CHAIR LETTER

Volatile Markets, Sluggish Growth, Technology Racing: What’s a CPA To Do?

Advanced planning is starting across the US business world; assets are under review, strategy assumptions are being tested and new ventures are afoot. True, oil prices are at multi-year lows, concerns remain about slowing growth in China and future interest rate increases from the Federal Reserve are being closely watched.

Shake all that off! We’re off and running with a different US economy and complex forces are underway in 2016.

We should expect: the US/Wisconsin to shine even in a low growth world, regulation to continue to be contended with, threats against an open Internet to occur, together with prospects improving for US tax reform after the elections.

As CPAs we should help our clients (1) strengthen the technology foundation to set their business apart, (2) do more deals, (3) anticipate the needs of future customers and other stakeholders, and (4) prepare the Millennials for Leadership roles.

In this, our second Wisconsin Accounting Examining Board Newsletter, we will inform you of key changes and developments impacting CPAs in Wisconsin. Take notice of legislation in the State Senate (SB 532) and Assembly (AB 725) together with updates from the AICPA, NASBA and DSPS. All good!

Don’t hesitate to contact us anytime with a question or comment.

With your help the Accounting Examining Board will continue to strengthen the accounting profession in Wisconsin.

John S. Scheid
Chair of Wisconsin Accounting Examining Board
The Wisconsin Accounting Examining Board (AEB) has collaborated during the past two years with the Department of Safety and Professional Services (DSPS), the Wisconsin Institute of CPAs (WICPA), the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA), and the American Institute of CPAs (AICPA) in updating the Wisconsin Administrative Code (Code) provisions that regulate the CPA profession in Wisconsin. The AEB held public hearings on the proposed Code changes during this process as well.

In January 2016 Sen. Howard L. Marklein, CPA, and chair of the Senate Committee on Revenue, Financial Institutions and Rural Issues, authored Senate Bill 532 and Representative Dale Kooyenga, CPA authored Assembly Bill 725 which accomplishes the following objectives:

• Updating outdated and incorrect references to national accounting standards that CPAs must reference and follow in serving Wisconsin businesses and residents, e.g., AICPA mailing address, Internet link to AICPA standards, and updated peer review definitions and processes.
• Organizing the Code provisions into a much more user-friendly format that is easier for CPAs, regulators and the public to find and understand regulatory guidance.
• Aligning more closely with the Uniform Accountancy Act and related model regulations that are incorporated into statutes and regulations of all other states in order to reduce complexity and regulatory inconsistency for the many Wisconsin CPAs who serve clients in multiple states.
• Reflecting the recent statutory change in the Uniform CPA Examination college education requirements by specifying college education CPA exam eligibility requirements that will be helpful to educators in developing curriculum. This clarification will also help CPA candidates select courses that are tested in the nationally administered Uniform CPA Examination.

SB 532 and AB 725 will also direct the Accounting Examining Board to research and submit to the legislature a report regarding the feasibility of rules to establish continuing education requirements for renewal of a Wisconsin CPA license. With reciprocity of CPA state licensing given CPAs working across state lines, continuing education is currently required in all other licensing jurisdictions except Wisconsin. The AEB will submit a report describing its findings and recommendations by December 31, 2016.

On January 13, 2016 Accounting Examining Board Chair John S. Scheid and WICPA President & CEO Dennis F. Tomorsky both testified at the Senate Committee on Revenue, Financial Institutions and Rural Issues in support of Senate Bill 532. The amendment and restatement of the Wisconsin Administrative Code provisions in SB 532 and AB 725 will allow Wisconsin CPAs to comply with current uniform professional standards and clarify the educational requirements to take the CPA exam.

As of Newsletter publishing date, the Wisconsin Senate has passed SB 532 and the Assembly will vote on AB 725 very shortly. Watch for future updates on this proposed legislation.

DELINQUENT LICENSEES

Individuals that did not renew their Wisconsin CPA licenses prior to December 15, 2015 are considered expired but may be renewed by paying the license fee and penalty fees, total cost $107. The direct link for licensees to renew their license is online.drl.wi.gov.

NOTE: DSPS staff attempts to reach each delinquent licensee using the most current contact information in the license file. It’s important to update the department about changes to your address or email.
SSARS No. 21 CLARIFICATION

Accountants who are engaged to prepare financial statements for clients are required to adhere to the guidance issued in Statement on Standards for Accounting and Review Services (SSARS) No. 21, Clarification and Recodification (see “A Bright Line in SSARSs,” JofA, Dec. 2014, page 32). Among other things, SSARS No. 21 provides requirements and guidance for accountants who are engaged to prepare financial statements—but are not engaged to perform an audit, review, or compilation of those financial statements. Accountants who perform bookkeeping services have asked when the standard applies to those engagements. The CPEA provides some considerations for accountants who face this issue.

Many CPEA members have begun asking whether a client engagement falls under AR-C Section 70, Preparation of Financial Statements, of SSARS No. 21. It is important to note that Section 70 of SSARS No. 21 does not apply unless the accountant is engaged to prepare financial statements. The key here is for the accountant to have an understanding with the client related to what the accountant is hired to do—and also what the engagement will not include. There is no “tripping into” a preparation service—it is a very bright line in that the accountant is required to comply with the SSARSs only if he or she is engaged to prepare financial statements. Therefore, it is important that the accountant and the client understand whether the engagement is to include the preparation of financial statements. However, some additional considerations may help when making this determination with your clients.

If the accountant is merely engaged to assist the client in preparing financial statements (e.g., the accountant is engaged to just prepare journal entries and perhaps post to the client’s cloud-computing application, or just to prepare certain note disclosures), then the accountant is engaged to provide accounting or bookkeeping services, and Section 70 of SSARS No. 21 does not apply. However, if the client’s understanding is that the accountant will then prepare the financial statements based on those inputs, then Section 70 of SSARS No. 21 would apply.

If the accountant is providing bookkeeping or accounting services to a client and uses the accounting software to generate financial statements, the SSARSs may apply. The SSARSs apply only when the accountant is engaged (i.e., hired) to prepare financial statements, so if the understanding with the client is that the accountant is to provide certain bookkeeping services but that the financial statements are to be prepared by the accounting software, then the SSARSs would not apply. In those instances, it is advisable to include language in the engagement letter that clearly indicates the engagement does not include the preparation of financial statements.

Although he or she is not required to do so, the accountant also may wish to consider the intended users of the financial statements, especially if the financial statements previously have been provided to third parties (e.g., a bank). If the accountant is aware that the client will provide financial statements to a third party and assert that the accountant prepared (or is otherwise associated with) the financial statements, the accountant may, as part of the process of reaching an understanding with the client as to the services to be provided, make clear that either:

- The accountant is preparing the financial statements, or
- The client should not make any assertions regarding the accountant’s association with the financial statements.

If the accountant is engaged to prepare the financial statements, one of the benefits of SSARS No. 21 is the requirement that a legend be included on each page of the financial statements (including any note disclosures) that clearly indicates that “no assurance is provided” on the financial statements. This reduces the risk that a third-party user would take an inappropriate level of comfort from the accountant’s association with the financial statements.

Establishing an understanding with your client before beginning any work on an engagement is of the highest importance. As accountants, we should educate our clients on the services that we can provide so that the client has a proper understanding of what the accountant believes he or she is hired to do and the expected outcome of the engagement work (e.g., the legend that would be included on each page of the financial statements in a preparation engagement).

About the Author
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- See more at: http://www.journalofaccountancy.com/issues/2016/jan/bookkeeping-service-or-preparation-service.html#sthash.o1DaA7nL.dpuf
As of January 2016, Wisconsin has 13,412 active CPAs and 565 licensed accounting firms.

**WHAT IS NASBA**

Founded in 1908, the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA) has served as an association dedicated to enhancing the effectiveness of the country’s 55 state boards of accountancy for more than 100 years. As a driving force within the accounting profession, NASBA accomplishes its mission by creating a forum for accounting regulators and practitioners to address issues relevant to the viability of the accounting profession. NASBA takes pride in offering its member boards a rich portfolio of products and services, all designed to effectively aid boards in their goal to protect the public. NASBA is privileged to have established a reputation as a trusted resource in regulatory and professional services.

**NASBA’s Mission**

Enhance the effectiveness and advance the common interests of the Boards of Accountancy.

**NASBA’s Vision**

An effectively regulated accounting profession’s impact on the economy can be profound. Confidence in those professional services positively impacts the economy and is in the public interest.

NASBA will provide the Boards of Accountancy the highest level of support in their regulation of the profession by:

- Providing visionary leadership
- Speaking as a trusted collective voice for the Boards on national and international issues
- Supporting Boards as effective stewards of the public interest
- Performing all services with excellence

**NASBA’s Values**

Our values drive how we go about meeting the spirit of our mission and vision. NASBA is committed to:

- Above all, preserving the public trust through effective regulation of the accounting profession
- Treating all of our members, business partners and other stakeholders fairly and with respect
- Maintaining a diverse, healthy, fun work environment where teamwork, creativity and accountability are encouraged
- Practicing effective stewardship of our resources in order to provide the highest level of services possible to our members
- Ensuring the highest quality, integrity and excellence in all that we do

**NASBA’s Objectives**

- Establish and maintain effective relationships with Board of Accountancy members, Board staff and other stakeholders
- Support the authority of the Boards of Accountancy to regulate their licensees
- Enhance and maintain enforcement capabilities of Boards of Accountancy
- Pursue operational excellence in all areas
- Promote diversity and inclusion among NASBA leadership, volunteers and the Boards
- Provide a comprehensive monitoring and response network to Boards of Accountancy on regulatory and legislative issues that affect the Boards, the public and the profession.
- Promote ethical behavior in the profession
- Help the Boards of Accountancy develop the capacity of their Board members, staff and legal counsel
- Ensure that the Boards are apprised of emerging issues that may affect their regulation of the profession
- Promote the CPA license to ensure an adequate supply of CPAs to meet the needs of the public
- Implement a leadership development program that builds a strong base for NASBA and the Boards
- Provide technology leadership and support to the Boards of Accountancy

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Technology is offering ways to improve audit quality, whether it is through risk assessment or carrying out audit procedures with massive data, Roger O’Donnell, KPMG senior audit partner told the 10th Annual Auditing Conference sponsored by the NASBA Center for the Public Trust and Baruch College of the City University of New York on December 3. “Our customers have the drive to do more and innovate more – and we need to do the same,” he said. “If you look at the software that is out there, it is remarkable how precise you can become.” Addressing the students in the audience, he said: “The way we will audit will be very similar, but the information that will be available will be better.”

Jim Burton, Grant Thornton Partner-in-Charge of the Audit Methodology and Standards Group, explained: “We relied on physical samples. Now you can look at all the transactions.” Panelists agreed that they are analyzing two populations, lower risk and higher risk populations, and auditors will have to determine the needed testing for each. Mary Grace Davenport, PWC partner, observed, auditing standards talk about the whole population, not different populations. “This is a game changer: It will change how we pursue our day-to-day activities,” Ms. Davenport noted. “It is a tremendously exciting time for joining this profession.” Clients have invested in data analytics and she maintains the audit profession can’t be different from the rest of the players in the capital markets.

Looking back at the accounting profession over recent years, retired Wall Street Journal reporter Floyd Norris said he believes the reforms passed after the Enron scandal have worked. “The PCAOB inspections have made auditors realize there is a second set of eyes looking at their audits,” Mr. Norris observed. He supports the recommendation to require the lead engagement partner’s name be published with the audit report. “Routine naming would provide incentive for a partner to stand up to a client,” he explained. Investors could then immediately see who was the audit partner when an audit failed to show a company was in trouble, and could ask for the partner who did not find the problem to be replaced. “Audit reports are never worth reading,” Mr. Norris commented and questioned why they don’t say more.

PCAOB exposure drafts on the auditor’s reporting model and on the supervision of other auditors should be expected in the first half of 2016, PCAOB Chief Auditor and Director of Professional Standards Martin Baumann reported. More research is being done on the auditor’s responsibility for reviewing other information, so it will not be part of the 2016 exposure draft but the study will continue, he said. The PCAOB has added six full-time economists to its staff as it continues to evaluate the costs and benefits of adding critical audit matters to the auditor’s reporting model. He reported the emerging issues identified by the PCAOB’s Standing Advisory Group were: whistleblower activity, economic developments, uses of data/data auditing; non-GAAP measures; the impact of the FASB’s materiality proposal; revenue recognition; and cyber security.

Defining an “annual report” is not easy, Mike Sanjay, incoming chair of the Auditing Standards Board stated. He pointed out that investors feel if there is a disclaimer there must be an issue, and the ASB is considering that. They are trying to converge their work with the work of both the PCAOB and the IAASB. Currently the ASB’s reporting project is focused on standards or guidance to enhance auditor reporting for benefit plans.

“The litigation environment for the accounting profession now is the best I have seen it in more than 30 years,” proclaimed Michael Young, litigation partner at Wilkie Farr & Gallagher. He believes this is in part because audit documentation has gotten better, increasing sophistication of the judicial system to financial information, and the timing of the last financial crisis was after the audit reports had come out. However he warned that the SEC has been talking about going after “gatekeepers,” including accountants and audit committees. Mr. Young also warned that the plaintiff’s bar is paying attention to e-mails and voice mails; consequently, if something is mentioned by staff in e-mail or recorded in voice mail, there should be follow through and the action reported in the work papers.

The role of the State Boards in enforcement was underscored by Noel Allen, NASBA legal counsel. He reminded all that if CPAs are under investigation, they are required to report that to their State Board of Accountancy. In some states, failure to so report in a renewal form can subject the CPA to perjury charges. ★

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Congratulations to the CPAs who have received a Wisconsin license to practice Public Accounting during 2015

Maryam Abarnirooee
Derek Abbas
Nathan Abramowski
Jacqueline Adrians
Joshua Adrians
Karl Albert
Nicole Alia
Azzam Alsuhaihani
Kyle Andersen
Michael Anderson
Joshua Araujo
Jason Askew
Daniel Ausloos
Alyssa Baehman
Benjamin Baker
Genea Baker
Gregory Baker
Daniel Baldwin
Blake Barnes
Christopher Barrett
Ryan Batten
Jonathon Baughner
Donald Baumann
Joann Baumann
Joshua Baumann
Brent Becker
Kyle Bennwitz
Jasmine Berg
Kimberly Berg
Danielle Berndt
Erica Berning
Elisabeth Beyer Schwartz
Kara Bicasca
Andja Biernath
Derek Blackford
Joshua Bleecker
Steven Bloechl
Aaron Boettcher
Nathan Borstad
Timothy Bowar
Matthew Brehmer
Lisa Brey
Sara Brian
Diane Brien
Daniel Bruns
James Bryson
Elizabeth Buettner
Justin Buhrow
Adrienne Bullis
Jacob Burkett
Emily Burkhoulder
April Campbell
Justin Campbell
Austin Carlson
Michael Carpenter
Rachel Catoe
Lauren Chance
Ryan Chance
Jeremy Check
Xiangrong Chen
Sarah Christnovich
Kathleen Ciantar
Cory Ciba
Joseph Clary
David Cohen
Charles Cook
Angela Cooper
Matthew Cooper
Jay Cottington
Mitchel Cox
Emily Craddock
Samantha Crosswell
Matthew Culer
Erica Curry
Peter Cyffka
Mackenzie Daley
Ann Daugherty
Sarah Davis
Daniel Degier
Jason Dejna
Daniel Denis
Mark Denis
Mitchell Denure
Adam Deprey
Kyle Detert
Samuel Dettmann
Wei Dickson
Kayla Dix
Lucas Dorn
Colin Doyle
Nathan Dreikosen
Ruixue Du
Kayla Duncan
Nicholas Ebert
Alex Eichelberger
Daniel Ellenberger
Krysta Ellis
Nolan Ehl
Steven Epping
Amy Erlwig
Rainie Ernst
Jewel Erson
Anthony Fabris
Patrick Fargen
Matthew Farrar
Dominick Fedrigon
Sara Feider
Jacob Fimreite
Caleb Flax
Russell Fleming
Carrie Foy
Brian Frank
John Freeman
Joseph Froehlich
Starr Frohlich
Heidi Gabriel
Nicole Gabriel
Kendra Gabrielse
Garrett Gardner
Matthew Gates
Robin Gaynor
Ske Gehrig
Thomas Gehrein
Elizabeth Geisen
Matthew Geitner
Amanda Giombi
Bob Gleisner
Kelly Gleisner
Benjamin Gmeinder
Alexandra Goldman
Candice Gollon
Shuang-Ying Gong
Devan Gonyea
Luz Gonzalez
Maria Gonzalez
Tasha Glossin
Nicole Graf
Ryan Gruhlke
Renee Haag
Victoria Haas
Callen Hahnfeldt
Niko Handel
Jeffrey Haneline
Brooke Hanke
Phillip Hanke
Eric Hansen
Mark Hansen
James Hare
Joseph Harrison
Alyssa Hartung
Jacob Hathaway
Dustin Hau
Jeffrey Haugen
Justin Haut
Nicholas Hege
Eric Heth
Andrew Hicks
Lynne Hindman
Jamie Hoffmann
Sarah Hofkens
Sara Hofmann
David Holmes
Nicholas Holmes
Adam Honl
Melissa Hopper
Nico Hoy
Scott Hrdina
Kim Humphreys
Alex Hustad
Daniel Hyman
James Ibach
Ahmet Iris
Amanda Isken
Nicholas Jablonski
Luke Jacobson
Jessica Jaeger
Jamie Jakubowski
Chad Janke
Bradley Jansen
Jacob Jansen
Troy Januchowski
Benjamin Jensen
Brian Jeremiaso
Cecily Jerome
Anamarie Jezo
Jeffrey Johns
Jamie Johnson
Sandra Johnson
Sharon Johnson
Gregory Jones
Sarah Jones
Benjamin Jossart
Mark Juesis
Lindy Julius
Mitchell Jussila
Daniel Kaehny
Joshua Kauf
Courtney Kelly
Eric Kennedy
Rebecca Kirst
Brittany Klopitz
Bradley Klingsporn
Jacob Knake
Erik Knudson
Jennifer Knuth
Luke Kolbe
Derek Komisar
Toshiaki Kono
Connor Koplik
Brandon Krause
Christopher Kuecker
Benjamin Kurey
Allen Lacrosse
Maria Ladsten
Ryan Ladwig
Alexander Lagerstrom
Tara Langley
Nathan Lanser
Amanda Laplane
Anna Lashkova
Benjamin Latendresse
Christa Laughland
Alison Leduc
Ivana Lee
Valerie Leitz
Jason Lent
Brittany Leonard
Michele Lewandowski
Kevin Lewicki
Richard Li

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Congratulations to the CPAs who have received a Wisconsin license to practice Public Accounting during 2015 (Continued)

Abby Liebergen
Anna Lindeke
Samantha Linn
Nathan Lipton
Pengpeng Liu
Xuefei Liu
Charles Lohoff
Derek Long
Cory Lopppnow
William Lutz
Jordan Lynch
Anne Macdonald
Daniel Malfroid
Patrick Malloy
Brittany Malveig
Maranda Manley
Angela Mann
William Markee
Aaron Mars
Nathan Martin
Zachary Martin
Timothy Martinelli
Alexander Martinez
Mallory Massey
Michael Matuszak
Ashley McCarthy
Elizabeth Mc Coy
Michael Mc Dougall
Joseph Mckeown
Lorna Mclenighan
Elizabeth Mcmasters
Connor Mcnamara
Joseph Meuesen
David Meicher
Angela Meighan
Alexander Merg
Benjamin Mertes
Robert Meyers
Christopher Meythaler
Kurt Millard
Kristina Miller
Kelly Mischler
Melissa Mischler
Kari Mitchell
Michael Moles
Britta Munzenmaier
Amanda Murkley
Gerard Murrin
Brittany Murtha
Kayla Nabbefeld
Peter Nagy
Tanya Neill
Danielle Nelson
Riley Nett
Kristina Neuser
Joseph Neville
Kyle Niekamp
Troy Nielsen
Joseph Niemann
Sean Nordstog
Thomas Novotny
Michael O’Brien
Theodore Ohlgart
Levi Olson
Lauren Omer
Jason Oswald
Gary Otte
Christopher Ourada
Mary Patrick
Edwin Park
Shivangini Parmar
Megan Passella
Nicole Paterson
Sara Paull
Joseph Paulus
Michael Pederson
Dylan Pedretti
Anthony Pekarske
M Susan Perkins
Briana Peters
Timothy Peterson
Allen Pettigrew
Shanna Pfeffer
Justin Pflum
Somphysane
Phanouvanh
Tracy Phelan
Brad Plachter
Scott Platto
Michael Poertner
Erica Pollek
Ryan Popp
Jason Povlich
Molly Powell
Matthew Prentice
Jay Pribe
Brandon Price
Sean Qualey
Zachary Raab
Jason Race
Jordan Rageth
Rebecca Ramsey
Kate Rasmussen
Megan Reardon
Jordan Reigel
Jessica Resch
Richard Reter
Andrew Robertson
Jessica Rogers
Angela Romersi
Joshua Ronsman
Laura Roszak
Jordan Rubendall
Edward Rueter
Michael Rutkowski
Kevin Ryterski
Omar Salhi
Nathan Sanner
Arek Schmocker
David Schneider
Emily Schoen
Julie Schramke
Ryan Schrank
Adam Schubert
Tylere Schuelke
Ryan Schuh
Alex Schultz
Daniel Schultz
Matthew Schutz
Joshua Schwagerl
Alexander Schweiner
Laura Schweitzer
Jennifer Seboe
Jocelyn Seeligar
Cindy Seelie
Paul Seitz
Amanda Senkbeil
Kathryn Serpe
Joshua Sexton
William Seymour
Patrick Shannon
Kaitlin Shea
Jonathan Shertok
Douglas Shiero
Se Woong Shim
Sarah Siegle
Jennifer Siegmann
Dana Siemer
Steven Sievert
Liza Skinkis
Samuel Sladky
Elizabeth Slovensky
Cullen Small
Graylin Smith
Gregory Smith
Heather Smith
Hunter Smith
Taylor Smithyman
Jordan Southworth
Kimberly Spiess
Robert Splinter
Daniel Squire
Carolyn St John
Tanya Stamps
Amber Stamsta
Reginald Stauuss
Sabrina Steger
Matthew Stephanie
Shaina Strennen
Megan Stroud
Stephanie Suchla
Danniel Sutter
Joshua Swanson
Stanley Swindling
Mary Tarman
Geno Tatintsev
Erik Tauschmann
Justin Taylor
Melanie Taylor
Caitlein Temme
Reid Ten Kley
Iana Teslia
Matthew Theis
Cameron Thierry
Michelle Thode
Aleece Tiedt
Richard Tobias
Sergio Tovar
Michelle Tran
Emily True
Brian Truesdale
Ha Truong
Rachel Ude
Adam Updike
Rebecca Van Kauwenberg
Allison Van Roy
Jessica Vandeven Heuvel
Lindsey Vander Loop
Shanna Venne
Andrew Vinz
Ann Volkman
Justin Vrakas
Mai Choua Vue
Evan Wall
Brian Wanek
Mark Wanek
Yisi Wang
Jared Ward
Shaun Weinfurter
Lauren Wester
Peter Wiedel
Andrew Wiederholt
Steven Wierschm
Joseph Wilcox
Megan Wildish
Ashley Wilkens
Ali Wilkins
Daniel Williams
Abigail Williamson
Andrew Witt
Joseph Woelfel
Ryan Wojnowiak
Sandra Woytysia
Julie Wolfe
Jeremy Wolfe
Xiaoqi Wu
Amy Young
Aaron Youngerberg
Yingying Yuan
Robert Zaffrann
Andrew Zainer
Brian Zaletel
Michelle Zeasman
Brittany Zeske
Chi Zhang
Matthew Zimdars
Seth Zipperer
WISCONSIN ACCOUNTING EXAMINING BOARD JOINS CPAVERIFY, THE NATIONAL DATABASE OF CPAS

CPAverify.org, the national database of Certified Public Accountants developed in a joint effort between the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA) and the State Boards of Accountancy, is a huge first step in offering a single-source national database of all licensed CPAs. The website is a CPA lookup tool that is populated by official state regulatory data sent from Accountancy Boards to a central database that is free and open to the public.

The Wisconsin Accounting Examining Board has begun the technical implementation of establishing a data feed that will provide historical and current licensees’ disciplinary actions to the national data base.

NASBA and the Accountancy Boards are very proud to offer this service for public consumption. Currently, 51 Boards provide their data to CPAverify, and Wisconsin will soon join their ranks.

Practitioners from participating jurisdictions will be listed among all licensed CPAs across the nation. CPAs can refer potential clients and potential employers to CPAverify as an official resource to confirm their good standing. Current and potential employers who are looking to hire a CPA as a finance employee can quickly use CPAverify to see the full licensing history of the candidate. Accounting firms can also track their employees’ license renewal dates for compliance purposes. Prospective clients can hire their potential CPA for assistance with personal finance confidently after using the resource.

In addition, if a CPA holds licenses in multiple states, those records will appear in a linked fashion, making the search highly intuitive.

CPAverify’s chief benefit is that it is a single source for licensing information. Most Boards of Accountancy have this information available, but CPAverify aggregates all of it into one single location for convenience and enhanced accuracy, and can link an individual CPA’s records across multiple jurisdictions. For the first time, companies and individuals looking to research a CPA won’t have to visit multiple websites, but can get their information from one source.

Whether used by employers hiring staff or a public consumer looking for help with their taxes, CPAverify will provide a fast, simple check of whether the CPA is officially licensed and a review of the current license status and general license history for that CPA. Ultimately, this tool promotes the value of the CPA designation while simultaneously dissuading fraudulent use of the credential.

DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

The dates and times of the Accounting Examining Board meetings are announced on the DSPS website. Meeting agendas are posted approximately one week prior to the meeting. The next meeting is scheduled to be May 12, 2016.

Do you have a change of name or address?
Licensees can update name or address information on the Department website at: https://online.drl.wi.gov/UserLogin.aspx

Please note that confirmation of change is not automatically provided. Legal notices will be sent to a licensee’s address of record with the Department.

License Look-up: https://app.wi.gov/licensesearch

Administrative Staff:
Brittany Lewin, Executive Director
Amber Cardenas, Legal Counsel

Executive Staff:
Dave Ross, Secretary
Eric Esser, Deputy Secretary
Jeff Weigand, Assistant Deputy Secretary

Board Order Search: http://dsps.wi.gov/Other-Services/ Lookup-Orders-Disciplinary

Call the Department of Safety and Professional Services toll-free (877) 617-1565, or (608) 266-2112 in the Madison area to connect to the service you need.

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