# STATE OF MINNESOTA BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY

In the Matter of the CPA Certificate of

STIPULATION AND CONSENT ORDER

Shakirat Oyindamola Kola-Lawal CPA Certificate No. 27816

Board File No. 2023-104

#### STIPULATION

Shakirat Kola-Lawal ("Respondent") and the Minnesota Board of Accountancy's Complaint Committee stipulate that, subject to Board's review and discretionary approval, the Board may issue a consent order that imposes the following sanctions:

- A. Respondent's CPA Certificate, No. 27816, is CENSURED and REPRIMANDED pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 326A.08 (2022).
- B. Respondent shall pay to the Board a CIVIL PENALTY of Three Thousand dollars (\$3,000). Of this amount, \$500 is stayed for three years on condition that Respondent commit no further violations of any law, rule, or order within the Board's jurisdiction. Respondent shall submit the imposed penalty of \$2,500 by check to the Board within sixty (60) days of the Board's approval of this Stipulation and Consent Order. If the Committee determines that Respondent has violated this condition, the stay shall be lifted and the \$500 penalty shall become due and payable, in addition to any other discipline the Board deems appropriate for the new violation(s). Respondent and the Board agree the Committee may lift the stay by order of the Committee, provided that Respondent may request a hearing to challenge the factual basis for lifting the stay within thirty days of the order, but Respondent may not challenge the amount of the stayed penalty.

- C. Respondent shall, at Respondent's expense, complete the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy Center for Public Trust Ethics Training, with a required passing score of no less than 80%. Respondent shall submit documentation of course completion to the Board within sixty days of the Board's approval of this Stipulation and Consent Order.
- D. Respondent shall comply with all statutes and rules within the Board's jurisdiction. See Minn. Stat. ch. 326A (2022) and Minn. R. ch. 1105 (2023).
- E. Respondent shall report in writing within ten days any violations of this stipulation and consent order to the Board's Executive Director.

Respondent and the Committee enter into this stipulation based on the following findings of fact, conclusions of law, and other stipulated provisions:

## **Findings of Fact**

- 1. The Board issued Respondent a CPA certificate on July 15, 2013.
- 2. The Board selected Respondent for audit of her continuing education ("CPE") records for the three-year period ending June 30, 2022.
- 3. Respondent previously reported eight ethics hours for the CPE reporting year ended June 30, 2020, but was only able to verify two ethics hours. As a result, Respondent was short the following:
  - a. Six ethics hours for the three-year period ended June 30, 2020; and
  - b. Two ethics hours for the three-year period ended June 30, 2021.
- 4. Respondent previously reported 24 hours for the CPE reporting year ended June 30, 2022, but was only able to verify 12 hours. As a result, Respondent was short the following:

- Eight of the required 20 hours for the CPE reporting year ended June 30, 2022;
   and
- b. Two ethics hours for the three-year period ended June 30, 2022.
- 5. Respondent carried back the following CPE hours and paid the applicable CPE noncompliance fees:
  - a. Eight hours of ethics to the CPE reporting year ended June 30, 2020; and
  - b. Eight hours of non-ethics CPE to the CPE reporting year ended June 30, 2022.
- 6. Respondent submitted false information for her CPE for the CPE reporting years ended June 30, 2020 and 2022 with her 2021, 2022 and 2023 renewals by affirming on those renewals that she had completed the CPE hours and such hours complied with the 1-year and rolling 3-year CPE requirements.

## **Conclusion of Law**

- 1. The Board has authority to license and regulate certified public accountants and to take disciplinary action as appropriate. Minn. Stat. ch. 326A (2022).
- 2. Respondent violated Minn. Stat. § 326A.04, subd. 4 (2022) and Minn. R. 1105.3000(A) and (E), 1105.3200(B), 1105.5600, subp. 1(A) and (C)(5), and 1105.7800(A) and (B) (2023).
- 3. Respondent is subject to discipline pursuant to Minn. Stat. §§ 326A.08, subd. 5(a)(1) and (5) (2022).
  - 4. This stipulation and consent order is in the public interest.

## Other Stipulated Provisions

- 1. This stipulation and consent order must be approved by the Board to become effective.
- 2. Respondent agrees that the Committee may move the Board *ex parte*, with or without advance notice to the Respondent, to approve this stipulation and consent order. Respondent understands that the Board may either approve the stipulation and consent order or not approve it. This stipulation and the files, records, and proceedings associated with this matter may be reviewed by the Board in its consideration of the Committee's motion.
- 3. If approved by the Board, this stipulation and consent order shall be classified as public data. Minn. Stat. § 13.41, subd. 5 (2022).
- 4. If the Board does not approve this stipulation and consent order, then the matter remains unresolved and the Committee may either seek to negotiate a revised stipulation and consent order with Respondent to present to the Board or issue an order commencing a contested-case hearing before an Administrative Law Judge at the Office of Administrative Hearings. *See* Minn. Stat. §§ 14.57–.62, 214.10, subd. 2 (2022) (describing administrative hearing process).
- 5. Respondent agrees that if this case comes before the Board again after it reviews and discusses this stipulation and consent order, Respondent waives any claim that the Board was prejudiced by its review and discussion of this stipulation and consent order and any records relating to it.
- 6. Respondent acknowledges that they were advised by the Committee of their right to a contested-case hearing in this matter before an Administrative Law Judge, to file exceptions and make argument to the Board after the hearing, and to seek judicial review from any adverse

decision rendered by the Board. Respondent hereby expressly waives those rights. Respondent was further advised by the Committee of their right to be represented by counsel and that they knowingly waive that right.

- 7. Respondent has read, understands, and agrees to this stipulation and has voluntarily signed it. It is expressly understood that this stipulation contains the entire agreement between the parties, there being no other agreement of any kind, verbal or otherwise. If approved by the Board, a copy of the final stipulation and consent order shall be served personally or by first class mail on Respondent. The Board's order shall be effective when it is signed by the Chair of the Board or the Chair's designee.
- 8. Pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 16D.13 (2022), any civil penalty imposed by this stipulation and consent order shall begin to accrue simple interest in accordance with that section thirty days after the civil penalty is due. Pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 16D.17 (2022), thirty days after any civil penalty imposed by this stipulation and consent order is due, the Board may file and enforce any unpaid portion of the civil penalty as a judgment against Respondent in district court without further notice or additional proceedings.

	Shaki <del>rat</del> Kola-Lawal, CPA			
STATE OF				
COUNTY OF				
This instrument was acknowledged before me on	by Shakirat Kola-Lawal.			
(stamp)	(Signature of notary officer)			
	My commission expires:			

# **Acknowledgment by Individual**



State of	Cou	nty of		
Minnesota		Hennepin.		
On this day of	0,	, 20 <u>_24</u> Before		ex Pullen, Yotany Patia.
the undersigned Notary Public, personal Shakerac Ofr	ally appeared	la Kola-Lawa	l A	me con .
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Proved to me on the oath of				
☐ Personally known to me				
Proved to me on the basis of satisfa	actory evidenc	ce _		
			,	Description of ID)
to be the person(s) whose name(s) is/a executed it.	re subscribed	to the within instrument, and	acknowledg	jed that he/she/they
WITNESS my hand and official seal.  ALEX D DAHLEN Notary Public Minnesota My Commission Expires Jan 31, 2029		My commission		/ Notary Public) <u>01                                    </u>
Notary Seal				
				Optional: A thumbprint is only needed if state statutes require a thumbprint.
For Bank Purposes Only				Right Thumbprint
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Account Number (if applicable)				



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### **COMPLAINT COMMITTEE**

ANN ETTER, CPA

Chair

Dated: *July 9*, 2024

Dated: 08 91 / , 2024

## **CONSENT ORDER**

Upon consideration of this stipulation and consent order, and based upon all the files, records, and proceedings herein, all terms of the stipulation and consent order are approved.

Accordingly, the Board hereby ADOPTS the stipulation and issues the ORDER described above.

STATE OF MINNESOTA

BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY

1014:

CHARLES SELCER, CPA

**Board Chair** 

# STATE OF MINNESOTA MINNESOTA BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY 85 East 7<sup>th</sup> Place, Suite 125 St. Paul, MN 55101

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE BY U.S. MAIL**

In the Matter of Shakirat Oyindamola Kola-Lawal License #27816

I, Joshua Bramley, verify by oath or affirmation that on the 1st day of August, 2024, at the City of Saint Paul, in the county of Ramsey, in the State of Minnesota, served the Stipulation and Consent Order by depositing a true and correct copy in the United States mail, properly enveloped, with first class postage prepaid and addressed to the following name individual(s) or entities at the address indicated below.

Shakirat Oyindamola Kola-Lawal 725 Lilium Trail Medina, MN 55340

Joshua Bramley