board of CPA Examiners (Board) has reviewed the Exposure Draft, *Maintaining the Relevance of the Uniform CPA Examination -- Aligning the Exam with the CPA Evolution Licensure Model* prepared by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA). The draft outlines proposed changes to the 2024 CPA Exam, aligning the CPA Exam to the CPA Evolution licensure model. The core elements of the draft include the transition policy from the current CPA Exam to the new version of the CPA Exam and the Uniform CPA Examination Blueprints (Blueprints). The Board offers the following comments:

The Board was part of the deliberations related to the CPA Exam transition policy and agrees with the policy directives outlined in the draft. The policy identifies the alignment of the current core sections of AUD, FAR, and REG with the updated version of the CPA Exam and notes that three Discipline sections will replace the current BEC section on the new CPA Exam. While the transition policy is relatively straightforward, it is a significant change to the administration of the CPA Exam. This policy and its ramifications must be widely communicated to the candidate population to ensure their understanding of the upcoming changes and the impact on the candidate's testing requirements. The AICPA, the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA), State Boards of Accountancy, and other stakeholders will need to coordinate efforts to ensure the communications reach the candidates.

The updated Blueprints result from the recently completed practice analysis performed by the AICPA. The Blueprints realign the existing content of the current CPA Exam into the three Core Exam sections and the three Discipline sections as outlined in the CPA Evolution licensure model. The Core Exam sections appear to be more targeted testing of the content currently on the CPA Exam. In contrast, the Discipline sections are higher-level content specific to the chosen Discipline track. This distinction correlates with the areas of "specialization" currently seen in the profession. It also appears to connect with choices being made by candidates within the educational system now – choosing to focus on a financial reporting, tax, or information system track.

The Board notes that the Core Exam Blueprints appear to have the content necessary for the knowledge and skills required of a newly licensed CPA to protect the public interest. Technology and data analytics seem to have been integrated into the Core Exam sections, reflecting the increased role each plays in decision-making in today's business world. The Board did note that on page A10 (Audit), the content allocation for "Forming Conclusions and Reporting" is weighted at 10-20%. The representative task is identified as determining the appropriate form and content
of various reporting formats (audit, agreed-upon procedures, etc.). As newly licensed CPAs generally would not be expected to perform engagement finalization processes, the weighting of this category could be considered high.

The Board notes that the Discipline Exam Blueprints appear to have the content necessary for the knowledge and skills required of a newly licensed CPA to protect the public interest. The Discipline tracks of Business Analysis and Reporting (BAR), Information Systems and Controls (ISC), and Tax Compliance and Planning (TCP) provide for testing higher-level skills more specific to a candidate's knowledge area. This focus should allow candidates to better focus on their career track and focus their studies for the CPA Exam in that particular skill area.

Finally, the Board agrees that the draft Blueprints mirror the expectations established under the CPA Evolution model. The skillset of CPAs has always included data analysis, interpretation, and reporting. The updated Blueprints further incorporate the technology skills expected in the profession today.

The Board appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on the proposed Exposure Draft.

Sincerely,

Gary R. Massey, CPA
President
CONSENT ORDER

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. Catherine Michelle Kelly, CPA (hereinafter “Respondent”), is the holder of North Carolina certificate number 38197 as a Certified Public Accountant.

2. The Respondent informed the Board on her 2020-2021 certificate renewal that she had obtained the required CPE for calendar year 2019. She also informed the Board on her 2021-2022 certificate renewal that she had obtained the required CPE for calendar year 2020.

3. Based on the Respondent’s representation, the Board accepted her renewals.

4. The Respondent was subjected to an audit of her 2019 and 2020 CPE.

5. In response to the audit, the Respondent was only able to document thirty-seven and one-half (37.5) hours of CPE for 2019 and thirty (30) hours of CPE for 2020.

6. Per Section 3.20 of Session Law 2020-97, the North Carolina General Assembly has authorized State agencies to exercise regulatory flexibility during the Coronavirus emergency in order to protect the economic well-being of the citizens and businesses of North Carolina. The Board finds that allowing the Respondent to retain an active CPA certificate, under the facts set forth above, furthers that goal.

6. The 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. The 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. The 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. The Respondent's actions as set out above constitute violations of 21 NCAC 08N .0202(a), .0202(b)(3), and .0202(b)(4).

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

BASED on the foregoing and in lieu of further proceedings, the Board and the Respondent agree to the following Order:

1. The Respondent's CPA certificate is suspended for one year.

2. In light of the aforementioned State policy to exercise regulatory flexibility, the Respondent's suspension is stayed. The stay shall be lifted if the Board finds that the Respondent has engaged in further violations of the Board's Rules of Professional Ethics and Conduct.

3. The Respondent shall pay a one thousand dollar ($1,000) civil penalty, to be remitted to the Board with this Consent Order.

CONSENTED TO THIS THE 2nd DAY OF August, 2022.

Respondent

APPROVED BY THE BOARD THIS THE 26th DAY OF September, 2022.

NORTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT EXAMINERS

BY: Daryl A. Massey
President
IN THE MATTER OF:
Joy M. Coleman Brannen, CPA, #37912
Respondent

CONSENT ORDER

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. Joy M. Coleman Brannen, CPA (hereinafter "Respondent"), is the holder of North Carolina certificate number 37912 as a Certified Public Accountant.

2. The Respondent informed the Board on her 2020-2021 CPA certificate renewal that she had obtained the required CPE for calendar year 2019.

3. Based on the Respondent's representation, the Board accepted her renewal.

4. The Respondent was subject to an audit of her 2019 and 2020 CPE.

5. In response to the Board's audit of her 2019 CPE, the Respondent provided documentation for two (2) courses that, per the sponsor, are ineligible for CPE credit. The Respondent asserts that the sponsor was not clear in its advertisement of those courses.

6. The Respondent was required to complete forty (40) hours of CPE for 2019. She completed forty-one (41) hours of CPE; however, two of those hours were deemed ineligible by the Board.

7. Per Section 3.20 of Session Law 2020-97, the North Carolina General Assembly has authorized State agencies to exercise regulatory flexibility during the Coronavirus emergency in order to protect the economic well-being of the citizens and businesses of North Carolina. The Board finds that allowing the Respondent to retain an active CPA certificate, under the facts set forth above, furthers that goal.

8. The 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. The 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. The 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. The Respondent's actions as set out above constitute violations of 21 NCAC 08N .0202(a), .0202(b)(3), and .0202(b)(4).

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

BASED on the foregoing and in lieu of further proceedings, the Board and the Respondent agree to the following Order:

1. The Respondent's CPA certificate is suspended for one year.

2. In light of the aforementioned State policy to exercise regulatory flexibility, the Respondent's suspension is stayed. The stay shall be lifted if the Board finds that the Respondent has engaged in further violations of the Board's Rules of Professional Ethics and Conduct.

3. The Respondent shall pay a one thousand dollar ($1,000) civil penalty, to be remitted to the Board with this Consent Order.

CONSENTED TO THIS THE 13 DAY OF September, 2022.

Respondent

APPROVED BY THE BOARD THIS THE 13 DAY OF September, 2022.

NORTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT EXAMINERS

BY: Gary R. Massey
President
# 2023 Board Meeting Dates

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*Dates, times, and locations are subject to change.*

Approved 09/26/2022