STATE OF MINNESOTA BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY

In the Matter of Steven I. Levey CPA Certificate No. 23163 STIPULATION AND CONSENT ORDER Board File 2011-305

It is hereby stipulated and agreed by Steven I. Levey ("Respondent"), 1670 Broadway, Suite 3000, Denver, Colorado 80202, and the Complaint Committee ("Committee") of the Board of Accountancy ("Board") that without trial or adjudication of any issue of fact or law and without any evidence or admission by any party with respect to any such issue:

- 1. For the purpose of this Stipulation, Respondent waives all procedures and proceedings before the Board to which Respondent may be entitled under the United States and Minnesota constitutions, statutes, or the rules of the Board, including the right to dispute the allegations against Respondent and to dispute the appropriateness of discipline in a contested case hearing pursuant to Minnesota Statute Chapter 14 (2010), and to dispute any civil penalty imposed by this Stipulation. Respondent agrees that upon the <u>ex parte</u> application of the Committee, the Board may order the remedy specified in paragraph seven below. Respondent waives the right to any judicial review of the order by appeal, by writ of certiorari, or otherwise.
- 2. This Stipulation shall constitute the entire record of the proceedings herein upon which the Consent Order is based. All documents in the Board's files shall maintain the data classification to which they are entitled under the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, Minnesota Statute Section 13 (2010). They shall not; to the extent they are not already public documents, become public merely because they are referenced herein.
- 3. In the event the Board in its discretion does not approve this Stipulation or a lesser remedy than specified herein, this Stipulation and Consent Order shall be null

and void and shall not be used for any purpose by either party. If this Stipulation is not approved and a contested case hearing is initiated by the Committee pursuant to Minnesota Statute Section 14 (2010), Respondent agrees not to object to the Board's initiation of the hearing and it hearing the case on the basis that the Board has become disqualified because of its review and consideration of this Stipulation or of any records relating hereto.

FACTS

- 4. Respondent admits the facts referred to below and grants that the Board may, for the purpose of reviewing the record in paragraph two above, consider the following as true without prejudice to the Respondent in any current or future proceeding of the Board with regard to these or other allegations:
- a. The Board issued a Certified Public Accountant license to Respondent on July 21, 2000.
- b. Respondent's certificate expired on December 31, 2008, and the Respondent failed to renew his certificate for 2009 through 2011, or notify the Board that the Respondent was electing exemption from renewal under Minnesota Statute Section 326A.04, subp 2 (b) (2010). Respondent's certificate was Revoked on May 13, 2011.
- 5. Respondent admits that the facts and conduct specified in paragraph four above constitutes violation of Minnesota Statute Section 326A (2010) and Minnesota Rule 1105 (2011) specifically Minnesota Rules Parts 1105.5600 and 1105.7800, (2011), and are sufficient grounds for the remedy specified in paragraph 7 below, and that proof at hearing of any one or more of the allegations set forth would empower the Board to take disciplinary action against Respondent's certificate.

hearing or by other appropriate means on the basis of any act, conduct, or admission of Respondent justifying disciplinary action which occurred before or after the date of this Stipulation and that is not directly related to the specific facts and circumstances set forth herein.

REMEDY

- 7. Upon this Stipulation and record, as set forth in paragraph two above, and without any further notice of proceedings, the Committee and Respondent agree that the Board may, in its discretion, issue an order to Respondent requiring compliance with the following:
 - a. Respondent's certificate is **CENSURED** and **REPRIMANDED**.
- b. Concurrent with the submission of this Stipulation and Consent Order to the Board for its approval Respondent shall pay:
 - 1. A CIVIL PENALTY of \$750.00,
- 2.~ A \$60.00 Inactive Certificate Renewal Fee for the years 2009 through 2014 at \$10.00 per year,
- 3. A \$150.00 Annual Delinquency Fee for the years 2009 through 2011 at \$50.00 per year,
- 4. A \$15.00 Licensing Surcharge Fee for the years 2009, 2010 and 2012 at \$5.00 per year and
 - 5. A \$20.00 Reinstatement Application Fee.
- c. Concurrent with the submission of this Stipulation and Consent Order to the Board for its approval, Respondent shall apply for an inactive certificate. Respondent shall not engage in activities requiring an active certificate in this state, including but not limited to the performance of attest services, nor shall Respondent hold out to the public in any manner so as to suggest that the Respondent holds an

active certificate. Respondent shall comply with Minnesota Statute Section 326A.04, subd 4 (2010).

- d. Respondent shall cease and desist from violating any statute, rule or order that the Board has issued or is empowered to enforce.
- 8. Violations of this Stipulation and Consent Order shall be considered a violation of Minnesota Statute Section 326A.08, subdivision5 (1) (2010). If Respondent violates this Stipulation and Consent Order, Minnesota Statute Section 326A.01-.14 (2010) or Minnesota Rule 1105 (2011), the Board may impose additional discipline pursuant to the following procedure:
- a. The Complaint Committee shall schedule a hearing before the Board. At least thirty (30) days prior to the hearing, the Committee shall mail Respondent a notice of the violation alleged by the Committee and of the time and place of the hearing. Service of notice on Respondent is complete upon mailing the notice to Respondent's last known address. Within fourteen (14) days after the notice is mailed, Respondent shall submit a response to the allegations. If Respondent does not submit a timely response to the Board, the allegations may be deemed admitted.
- b. At the hearing before the Board, the Committee and Respondent may submit affidavits made on personal knowledge and argument based on the record in support of their positions. The evidentiary record before the Board shall be limited to such affidavits and this Stipulation and Consent Order. Respondent waives a hearing before an administrative law judge and waives discovery, cross-examination of adverse witnesses, and other procedures governing administrative hearings or civil trials.
- c. At the hearing, the Board will determine whether to impose additional disciplinary action, which may include additional conditions or limitations on Respondent's practice or suspension or revocation of Respondent's certificate. The

Committee shall have the right to attempt to resolve an alleged violation of the Stipulation and Consent Order through the procedures of Minnesota Statute Section 214.10 (2010). Nothing herein shall limit (a) the Committee's right to initiate a proceeding against Respondent pursuant to Minnesota Statute Chapter 14 (2010), or (b) the Committee's and the Board's right to temporarily suspend Respondent's certificate pursuant to Minnesota Statute Section 326A.08, subd. 6 (2010), based on a violation of this Stipulation and Consent Order or based on conduct of Respondent before or after the date of this Stipulation which is not specifically referred to in paragraph 4 above.

- 9. Any appropriate court may, upon application of the Board, enter its decree enforcing the order of the Board.
- 10. Respondent hereby acknowledges that he has read, understands, and agrees to this Stipulation and Consent Order and has freely and voluntarily signed the Stipulation without threat or promise by the Board or any of its members, employees, or agents. When signing the Stipulation, Respondent acknowledges that that he is fully aware that the Stipulation and Consent Order must be approved by the Board. The Board may approve the Stipulation and Consent Order as proposed, approve the order subject to specified change, or reject it. If the changes are unacceptable to Respondent or the Board rejects the Stipulation, it will be of no effect except as specified herein.
- 11. Upon approval by the Board and execution by the Board Chair or his designee, this Stipulation and Consent Order is public data pursuant to Minnesota Statute Section 13.41, subdivision 4 (2010).
- 12. This Stipulation contains the entire agreement between the parties. Respondent is not relying on any other agreement or representation of any kind, verbal or otherwise.

- 13. Respondent is aware that Respondent may choose to be represented by legal counsel in this matter. Respondent knowingly waived legal representation.
- 14. If approved by the Board, a copy of this Stipulation and Consent Order shall be served personally or by first class mail on Respondent. The Order shall be effective and deemed issued when it is signed by the Board Chair or designee of the Chair.

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STEVEN Respondent

Dated:

BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY

Chair

ORDER:

Upon consideration of the foregoing Stipulation and based upon all the files, records and proceedings, herein,

- 1. IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Steven I. Levey's Certified Public Accountant (CPA) Certificate is CENSURED AND REPRIMANDED, and
- 2. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all other terms of this Stipulation and Consent Order are adopted and implemented this ______ day of ____

STATE OF MINNESOTA BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY

MICHAELM. VEKICH, CPA

Chair

STATE OF MINNESOTA BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY

In the Matter of Steven I Levey CPA Certificate No. 23163 ORDER TO REINSTATE Board File 2011-305

Based on the request and agreement stated above, the Board issues the following **ORDER**.

- 1. The Order issued on May 13, 2011, is hereby **RESCINDED** and shall have no further effect.
- 2. Steven I. Levey's Certified Public Accountant (CPA) Certificate 23163 is **REINSTATED**.

Dated: 4/20/17

STATE OF MINNESOTA BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY

MICHAEL M. VEKICH, CPA

Chair