**BEFORE THE NEW MEXICO PUBLIC ACCOUNTANCY BOARD**

**IN THE MATTER OF:** **CASE NO: 2019-09**

**Betsye Ackerman, CPA**

**RESPONDENT**

## PRE-NCA STIPULATED AGREEMENT

**WHEREAS,** the New Mexico Public Accountancy Board ("Board") reviewed records showing non-compliance with continuing professional education (CPE) requirements by Respondent, which is a violation of its regulations, and on March 6, 2019, the Board voted to issue a Notice of Contemplated Action ("NCA") in this matter to the Respondent; and

**WHEREAS,** Respondent and the Board are willing to resolve this matter amicably without the issuance of a NCA as required under the Uniform Licensing Act ("ULA"), NMSA 1978, §§ 61-1-1 et seq., and the 1999 Public Accountancy Act, NMSA 1978 §§ 61-28B-1 et seq., without a hearing; and

**WHEREAS,** the Board believes that this Pre-NCA Stipulated Agreement is appropriate and in the best interests of both the Board and Respondent;

**IT IS AGREED AS FOLLOWS:**

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PUBLIC ACCOUNTANCY

**1. Jurisdiction**

The Board has jurisdiction over Respondent and the subject matter. Respondent at all times material to the allegation of failure to comply with CPE requirements was licensed as a certified public accountant in the State of New Mexico.

**2. Violations**

§ 61-28B-9 NMSA 1978: Issuance and renewal of certificate; maintenance of competency

§ 61-28B-20 A, B, C NMSA 1978: Enforcement; administrative violations and remedies

16. NMAC 60.3.15: Continuing professional education (CPE) required to obtain or maintain an "active" CPA license

**3. Action**

A. Respondent will remit a total fine of $1025.00 payable to the New Mexico Public Accountancy Board (fine broken down as follows; $725 for CPE reporting cycle shortage; and, $100 for not meeting the requisite twenty (20) CPE hour yearly minimum; and, $100 for failing to meet the requisite ninety-six (96) CPE Technical hours for the three (3) year reporting cycle; and, $100 for failing to meet the requisite four (4) CPE Ethic hours per reporting cycle) to be paid no later than April 4, 2019 addressed to Ernest Santucci, New Mexico Public Accountancy Board; 5500 San Antonio Dr. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87109.

B. Respondent will provide evidence of completion of twenty-nine (29) CPE hours of coursework, which must include five (5) CPE Technical hours and one and one-half (1.5) CPE Ethic hours no later than April 4, 2019 to Ernest Santucci, New Mexico Public Accountancy Board; 5500 San Antonio Dr. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87109.

4. **Waiver**

A. Respondent enters into this Pre-NCA Stipulated Agreement voluntarily and waives Respondent's right to a full hearing before the Board and all relevant time limitations pursuant to the provisions of the ULA, including but not limited to NMSA 1978, §§ 61-1-4(F) and 61-1-8.

B. By signing this Pre-NCA Stipulated Agreement, Respondent understands and agrees that Respondent waives excusal of any Board member on the grounds of bias or improper motive as a result of Respondent's review of this Pre-NCA Stipulated Agreement.

C. Respondent's waiver of any rights contained herein is made knowingly, intentionally and voluntarily.

D. Respondent has the right to seek the advice of an attorney regarding this Pre-NCA Stipulated Agreement.

E. This Pre-NCA Stipulated Agreement constitutes disciplinary action by the Board.

5. Failure to comply with the terms and conditions of this Pre-NCA Stipulated Agreement shall be separate and independent grounds for disciplinary action by the Board. In the event the Respondent fails to comply with the provisions hereof, the Board shall have the right to take such action against Respondent as it deems appropriate under the circumstances, including revoking Respondent's license.

6. This Pre-NCA Stipulated Agreement is a settlement of Board Case Number 2019-09 and only the specific facts therein. No costs have been incurred in this matter. The Board

reserves the right to initiate proceedings for any other violation of the 1999 Public Accountancy Act or the Rules and Regulations of the Board adopted pursuant to that Act.

**7.** Any CPE hours completed outside Respondent's reporting cycle are in addition to and shall not count towards Respondent's current and future CPE requirements. Respondent shall obtain all current and future requisite CPE hours needed to maintain an "active" CPA license in any reporting cycle, as prescribed by NMSA 1978 Section 61-28B-9(E) and 16.60.3.15 NMAC.

**8.** The Board agrees that nothing in this Pre-NCA Settlement Agreement represents a restriction on Respondent's license.

**9.** This Pre-NCA Stipulated Agreement is a public record subject to inspection under the Inspection of Public Records Act, NMSA 1978, Sections 14-2-1 through 14-2-12.

Betsey G. Ackerman
(Respondent)

3/12/19
Date

C Jack Emmons
C. Jack Emmons, CPA
Chair, Public Accountancy Board

3/18/19
Date

Sent Certified USPS mail: Return Receipt # 7017 0190 0000 0413 7444

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