

BOARD OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTANCY *

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v.

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CASE NO.: CPAS 11-0039

RICHARD DREW ROOMBERG,

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Respondent

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CONSENT ORDER

This matter comes before the Maryland Board of Public Accountancy (“Board”) as a result of a complaint filed by the Board’s continuing professional education auditor against Richard Drew Roomberg (“Respondent”), a licensed certified public accountant. The auditor conducted an audit of the continuing professional education courses claimed by the Respondent in the Respondent’s license renewal application that was filed with the Board on December 22, 2009. Upon a review of the complaint, the Board has determined that administrative charges against the Respondent should be held. In an effort to resolve this matter without a formal hearing, the Respondent and the Board have agreed to enter into this Consent Order as the final settlement of this matter.

THE PARTIES AGREE AND STIPULATE:

1. At all times relevant to the matters set forth in this Consent Order, the Board had jurisdiction over the subject matter and the Respondent.
2. The Respondent became licensed as a certified public accountant (License No. 1689) on March 19, 1992.
3. On December 22, 2009, the Respondent filed a license renewal application with the Board for the period December 23, 2009 through February 13, 2012.
4. On the renewal application the Respondent claimed 100 hours of continuing professional education credit hours that was earned during the previous license term.

5. The Board's license renewal application requires an applicant to certify to the accuracy of the information contained in the application. This certification states, in pertinent part:

"I hereby certify, under penalty of perjury, that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief..."

6. On April 9, 2010, the Respondent was notified that his application was selected for audit and to provide documentation of the 100 hours of continuing professional education that was claimed in the application.

7. On April 23, 2010, the Respondent provided documentation for the 100 hours of continuing professional education he claimed in his December 23, 2009 license renewal application.

8. On August 17, 2010, the audit determined was that the Respondent did not complete 4 hours of continuing professional education in ethics prior to the submission of his December 23, 2009 license renewal application.

9. On September 17, 2010, the Respondent provided documentation to the Board that he completed a five-hour course in professional ethics on September 14, 2010.

10. Based on the aforementioned facts, the Respondent acknowledges that he has violated Business Occupations and Professions Article Regulation Article §§2-312(a) (2) and (3) Annotated Code of Maryland and Code of Maryland Regulations COMAR 09.24.02.02 (A) and (B), which state:

§ 2-312. Continuing education.

(a) In general. - (1) The Board shall adopt regulations that set, in accordance with this section, continuing education requirements as a condition to the renewal of licenses under this subtitle.

(2) A continuing education requirement does not apply to the first renewal of a license.

(3) (i) To qualify for any further renewal of a license under this subtitle, a licensee shall complete, for each 2-year license term, at least 80 hours in programs that the Board approves.

09.24.02.02 Basic Requirement.

A. The applicant shall complete a minimum of 80 hours of acceptable continuing education in each 2-year license term after initial renewal.

B. A minimum of 4 hours of the continuing education for each 2-year license term shall be in professional ethics with no carry forward provision for excess hours.

11. Based on the aforementioned violation, the Respondent agrees to pay to the Board a civil penalty of \$1,000.00, payable to the Board of Public Accountancy, in four equal payments of \$250 due on February 1, May 1, August 1 and November 1, 2011.

12. The Respondent agrees to complete eight hours of continuing professional education in ethics not later than July 1, 2011.

13. The Respondent shall abide by the provisions of the Maryland Public Accountancy Act, § 2-101 et. seq., Business Occupations and Professions Article, Annotated Code of Maryland, and COMAR 09.24.01, et. seq.

14. The Respondent, by entering into this Consent Order, expressly waives the right to have the pending allegations by the Board reduced to written charges, the right to an administrative hearing on the charges and the making of Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, and any and all further proceedings before the Board to which the Respondent may be entitled to in this matter, and any rights to appeal from this Order.

15. The Respondent enters into this Consent Order freely, knowingly and voluntarily.

BASED ON THESE STIPULATIONS, IT IS, THIS 2nd DAY OF February, 2011, BY THE BOARD OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTANCY:

ORDERED that the Respondent has violated Business Occupations and Professions Article Regulation Article §§2-312(a) (2) and (3) Annotated Code of Maryland and Code of Maryland Regulations COMAR 09.24.02.02 (A) and (B); and it is further

ORDERED that the Respondent is, hereby, reprimanded;

ORDERED that the Respondent be assessed a civil penalty of \$1,000.00 or the violation, which amount is payable pursuant to Stipulation #11 of this Consent Order;

ORDERED that in the event the Respondent fails to remit payment to the Board the amount due on the dates as agreed to in Stipulation #11 of this Consent Order, the

Respondent's license shall be suspended until full payment of the remaining balance is received by the Board;

ORDERED that the Respondent's complete the additional continuing education As provided in Stipulation # 12 of this Consent Order;

ORDERED that the continuing professional education hours completed pursuant to Stipulation #12 shall not be eligible to be claimed in the Respondent's next license renewal application;

ORDERED that the Respondent shall submit documentation of the continuing professional education hours claimed in the Respondent's next renewal application, upon the request of the Board; and

ORDERED that the Board's records and publications reflect the violations, the reprimand and the civil penalty of \$1,000.00 imposed on the Respondent.

(RESPONDENT'S SIGNATURE
APPEARS ON ORIGINAL ORDER)
Richard Drew Roomberg

Date 1/26/11

(BOARD CHAIR'S SIGNATURE
APPEARS ON ORIGINAL ORDER)
H. Terry Hancock
Chairman