



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. 10-2023



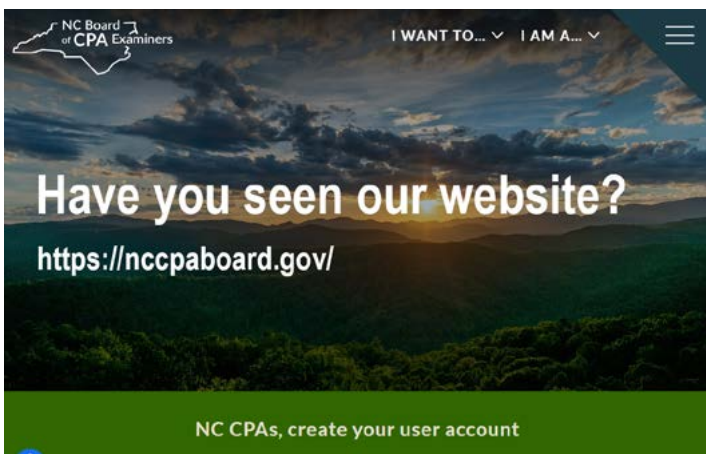
Create Your NC CPA Board User Account

The Board recently created an online portal that will allow North Carolina licensees, CPA license applicants, CPA Exam candidates, and CPA firms to access Board services through a self-service dashboard. At this time, the portal is open to North Carolina CPAs only.

Although the portal has limited functionality for CPAs at this time (account creation, address changes, CPA license information, and renewal receipts), all CPAs must set up an account now to be able to renew their CPA license for 2024-2025. The 2024-2025 individual CPA license renewal will be through the portal only.

CPA firm supervisors who have not set up a user account must do so in order to complete the CPA firm registration renewal that is due by December 31, 2023. The firm registration renewal can be completed only through the online portal.

Step-by-step instructions for creating an account are available from the Board's website, nccpaboard.gov. CPAs who need assistance setting up their account should contact the Board at (919) 733-4222.



CPAs in North Carolina: What We Know One Year Later

By David R. Nance, CPA, Executive Director

In 2022, the Board asked North Carolina CPAs to answer gender and ethnicity questions on the 2022-2023 individual license renewal. The 2023-2024 CPA license renewal also included demographic questions.

Answering the demographic questions was not required, and licensees were given the option to select "I do not wish to disclose" as an answer.

As a reminder, the Board does not share demographic information on licensees with outside users except in a summary format that does not reveal personally identifiable information.

While not statistically projectible, the information collected from the renewals does provide a snapshot in time of CPAs in North Carolina.

Using the information from the 2022-2023 renewal as the baseline, the Board can now start measuring the demographic changes in the CPA profession at the state level.

The charts on page 6 provide a summary of the self-reported gender and ethnicity of North Carolina CPAs from the 2023-2024 renewal and a comparison to the 2022-2023 renewal information.

If you have questions or comments about the collection of demographic information or how the Board will use this information, please contact me by email at dnance@nccpaboard.gov.



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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."

PAULINE F. FLOWERS, CPA, #19403 | PAULINE FLOWERS, CPA, PC | STATESVILLE, 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, the Respondent, and the Respondent Firm stipulate to the following:

Pauline F. Flowers, CPA (hereinafter "Respondent"), is the holder of North Carolina certificate number 19403 as a Certified Public Accountant.

Pauline F. Flowers, CPA, PC (hereinafter "Respondent Firm"), is a registered certified public accounting firm in North Carolina. Hereinafter, the Respondent and the Respondent Firm shall collectively be referred to as the "Respondents."

The Respondent Firm received a fail on its most recent attempted system peer review that was discussed by the AICPA Peer Review Committee on June 18, 2020. However, the Respondent Firm did not complete the peer review process.

The Respondent Firm has not performed any engagements subject to peer review since 2019 and has not expressed a desire to perform those services moving forward.

There has been no indication that the Respondent has harmed the public. The Respondent has been a licensed CPA in this State since 1991 without incident or disciplinary action.

The Respondents wish to resolve this matter 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. The Respondents understand and agree that this Consent Order

is subject to review 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 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. The Respondents' failure to perform attest and assurance services in accordance with standards is a violation of Board rules 21 NCAC 08N .0212 (Competence), .0403 (Auditing Standards).
3. The Respondents' failure to complete the peer review process constitutes a violation of Board rules 21 NCAC 08N .0203(b)(4) and (7).
4. Per N.C. Gen. Stat. §93-12(9), and also by virtue of the Respondents' consent to this order, the Respondents are subject to the discipline set forth below.

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

1. The Respondent, Pauline F. Flowers, CPA, is hereby censured.
2. The Respondent Firm shall pay a one thousand dollar (\$1,000) civil penalty to be remitted with this signed Consent Order.

CPE AUDIT ORDERS

**ALESIA NICOLE HUSBAND, #39215
DURHAM, NC**

**JANET REPKE KAHL, #36920
CHARLOTTE, NC**

The Board opened a case against each of the four individuals listed above ("Respondents") for failure to complete the CPE required to renew their North Carolina CPA license. When completing the individual certificate renewal, the Respondents stated they had completed the CPE required for certificate renewal.

As part of the CPE audit, the Board staff asked the Respondents to provide certificates of completion for the CPE reported on the certificate renewal. In its review of the documents submitted by the Respondents, the Board determined that the Respondents had not adequately substantiated the completion of the CPE hours claimed.

**MICHAEL WAYNE SLEDGE, #18338
RALEIGH, NC**

**DONALD TYLER WALLACE, #42035
CONCORD, NC**

The Respondents' actions constitute violations of 21 NCAC 08N .0202(a), .0202(b)(3), and .0202(b)(4). Based on the preceding and in lieu of further proceedings, each Respondent signed a Consent Order agreeing to a one-year stayed suspension of their CPA license, payment of a \$1000.00 civil penalty, and completion of the unsubstantiated or missing CPE within the time frame specified by the Board.

If the Board finds that a Respondent has violated any other Rule of Professional Ethics and Conduct during the one-year period, the stay will be lifted, and the Respondent's CPA certificate will be actively suspended.

MICHAEL E. WESTMORELAND, #14909 | MICHAEL E. WESTMORELAND, CPA SANFORD, 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, the Respondent and the Respondent Firm stipulate to the following:

Michael E. Westmoreland, CPA (hereinafter "Respondent"), is the holder of North Carolina certificate number 14909 as a Certified Public Accountant.

Michael E. Westmoreland, CPA (hereinafter "Respondent Firm"), is a registered certified public accounting firm in North Carolina. Hereinafter, the Respondent and the Respondent Firm shall collectively be referred to as the "Respondents."

On his 2018 firm renewal, the Respondent disclosed that he had performed Agreed-Upon Procedures engagements during calendar year 2017. Performance of those engagements required the Respondent to register his firm for peer review within thirty (30) days of the issuance of the first report.

The Board staff followed up with the Respondent after the time to complete the peer review had elapsed. The Respondent confirmed that he prepared three Agreed-Upon Procedures reports in 2017. He has since left the public practice of accountancy and did not complete a peer review.

The Respondents wish to resolve this matter 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. The

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.

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

1. The 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. The Respondents' failure to register his firm for peer review within thirty (30) days of the issuance of the first report constitutes a violation of Board rule 21 NCAC 08N .0203(b)(7).
3. Per N.C. Gen. Stat. § 93-12(9), and also by virtue of the Respondents' consent to this order, the Respondents are subject to the discipline set forth below.

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

1. The Respondent, Michael E. Westmoreland, CPA, is hereby censured.
2. The Respondent Firm shall pay a one thousand dollar (\$1,000) civil penalty to be remitted with this signed Consent Order.

What is CPA-retired Status?

NCAC 21 08J .0112, effective September 1, 2023, allows a North Carolina CPA on active or inactive status to apply for CPA-retired status. The application for CPA-retired status is available from the Board's website, nccpaboard.gov.

In applying for CPA-retired status, a person must affirm that they will not hold themselves out to the public as a CPA while on CPA-retired status except that they may use the designation "CPA-retired" and consent to the continued regulatory authority of the Board.

A person on CPA-retired status cannot provide any of the services listed in 21 NCAC 08A .0307(2) except they may prepare tax returns for themselves and their immediate family members without compensation and may prepare tax returns through public service programs without compensation, such as the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program.

Although individuals on CPA-retired status must renew their certificate annually in accordance with 21 NCAC 08J .0101, they are exempt from the annual CPE requirement.

Please contact Buck Winslow, the Board's Manager of Licensing Section, by email at buckw@nccpaboard.gov with questions about the CPA-retired status.



Activity Review Will Be Digital Only

The March 2024 *Activity Review* will be the last issue of the newsletter to be commercially printed and mailed. Several factors, including modernization of Board operations, led to the decision to switch to digital-only distribution.

The Board will continue emailing the newsletter to stakeholders who have provided the Board with a valid email address. About 93% of the Board's licensees currently receive the *Activity Review* by email.

Stakeholders who previously opted out of receiving the newsletter electronically will receive an email notifying them when the newsletter is available on the Board's website, nccpaboard.gov.

Stakeholders who do not have a valid email address on file with the Board will need to check the website for the most recent issue.

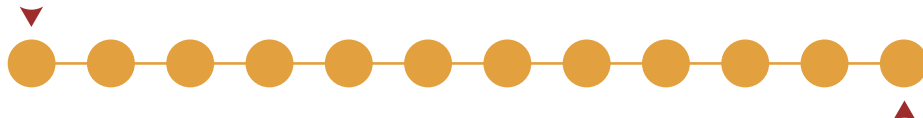
Please contact the Board at communications@nccpaboard.gov with questions or comments about the *Activity Review*.

The Annual Continuing Professional Education (CPE) Requirement

Please refer to 21 NCAC 08G, *Continuing Professional Education (CPE)*, for complete information about the annual CPE requirement.

CPE COMPLETION PERIOD

JANUARY 1



CPE COMPLETION PERIOD = 1/1 TO 12/31 ANNUALLY

DECEMBER 31

CPE REPORTING/LICENSE RENEWAL DEADLINE



GENERAL CPE REQUIREMENTS

40 hours
(2,000 minutes)
annually

- ☆ The number of hours (minutes) required is pro-rated if licensed after March 31 of the current year.
- ☆ To claim credit for a course or activity, you must complete the course/activity and receive a Certificate of Completion.
- ☆ Each course or activity claimed for CPE credit must
 - increase your professional competency;
 - be in an approved field of study (nasbaregistry.org/the-standards); and
 - comply with 21 NCAC 08G .0401.

ETHICS REQUIREMENTS

1 hour
(50 minutes)
annually

- ☆ Must be a course or activity in regulatory or behavioral professional ethics and conduct
- ☆ Must be offered by a sponsor in good standing on the National Registry of CPE Sponsors (nasbaregistry.org)
- ☆ New licensees (licensed in the current year) who completed the accountancy law course in the current year may use one hour (50 minutes) of that course to satisfy the ethics requirement for the current year.

Please note: There are no CPE requirements for individuals on inactive or CPA-retired status.

CPE CREDIT LIMITATIONS

20 Hours
(1,000 Minutes)

INSTRUCTOR CREDIT

- Credit is limited to 1,000 minutes annually
- The course must be above the level of accounting principles
- Calculated by converting the college credit hours to minutes using a specific formula

20 Hours
(1,000 Minutes)

PREPARATION/PRESENTATION CREDIT

- Credit is limited to 1,000 minutes annually
- Credit is equal to the number of minutes spent preparing or presenting
- Includes authoring or conducting a technical review

20 Hours
(1,000 Minutes)

COLLEGE COURSE CREDIT

- Credit is limited to 1,000 minutes annually
- Calculated by converting the college credit hours to minutes using a specific formula
- No credit allowed for auditing a course

10 Hours
(500 Minutes)

AUTHORSHIP CREDIT

- Credit is limited to 500 minutes annually
- Credit is equal to the number of minutes spent writing the article or book
- No credit for client or business newsletter

Instructor credit, preparation/presentation credit, college course credit, or a combination of those credits can equal no more than 50% of the required CPE credits [21 NCAC 08G .0409(i)].

CPE CREDIT CALCULATIONS



INSTRUCTING/ COMPLETING COLLEGE COURSE

One semester hour
of college credit
equals 15 hours
(750 minutes)



GROUP ACTIVITY

Contact minutes
as determined by
the sponsor



SELF-STUDY

Minutes needed to
complete the activity
as determined by
the sponsor



NANO LEARNING

Contact minutes
as determined by
the sponsor



BLENDED LEARNING

Contact minutes
incorporated in
all the learning formats
in the blended
learning activity

EXEMPTIONS FOR NON-RESIDENT LICENSEES

Non-resident licensees may satisfy the annual CPE requirements in the jurisdiction in which they are licensed and currently work or live. If the jurisdiction in which they are licensed **and** work or reside does not have an annual CPE requirement, they must meet North Carolina's requirements.

Non-resident licensees with a primary office in North Carolina must meet the North Carolina ethics requirement. All other non-resident licensees may meet the ethics requirement by completing the ethics requirement in the jurisdiction in which they are licensed **and** work or live. If the jurisdiction in which they are licensed **and** work or reside does not have an ethics requirement, they must meet North Carolina's ethics requirements.

CARRY-FORWARD CREDIT

20 Hours (1,000 Minutes)

A maximum of 20 hours (1,000 minutes) may be carried forward from one reporting period to the next reporting period.

To check your CPE carry-forward, search for yourself using the "Find CPA/CPA firm" link on the website, nccpaboard.gov. When your record displays, click the "details" link to view your CPE carry-forward.

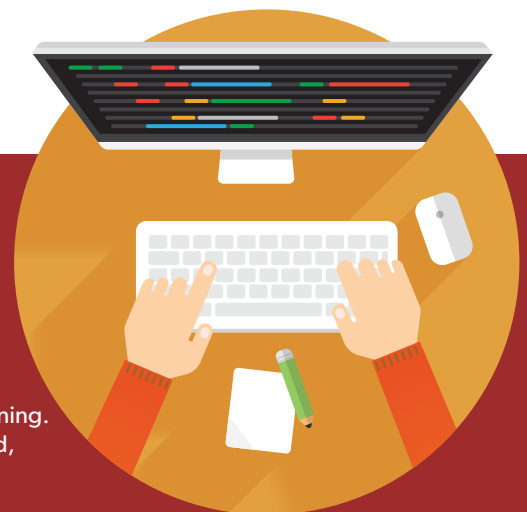
ETHICS: *The ethics requirement cannot be met using carry-forward credit.*

MISCELLANEOUS

You must keep records (Certificates of Completion) that support the CPE credits claimed for the current year and each of the four prior calendar years.

If you don't complete the CPE requirement before the end of the previous calendar year but complete it by June 30, you can renew your license. If it's the first time in a 5-calendar year period that you missed the deadline, you may receive a Letter of Warning. Under 21 NCAC 08G .0406, if you miss the deadline twice in a 5-calendar year period, the Board may deny your license renewal for at least 30 days and until you meet the reinstatement requirements in 21 NCAC 08J .0106.

If you have questions about the annual CPE requirement, please contact Cammie Emery at cemery@nccpaboard.gov or Buck Winslow at buckw@nccpaboard.gov.



North Carolina Demographics: A Summary of the Self-Reported Gender and Ethnicity of NC CPAs

In August 2023, the Board had 22,203 actively licensed CPAs, compared to 22,195 in August 2022.

Of those 22,203 CPAs, 11,338 (51.1%) identified as male, 10,325 (46.5%) identified as female, 537 (2.4%) chose not to disclose their gender, and 3 (statistically 0%) identified themselves as non-binary.

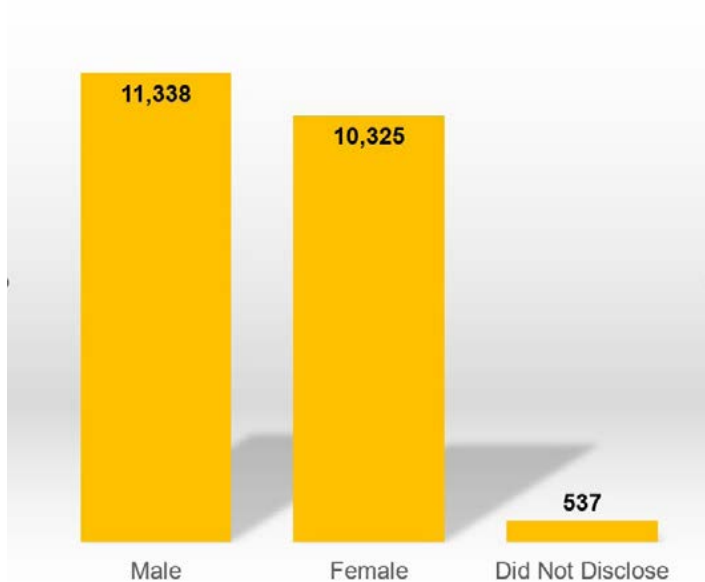
The only real change in gender identity from 2022-2023 to 2023-2024 is the "I do not wish to disclose" category, where more licensees did not disclose their gender (a difference of .3%).

For ethnicity, 20,390 (91.8%) licensees chose to identify an ethnic category, while 1,813 (8.2%) did not disclose their ethnicity.

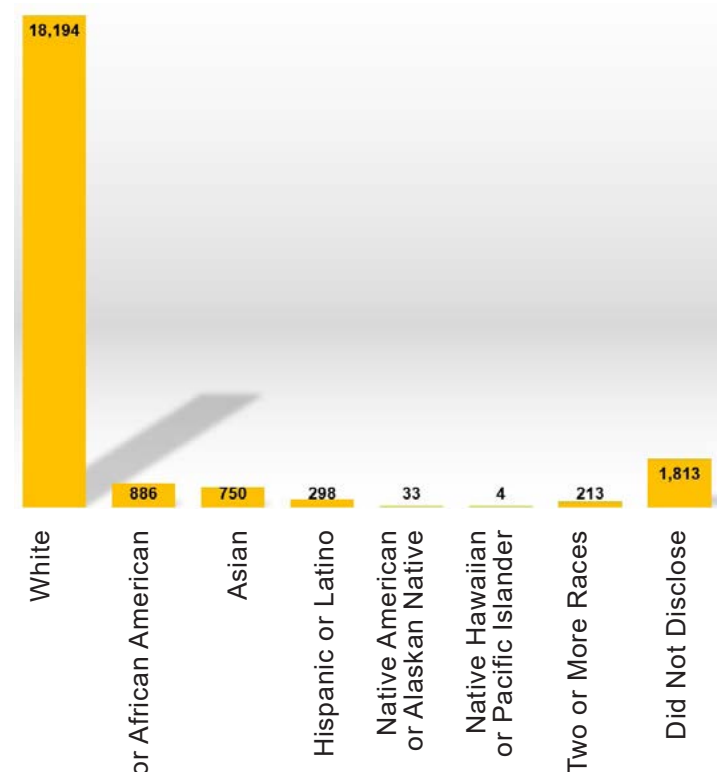
There was a slight uptick in the number of overall licensees identifying to the Black or African American, Asian, and Hispanic or Latino categories (8.71% in 2023-2024 vs. 8.38% in 2022-2023).

The change within each category was more significant, measuring +3.63%, +4.17%, and +4.93%, respectively. The numbers, as reported, may point to changes in the racial and ethnic diversity in the North Carolina CPA population.

Self-Reported Gender: 2024



Self-Reported Ethnicity: 2024



Certificates Issued

On September 25, 2023, the Board approved the following individuals for North Carolina CPA licensure:

| | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| Samantha Brink | Trevor Edward Leach |
| Jade Sun Brooks | Sean Patrick Lynch |
| Cooper Allen Burgess | Cameron Pierce Millett |
| Karen Ninoska Calix | Andrew Russell Morton |
| Amanda Sue Casey | Jackson Moultrie Nietert |
| Johnny Samuel Christian | Alicia Renee Papworth |
| Rogers Howell Clark III | Reed Logan Parris |
| Grace Connolly | Declan Patrick Payne |
| Scott Patrick Crabbs | Zuleima Perez |
| Jessica Lauren Crews | Luke Robert Pfeiffer |
| Alexander Gregory Dixon | Avery Grace Queller |
| Dennis Tony Dremsizov | Nathanael James Rouse |
| Teresa Ann Hauser | Lydia Anne Schwalm |
| Emily Nicole Hay | Chelsea Zimmerman Slusher |
| Victoria Faith Hill | Dustin Jay Starnes |
| Stephanie J. Ketron | Glory Yvonne Van Over |
| Sadie Catherine Lang | Troy Douglas Warren |
| Allison Leigh Lawley | |

| | %Change | Results 2023-24 | Results 2022-23 |
|------------------|---------|--------------------|--------------------|
| White | 0.68% | 18,194 | 18,072 |
| Black | 3.63% | 886 | 855 |
| Asian | 4.17% | 750 | 720 |
| Hispanic | 4.93% | 298 | 284 |
| Native Am | -5.71% | 33 | 35 |
| Native Ha | 0.00% | 4 | 4 |
| Two or More | 0.47% | 213 | 212 |
| Did not Disclose | -9.94% | 1,813 | 2,013 |
| Self Identify | 100.00% | 12 | 0 |

Successful Uniform CPA Exam Candidates

The following North Carolina Uniform candidates passed the Uniform CPA Exam in August 2023:

Demi Evonne Abernathy
Emily Claire Almerini
Stephanie Ann Burcham
Abigail Grace Butler
Brett Alexander Butler
Regina Battle Cameron
Kayla Paige Clark
Griffin Michael Claus
Heather Brooke Copeland
Samantha Dominique Crossen
Jack William Curry
Alex Jaron Duer
Thomas James Fallon
Ruben Samuel Greenstein
Dylan Garner Grissom
Margaret Welsh Hulbert
Julianne Marie Jarek
Megan Joy Leasure
Alexander John Madormo
Eli Franklin Miller
Laura Kathleen O'Neil
Eamon Daly O'Toole
John Michael Owens
Alicia Renee Papworth
Carolina Del Carmen Pena
Brooke Ann Raziano
Sloan McKenzie Reid
Shanna Ronnell Rizzo
Evan Michael Schifko
Thomas Andrew Shover
Ty Anthony Talbott
Alexander Michael Voigt
Noah Daniel Ward
Macy Navarro Whitaker
Morgan Navarro Whitaker
Matthew James Winesette

If you are a North Carolina Exam candidate who passed the Exam in August 2023 and your name is not on the above list, please contact the Board at communications@nccpaboard.gov.

50 Years of NC CPA Licensure

Congratulations to the following individuals who have held an active North Carolina CPA license for 50 years:

Claude Carmack
Ronald Wesley Knedlik
David Bruce Post



CPA Certificate Reclassifications

On September 25, 2023, the Board approved the following applications for certificate reinstatement and reissuance:

Reinstatement

Tyler McCoy Zamora, #44455 Mount Pleasant, SC

Reissuance

Dennis Crawford McGlory Jr., #37611 Mount Pleasant, SC

Inactive Status

Between September 1, 2023, and September 30, 2023, the Board approved the individuals listed below for inactive status:

Sara VanNess Hammond, #34840 Raleigh, NC
Sharon Louise Queen Lloyd, #15640 Chapel Hill, NC
Susan D. McDaniel, #31341 Burnsville, NC
Kerry Dawn McElroy, #33411 Granville, OH
John Knox McGill, #13656, Charlotte, NC
Laura Jean Pike, #13720, Greensboro, NC
Robert Lawrence Schumacher, #14023 Corpus Christi, TX
Earle Hilton Ward, #4176 Brevard, NC
Garrett Eugene Wickline, #44141 Raleigh, NC

CPA-retired Status

Between September 1, 2023, and September 30, 2023, the Board approved the individual listed below for CPA-retired status:

Bradley James Newkirk, #12483 Greensboro, NC

What's Your CPA Story?

As a kid, did you tell people you wanted to be a CPA when you grew up? Is accounting the family business, Did you have another career before becoming a CPA? If you'd like to share your CPA journey or career story in the Activity Review, please send your story to communications@nccpaboard.gov. Photos are optional.

2023 Exam Score Release Dates

| If the AICPA receives your data file by: | Your target score release date is: |
|---|------------------------------------|
| October 19, 2023 | November 3, 2023 |
| October 31, 2023 | November 8, 2023 |
| November 26, 2023 | December 5, 2023 |
| December 15, 2023 | December 27, 2023 |
| Follow NASBA (@NASBA) on X (formerly known as Twitter) for score release updates. | |



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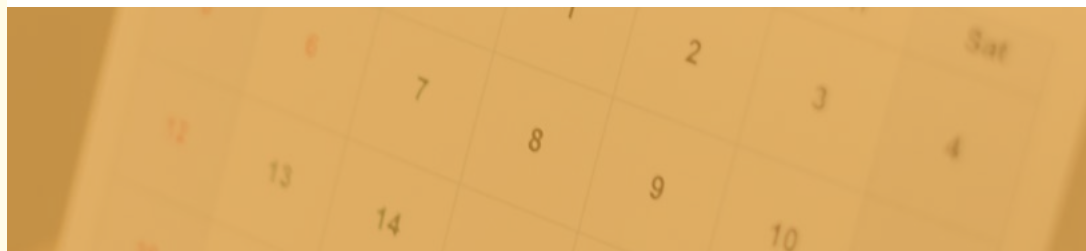
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Other

Legal Counsel
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2023 Dates to Remember

DATES, TIMES, AND LOCATIONS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Nov. 1, 2023 | CPA Firm Registration Renewal & Peer Review Compliance Reporting Begins |
| Nov. 10, 2023 | Office Closed |
| Nov. 20, 2023 | Board Meeting Raleigh |
| Nov. 23-24, 2023 | Office Closed |
| Dec. 15, 2023 | Last Day to Take CPA Exam in 2023 |
| Dec. 18, 2023 | Board Meeting, Raleigh |
| Dec. 25-27, 2023 | Office Closed |
| Dec. 31, 2023 | Deadline: CPA Firm Registration & Peer Review Compliance Reporting Deadline: 2023 CPE Completion |