

Activity Review

North Carolina State Board of Certified Public Accountant Examiners

1101 Oberlin Rd., Ste. 104 • PO Box 12827 • Raleigh, NC 27605 • 919-733-4222 • nccpaboard.gov • No. 2-2022

Board Action Shuts Down Deceptive Website

The Board recently obtained an agreement with an entity known as the United CPA Association to cease operating a website under the name UCPAA.

In 2021, the Board learned that the UCPAA was using its website to promote accounting services to consumers in North Carolina.

The website contained numerous statements that could lead the public to believe that only CPAs and CPA firms were listed on the website and

CLOSED

that those individuals and businesses were members of the UCPAA.

> The Board staff audited

sample of the listings and found that many of the businesses listed were not CPAs or CPA firms; even the Board was in the directory.

Likely, most of those firms did not agree to be held out as CPA firms and were unaware they were in the UCPAA directory.

The Board notified UCPAA it was violating North Carolina accountancy law because, among other issues, it purported to be a CPA association but did not require its members to be CPAs or CPA firms.

In August 2021, after the UCPAA failed to correct the erroneous information adequately, the Board filed suit in Wake County to enjoin the UCPAA from further violations of the North Carolina Accountancy Act.

On September 9, 2021, the UCPAA disabled its website and signed a Consent Judgment in which it agreed not to reactivate the site.

Although the Consent Judgment only addressed violations of the North Carolina Accountancy Act, the effect of the agreement was that the removal of the website resolved any violations of the accountancy laws in other jurisdictions as well.

After the Consent Judgment was entered by a Wake County Judge on December 15, 2021, the Board's staff attorney, Frank Trainor, said, "I appreciate that the UCPAA took decisive actions so quickly after the suit was filed."

"By taking down the website, they alleviated the need for the Board to communicate directly with the numerous accounting firms that had been held out as CPA firms without their knowledge or consent."

To receive a copy of the Consent Judgment, contact Mr. Trainor at **ftrainor@nccpaboard.gov**.

Thank You

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Thank you for the phone calls, emails, and cards congratulating me on my retirement from the Board. I was overwhelmed by your good wishes, kind words, and thoughtfulness.

During my more than 35 years with the Board, I had the opportunity to work with people dedicated to making--and keeping--the CPA profession elite. Educators, Exam proctors, CPE course providers, regulators, standard-setters, and many more people and organizations are why CPAs are considered knowledgeable, trustworthy, and highly skilled.

It was a privilege to serve as your Deputy Director and Executive Director. Thank you for the times shared, the friendships forged, and the incredible successes achieved. To the CPAs and those on the path to becoming CPAs, I wish you the best wherever your career takes you.

Robert N. Prooks.

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Disciplinary Actions

Pursuant to NCGS 93-12(9), "any disciplinary action taken [by the Board] shall be in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 150B of the General Statutes. The clear proceeds of any civil penalty assessed under this section shall be remitted to the Civil Penalty and Forfeiture Fund in accordance with G.S. 115C-457.2." NCGS 115C-457.1(b) states, "The Fund shall be administered by the Office of State Budget and Management. The Fund and all interest accruing to the Fund shall be faithfully used exclusively for maintaining free public schools."

ANTHONY M. SHARPER SR., #37764 | CHARLOTTE, NC

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 the Respondent stipulate to the following:

- 1. Anthony M. Sharper, Sr., CPA (hereinafter "Respondent"), is the holder of North Carolina certificate number 37764 as a Certified Public Accountant.
- 2. On September 2, 2021, the Respondent entered into a plea agreement in the United States District Court for the Western District of North Carolina.
- 3. The Respondent agreed to plead guilty to four charges, including wire fraud, making false statements to a financial institution, engaging in monetary transactions in criminally derived property, and filing a false tax return.
- 4. 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:

- 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.
- By virtue of the facts set forth above, the Respondent violated Rules 21 NCAC 08N .0202 (Deceptive Conduct) and .0207 (Violation of Tax Laws).

 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 CPA certificate for the Respondent, Anthony M. Sharper, Sr., is hereby permanently revoked.
- The Respondent must return his certificate to the Board within fifteen (15) days of his receipt of the Board's notification of its approval of this Consent Order.
- 3. The Respondent shall not offer or render services as a CPA or otherwise trade upon or use the CPA title in this state either through CPA mobility provisions or substantial equivalency practice privileges or in any other manner, nor shall Respondent claim or attempt to use any practice privileges in any other state based upon his permanently revoked North Carolina certificate.

Approved by the Board on December 13, 2021.

Update Your Contact Information

21 NCAC 08J .0107 requires CPAs and CPA firms to notify the Board in writing of any change in mailing address, physical address, practice address, phone number, employment, email address, website address, etc., within 30 days of the change.

In the context of the Board's records, your email address is not a public record, and the Board does not share it with outside organizations such as CPE providers.

To update your information, use the "Address Change" link on the Board's website, **nccpaboard** .gov, or send your new contact information to addresschange@nccpaboard.gov.

WILLIAM G. STIEHL, #32295 | NEW ORLEANS, LA

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 the Respondent stipulate to the following:

- William G. Stiehl, CPA (hereinafter "Respondent") is the holder of North Carolina certificate number 32295 as a Certified Public Accountant.
- 2. On or about August 2, 2021, the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") entered an Order against the Respondent imposing disciplinary sanctions. Specifically, the SEC imposed a two (2) year suspension of the Respondent's privilege to appear or practice before the SEC as an accountant and a fifty-one thousand dollar (\$51,000) civil penalty for his actions.
- 3. The basis of the SEC Order was that the Respondent had improperly interfered with his employer's process for selecting an audit firm. He had provided competitive bid and other confidential documents and information in an effort to enable Ernst & Young, LLP to secure his employer's audit engagement. The SEC found that the manner in which the audit firm obtained the audit engagement would cause a reasonable investor to conclude that the firm was incapable of exercising the objectivity and impartiality required of an independent auditor.

- 4. As a result, the SEC found that the Respondent's employer's annual and quarterly reports were neither audited nor reviewed by a public accountant who was independent, resulting in violations of the SEC's rules and the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934.
- 5. The SEC Order made a specific finding that the Respondent caused and willfully aided and abetted his employer's violations of SEC laws and rules.
- 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:

 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.

Stiehl continued on page 4

AICPA Peer Review Board Clarifies Standards for Performing and Reporting on Peer Reviews

The AICPA Peer Review Board (PRB) has approved the proposed Clarified AICPA Standards for Performing and Reporting on Peer Reviews, effective for peer reviews commencing on or after May 1, 2022. Early implementation is not permitted.

The final standards will be published in the April update to the Peer Review Program Manual and made available on the AICPA Peer Review website.

Some of the changes that will be reflected in the final standards include:

 The majority of procedures in a system review will not be required to be performed at the reviewed firm's office. Instead, the extent of procedures will be determined by assessing peer review risk.

- The number of office visits on system reviews also will be determined by assessing peer review risk.
- A surprise engagement selection will not be required but still may be selected based on assessment of peer review risk.
- The term "significant deficiencies" will be eliminated in fail reports on engagement reviews because it created confusion. In existing guidance, the term didn't indicate severity but rather was used to show that a deficiency was present on all engagements reviewed. Under the clarified guidance, fail reports on engagement reviews will identify only "deficiencies."

Stiehl continued from page 3

- By virtue of the disciplinary action taken by the SEC, the Respondent has violated Rule 21 NCAC 08N .0204 (Discipline by Federal and State Authorities).
- By virtue of the facts set forth above, the Respondent has also violated Rules 21 NCAC 08N .0201 (Integrity) and .0203 (Acts Discreditable).
- 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:

 The Certified Public Accountant certificate issued to the Respondent, William G. Stiehl, is hereby revoked for a period of two years.

- 2. The Respondent must return his certificate to the Board within fifteen (15) days of his receipt of the Board's notification of its approval of this Consent Order.
- 3. The Respondent shall not offer or render services as a CPA or otherwise trade upon or use the CPA title in this state either through CPA mobility provisions or substantial equivalency practice privileges or in any other manner, nor shall the Respondent claim or attempt to use any practice privileges in any other state based upon his revoked North Carolina certificate.

Approved by the Board on December 13, 2021.

Successful Exam Candidates

The following North Carolina candidates passed the Uniform CPA Exam between November 1 and December 31, 2021:

Dayana Alvarez Nicolas Savvas Andreou Justin Thomas Appley Paul Franklin Ashley Carly Renee Batchelor Amy Gomez Bayley Erin Slaughter Beaird Jonathan Giroux Beck Kristin Sweat Beck Tyler Brynn Black Charles Rouse Borden K'La ShaQueen Brewington Benjamin Paul Canup Kristen Suzanne Castle Kevin Cheng Lillian L Chie Samuel Arnold Clark Brett Tyson Congleton Benjamin Oscar Davies Scott Bradford Douglas Ginisa McCarthy Ebert Robert Winston Eskridge Samantha Brook Frink Devin Paul Geinosky Victoria Marie Gervasi Elizabeth Darden Grubb Haley Marie Hagwood Dylan Patrick Hall Morgan Rose Halo Zachary Tyler Halsey

Emily Nicole Hay Floyd Jackson Henderson III Melissa Anne Hertell Erin Stone Hetrick John Marshall Hoopman Elaina Dove Irvin Donna Reid Johnson Ashley Lucille Kerr Olena Trymaylo Kilson Barrett Edwin Krimminger Sandra Lafontaine Joshua Ryan Lane Zachary Arlandus Lane Patrick Douglas Leitner Courtni Rachel Lincke Ryan Paul Lindeman Sierra Nicole Lowder Samuel Alan Markiewitz William Earl McElveen Neil Nainesh Mehta Hunter Neal Mikels Kyle Michael Mook Andrew Lynn Moore Abbey Moran Mullen Ashlyn Elizabeth Muncy Christopher Edward Newman-Clifford Henson Haivuong Nguyen Thu Ngoc Anh Nguyen Kerri Ann Nile Barrett Frazier Overman

Brett Nathaniel Parlier Michael David Patch Anna Maria Perelli-Minetti Brett Thomas Polk Joseph Woodson Pollard Carter Matthew Polster Matthew Clifford Pruitt Matthew Wood Reinheimer Sophie Loucile Ricks Katelyn Mae Roberts Randy Shin Lillian Rose Skopp Jacob Alexander Smith Andrew Conner Takes Victoria Brooke Teachey Jamar Lee Armas Turner Victoria Lyn Vidal Linsey Nicole Wade Rusty Wayne Walser Amy Cogan Wares Lewis Edwin Watson V **Courtney Renee Wells** Rachel Lyn Wells Christopher Shane West Andrew Gwyn Williams Eric Stephen Wohlgemuth James Thomas Woodall Ayesha Zeb

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CPA Certificates Issued

On January 24, 2022, the Board approved the following individuals for NC CPA licensure:

John Albert Andrew III Sterling Rackley Atkinson Joshua Lee Barclift Arnold Mark Barnett Theresa Berry Megan Grace Bobbitt Kellan Henry Brien Kaitlyn Anne Brock Kelsey Nicole Brown Stephanie Jennifer Buyck David Howard Byrd Yuan Xu Crigger Parker Anthony Dacchille Makaela Katlyn DeBoer Susan Oliver DeLaney Mary Patricia Dierkes Luke Allen Diles Julia Anna Donajkowski Drew McKenzie Dunn Joshua Ellenberg Kristen Lee Ellington Carter Shea Fischer Ian Robert Foulger Jamie Harrison Fox David Reid Frazier Karli Payton Fulp James Robert Fyffe Ashton Connor Glenn Kathryn Kristin Harris Benjamin Paul Hoeschel Devin Weiss Holden Austin Wade Holland Madison Lane Hollar Rafael Yaakov Hopkins Justine Elizabeth James Spencer Christian Johnson Natascha Kastel Preston Eric Knight Tynishia Victoria Lakey Nicholas James Lea Emma Norma LeSaint Arnold Ross Lessman Parker James Logsdon John Harrison Lucas Marie Forza Lyons Gary L. Maclay Tyler Patrick Maher

Jesse Scott McGee III Matthew David McGuire Keely Marie McMahon Audrey Lee Mullins **Olivier Noel Peyton Christina Noschese** Linh Thuy Pham Alessandro Leonardo Poppante Zachary James Powers Paulina Magdalena Powierza Zachary Charles Pritchard Sydney Jane Puffer Juan Esteban Rangel Yasmeen Rose Richie Sophie Loucile Ricks Amal Abrar Sattar Leigh Sizemore Schmidt Randy Shin We're Alexa Jennifer Smith Gail A. Spangler Brittany Nicole Sponable Wayne David Stocks Edward Steven Sullivan Carolyn Super Margaret Elizabeth Taylor Madison Elisabeth Thompson Vladimir Ivanovich Tkach Michael Robert Tourtelot Curtis Jay Townsend Jr. Patrick A. Truesdell Cameron Adair Turner Gerrit Richard Van Staalduinen Aranza Venegas Matthew Ray Vogler Alexis Selby Walker Joseph Allen Wall Adam John Wanka Jonathan Thomas Warren Jr. Caleb Joel Welborn Ian Wennerstrom Mallory Hughes Wilkerson Adam Benard Winegar Samuel Kasmir Wojciechowski Brian Robert Wright Crystal Craigo Young Celine Zou

Job Posting: Deputy Director

Are you a CPA or CPA candidate with a minimum of ten years of experience in public or governmental accounting or ten years of experience with a board of accountancy or similar organization, as well as supervisory experience?

If so, you are invited to apply for the position of Deputy Director of the Board.

Responsibilities include

- Managing the Board staff;
- Serving as Chief Financial Officer;
- Board strategic planning;
 - Providing technical investigative support to the Executive Director and Board in the areas of tax, accounting, auditing, and ethics in disciplinary matters;
- Drafting Board responses to exposure drafts issued by generally accepted accounting and auditing standard-setting bodies; and
- Representing the Board on various state and national committees such as NCACPA and NASBA.

A link to the full job description and required application is in the "How Do I" box on the Board's website, **nccpaboard.gov**.

Submit your résumé, completed application, and salary requirements to David R. Nance, NC State Board of CPA Examiners, PO Box 12827, Raleigh, NC 27605 by March 17, 2022.

Send questions about this job posting to **dnance@nccpaboard.gov**. North Carolina State Board of Certified Public Accountant Examiners





Resolution Honoring Robert N. Brooks

WHEREAS Robert N. Brooks served as Deputy Director of the North Carolina State Board of Certified Public Accountant (CPA) Examiners (the Board) from April 1, 1986, through August 31, 1990;

WHEREAS he served as Acting Executive Director of the Board from September 1, 1990, through March 31, 1991;

WHEREAS he served as Executive Director of the Board from April 1, 1991, through December 31, 2021;

WHEREAS during his tenure with the Board, he developed positive, beneficial relationships with the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy, the American Institute of CPAs, the North Carolina Association of CPAs, and many other accounting-related organizations;

WHEREAS in his role as Executive Director, he was an integral part of initiatives of great importance to the CPA profession, including the computerization of the Uniform CPA Examination, substantial equivalency, and practice mobility,

WHEREAS he served as a mentor and resource to other Boards of Accountancy, North Carolina Occupational Licensing Boards, candidates, licensees, and the public.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the members of the North Carolina State Board of Certified Public Accountant Examiners honor Robert N. Brooks for his long and distinguished career with the Board and thank him for his tireless, dedicated commitment to protect the public interest through the regulation of the CPA title in North Carolina.

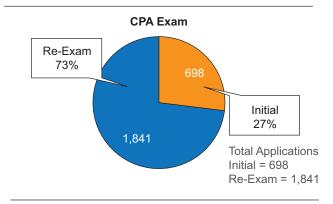
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED this Resolution is entered into the minutes of the North Carolina State Board of Certified Public Accountant Examiners and a copy presented to Robert N. Brooks.

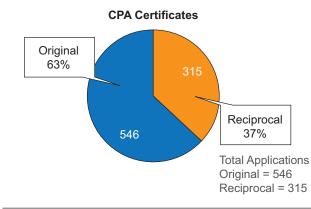
As adopted on the 24th day of January 2022 by the North Carolina State Board of Certified Public Accountant Examiners.

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Barton W. Baldwin, CPA President

2021 in Review: Applications Approved







Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec

Total Registrations = 138

Exam Score Release Dates		
If you take your exam on or	Your target score release	
before:	date is:	
February 14, 2022	February 23, 2022	
March 9, 2022	March 17, 2022	
March 31, 2022	April 12, 2022	
April 23, 2022	May 10, 2022	
May 16, 2022	May 24, 2022	
June 8, 2022	June 16, 2022	
June 30, 2022	July 12, 2022	
	Source: AICPA	

CPA Certificate Reclassifications

On January 24, 2022, the Board approved the following individuals for CPA certificate reclassification:

Reinstatement

William Wesley Burns IV, #28630	Cornelius, NC
Kathryn Munroe Green, #22046	Palatka, FL
Billy Alan Hayes, #13906	Villa Rica, GA
Hitesh Soni, #41632	Tampa, FL
Candice Sexton Whitehurst, #29661	Raleigh, NC

Reissuance

Kathy Lee Kisiel, #29091

Wilmington, NC

Inactive Status

Between January 6, 2022, and February 10, 2022, the Board approved the individuals listed below for inactive status. 21 NCAC 08A .0301(b)(20) states: "Inactive," when used to refer to the status of a person, describes a person 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 Rule .0308(b) of this Section."

David Raeburn Finnie, #14930	Charlotte, NC
Sheila R. Gibson, #33250	San Diego, CA
Kenneth Dwight Willoughby, #24461	Gastonia, NC
Edward James Williams Jr., #9001	Matthews, NC
David Roy Shumate, #10763	Durham, NC
Pamela Smith Hemphill, #19047	Greensboro, NC
Robert Monaghan, #16649	Charlotte, NC
Kourtni Marie Brown, #34362	Cornelius, NC
Donna G. Perkins, #45148	Orlando, FL
Steven Lloyd Clapham, #21040	Advance, NC
Daryl Lane Angell, #13946	Yardley, PA
David Paul Toppin, #9406	Bluffton, SC
Clain Harmer Anderson, #38446	Chapel Hill, NC
Teresa McLawhorn Shingleton, #21089	Durham, NC
Denise Aline Mummert, #12464	Avondale Estates, GA
Paula Hazle DeCuir, #24895	Greenville, SC
Hillary Jane Michaud, #17534	Baltimore, MD
Jennifer Joan Spolarich, #28662	Nebo, NC
Linda Pattishall Hollar, #16108	Cary, NC
Mariane Bates Williamson, #13179	Charlotte, NC
David Jesse Bradley, #2910	Nashville, NC
Whitney Catherine Allen Vineyard, #272	31 Charlotte, NC
Christopher Amos Hill, #27355	Charlotte, NC
Ronald Stephen Harrison, #17910	Wake Forest, NC
Lee Covington McLaurin, #19587	Albemarle, NC



State Board of CPA Examiners

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2022 Dates to Remember

February 21	Board Meeting - Raleigh
March 16	Board Meeting - Raleigh
April 15	Office Closed - Good Friday
April 21	Board Meeting - Raleigh
May 16	CPA Certificate Renewal Begins
May 23	Board Meeting - Raleigh
May 30	Office Closed - Memorial Day
June 20	Office Closed - Juneteenth National Independence Day
June 23	Board Meeting
June 30	CPA Certificate Renewal Deadline
July 4	Office Closed - Independence Day
July 25	Board Meeting - Raleigh
July 31	Final Deadline - CPA Certificate Renewal

(Dates and locations are subject to change.)

2,000 copies of this document were printed in February 2022 at an estimated cost of \$1,940.00 or approximately 97¢ per copy.