STATE OF MINNESOTA BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY

In the Matter of Vicki Marie Ahl Certified Public Accountant Certificate No. 10907 STIPULATION AND CONSENT ORDER Board File 2012-220

The Minnesota Board of Accountancy ("Board") is authorized pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 214.10 (2012); Minnesota Statutes Section 326A.02, subdivisions 4 and 6 (2012); and Minnesota Statutes Section 326A.08 (2012) to review complaints against certified public accountants and to take disciplinary action whenever appropriate.

The Board received information concerning Vicki Marie Ahl, CPA, 1396 Farmdale Road, Mendota Heights, Minnesota 55118 ("Respondent"). The Board's Complaint Committee ("Committee") reviewed that information.

On July 2, 2013, the Board's Complaint Committee, composed of Board members Robert P. Saunders, CPA, Michael M. Vekich, CPA, and Gregory S. Steiner, CPA, met to discuss allegations made in reference to this matter.

It is hereby stipulated and agreed by Respondent and the Committee 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 Statutes Chapter 14 (2012). Respondent agrees that upon the *ex parte* application of

the Committee, without notice to or appearance by Respondent, the Board may order the remedy specified in paragraph 7 below. Respondent waives the right to any judicial review of the order by appeal, by writ of certiorari, petition for review, 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 Statutes Chapter 13 (2012). 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 in this Consent Order, 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 Statutes Chapter 14 (2012), 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. This Stipulation is based upon the following facts. Respondent admits the facts referred to below and grants that the Board may, for the purpose of reviewing the record in paragraph 2 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 initially issued a Certified Public Accountant license to Respondent on October 14, 1987. Respondent currently holds an active Certified

Public Accountant Certificate Number 10907, issued by the Board. Respondent is subject to the jurisdiction of the Board with respect to the matters referred to in this Stipulation.

- b. During the years 1993-2009, Respondent violated "her fiduciary duties as trustee of a trust she established on behalf of a client by failing to make distributions to beneficiaries required by the terms of the trust and depleting trust assets by the charging of excessive and unreasonable fees, in violation of Minn. R. Prof. Conduct 1.15 (c)(4) and 8.4(d), and misrepresenting to counsel for the beneficiaries that time records were made contemporaneously with the performance of work described therein, in violation of Minn. R. Prof. Conduct. 8.4(c)." In re Petition for Disciplinary Action against Vicki M. Ahl, a Minnesota Attorney, File No. A12-0603, March 21, 2013 Order, p.1.
- c. Respondent was disciplined for the conduct described in section 4.b. above by the Minnesota Supreme Court. In an Order dated March 21, 2013, Respondent was suspended indefinitely from the practice of law, with no right to petition for reinstatement for a minimum of two years from the date of the Order.
- d. At the time the conduct described in section 4.b. above occurred, Respondent held either a Certified Public Accountant license or Certified Public Accountant certificate issued by the Board.
- 5. Respondent admits that the facts and conduct specified in paragraph 4 above constitute violations of Minnesota Statutes Section 326A.08, Subdivisions 5(a) (1), 5a(2), 5a(4), and 5a(10) (2012) and Minnesota Rule 1105.5600.D (2) (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.

6. This Stipulation shall not in any way or manner limit or affect the authority of the Board to proceed against Respondent by initiating a contested case 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 4 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 as follows:
- a. Respondent's Certified Public Accountant Certificate is **REVOKED** effective upon Respondent's receipt of this Stipulation and Order signed by the Chair of the Board or her designee.
- b. Respondent shall not offer to perform or perform services required by law to be performed by a Certified Public Accountant as set forth in Minnesota Statutes Chapter 326A (2012) and Minnesota Rules Chapter 1105 (2011); and
- c. Respondent shall not use the designations "Certified Public Accountant" nor "CPA" in connection with her name, nor shall Respondent hold herself out as a Certified Public Accountant or CPA in any manner in the State of Minnesota.
- d. Respondent shall pay to the Board a **CIVIL PENALTY** of Four Thousand Dollars (\$4,000.00). Respondent shall submit Civil Penalty of Four Thousand Dollars (\$4,000.00) by cashier's check or money order to the Board within sixty (60) days of the Board's approval of this Stipulation and Order.
- e. Upon any future reinstatement of Respondent's CPA certificate, in addition to the 120 continuing professional education hours required by

Minnesota Rule 1105.3000 (2011), Respondent shall successfully complete and report to the Board eight hours of continuing professional education related to the subject of Ethics by June 30 of each year for three (3) years.

- 8. Respondent agrees that she will not petition the Board for reinstatement of her CPA certificate until at least three (3) years after the date the Board Chair signs this Stipulation and Order. Any future petition for reinstatement of her revoked CPA certificate submitted to the Board by Respondent will be reviewed and considered by the Board pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 326A.09 and other applicable Board statutes and rules in effect at the time the petition it is submitted. Respondent expressly acknowledges and agrees that this Stipulation and Order does not, and shall not be construed to, assure that any petition for reinstatement of her revoked CPA certificate would be granted or approved.
- 9. Any appropriate court may, upon application of the Board, enter its decree enforcing the order of the Board.
- 10. Respondent hereby acknowledges that she has read, understands, and agrees to this Stipulation and Consent Order and is freely and voluntarily signing the stipulation without threat or promise by the Board or any of its members, employees, or agents. When signing the stipulation, Respondent acknowledges that she 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. Under the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, this Stipulation is classified as public data upon its issuance by the Board. (Minnesota Statutes Chapter 13.41, subdivision 5 (2012)) All documents in the record shall maintain the data classification to which they are entitled under the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, Minnesota Statutes Chapter 13 (2012). They shall not, to the extent they are not already public documents, become public merely because they are referenced herein. A summary of this Order will appear in the Board's newsletter. A summary will also be sent to the national discipline data bank pertaining to the practice of public accounting.
- 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 is represented by Thomas J. Shroyer, Esq.
- 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 to her last known address on file with the Board. The Order shall be effective and deemed issued when it is signed by the Board Chair or designee of the chair.

CONSENT:

CONSENT.	RESPONDENT	
Vicki Marie Ahl VICKI MARIE AHL		
Dated: 7/25	, 2013	
SUBSCRIBED and sworn to this the 15th day of 5uly (Notary Public)		My Commission Expires:
ROBERT P. SAUNDERS, CI Chair	COMPLAINT COMMITI	NICHOLAS J SWENSON NOTARY PUBLIC - MINNESOTA MY COMMISSION EXPIRES 01/31/1
Dated: <u>9-16</u>	, 2013	
ORDER:		
Upon consideration of records and proceedings, he	0 0 1	and based upon all the files,

- 1. IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT Respondent Vicki Marie Ahl's CPA Certificate is REVOKED.

STATE OF MINNESOTA BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY

KATHLEEN K. MOONEY, CPA

Chair

AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE BY MAIL

RE: Vicki Marie Ahl, CPA Certificate Number 10907
STATE OF MINNESOTA)
COUNTY OF RAMSEY)
Bev Carey, being first duly sworn, deposes and says:
That at the City of St. Paul, County of Ramsey and State of Minnesota, on this the
Thomas J. Shroyer, Attorney At Law Moss & Barnett 4800 Wells Fargo Center 90 South Seventh Street Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-4129 Dev Carey
Bev Carey
Subscribed and sworn to before me on this the // day of September, 2013. Victoria Elizabeth Oehrlein NOTARY PUBLIC MINNESOTA (Notary Public) (Notary Public)