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NASBA CEO Elect Daniel Dustin Appoints Four to Leadership Team

*Kent Absec, Brenner Allen, William Emmer and Sedrik Newbern to assume roles in August 2024
as part of new leadership team.*

NASHVILLE, TENN. (July 19, 2024) – The National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA) President and CEO elect Daniel J. Dustin, CPA, has selected Kent A. Absec, Brenner Allen, Esq., William A. Emmer, CPA, and Sedrik Newbern to join the leadership team at NASBA, effective August 1, 2024. These changes to leadership follow the retirement of current NASBA President and CEO Ken L. Bishop.

Kent A. Absec, of Kellogg, ID, will serve as NASBA’s vice president, state board relations. In this role, Absec will serve as an advocate for State Boards of Accountancy and explore opportunities to provide support and services to NASBA’s member boards. Previously, Absec served as the executive officer for the Idaho State Board of Accountancy, a role he held since March 2012. Absec’s involvement with NASBA includes six years on the Computer Based Testing (CBT) Administration Committee and five terms as a member of the Executive Directors Committee. Absec also served as the Executive Directors Committee chair and liaison to the NASBA Board of Directors for two consecutive years.

Brenner (Brie) Allen, Esq., of Lexington, KY, will serve as chief legal officer of NASBA. In this role, Allen will oversee all legal matters on behalf of the Association. A North Carolina native, Allen’s background is in professional regulation, contracting, and governance, with a focus on nonprofits engaged in innovative work. Most recently, Allen served as legal counsel of a U.K.-based consulting firm’s U.S. and global offices. Prior to that, she spent a decade practicing with a Raleigh-based law firm, working with NASBA, the Washington State Board of Accountancy, and Texas State Board of Public Accountancy. She also worked and consulted for the American Bar Association Rule of Law Initiative, assisting its international legal profession regulatory work.

William A. (Bill) Emmer, CPA, of Ramsey, NJ, will serve as NASBA’s vice president, operations and oversee multiple operations at NASBA including services related to the CPA Examination, CPA licensing, the National Candidate Database, the National CPE Registry, other products and services, as well as Information Technology (IT). Emmer has over 30 years of business and leadership experience. He acted as the enterprise program manager of the Uniform CPA Examination (CPA Exam) where he was responsible for the day-to-day operations across the NASBA, AICPA and Prometric (NAP) enterprise. Emmer was instrumental in launching continuous testing of the CPA Exam and launching the Exam in several international countries.

Sedrik Newbern, of Nashville, TN, will serve as president of the NASBA Center for the Public Trust (CPT) and as chief ethics officer of NASBA. As CPT president, Newbern will manage the non-profit ethics and leadership organization’s day-to-day operations and growing number of CPT programs. As chief ethics officer, Newbern will oversee ethics compliance for the organization and will represent NASBA in ethics related activities within

the accounting profession. Newbern's tenure with NASBA began in 2019, where he served as CPT operations director. In 2021, he transitioned to a consultant for the CPT. Prior to joining NASBA, Newbern held various marketing and operations leadership roles across the insurance and nonprofit sectors. He has also shared his experience and passion for entrepreneurship as a college professor in his role as entrepreneur-in-residence in the Department of Management for Gordon Ford College of Business at Western Kentucky University.

"Kent, Brie, Bill and Sedrik each bring unique skill sets and a history of working directly with NASBA's member Boards of Accountancy," said President and CEO elect Daniel J. Dustin. "NASBA is fortunate to attract these highly skilled individuals to carry out the important work of the organization and strengthen the NASBA culture as we transition into the future."

About NASBA

Since 1908, the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA) has served as a forum for the nation's Boards of Accountancy, which administer the Uniform CPA Examination, license more than 672,000 certified public accountants and regulate the practice of public accountancy in the United States.

NASBA's mission is to enhance the effectiveness and advance the common interests of the Boards of Accountancy in meeting their regulatory responsibilities. The Association promotes the exchange of information among accountancy boards, serving the needs of the 55 U.S. jurisdictions.

NASBA is headquartered in Nashville, TN, with an International Computer Testing and Call Center in Guam and operations in San Juan, PR. To learn more about NASBA, visit www.nasba.org.

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