

**VIRGINIA BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY  
PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED REGULATIONS  
APRIL 22, 2005**

A public hearing was held to receive public comment on the proposed regulations (18 VAC 5-21-10 *et seq.*) of the Virginia Board of Accountancy (Board) in Room 395 of the 3600 West Board Street Building, Richmond, Virginia 23230.

The following Board members present for the hearing were:

Harry D. Dickinson, Ph.D., CPA, Chairman  
Jane M. Little, CPA, Vice Chairman  
Stephen D. Holton, CPA  
O. Whitfield Broome, Ph.D., CPA  
Regina P. Brayboy, MPA  
Lawrence D. Samuel, CPA

The Board staff members present for the hearing were:

Nancy Taylor Feldman, Executive Director  
Mark D'Amato, Board Administrator

The hearing record was opened by Chairman Dickinson at 9:00 a.m.

The following is a record of the hearing:

*Good morning ladies and gentlemen,*

*I am Harry Dickinson, Ph.D., CPA, Chairman of the Board of Accountancy.*

*This is a public hearing held at the Board of Accountancy office at 3600 West Broad Street, Room 395, Richmond, Virginia. The hearing is being held pursuant to the Administrative Process Act, Section 2.2-4009, for the purpose of receiving public comment on the Board's Proposed Regulations published in the Virginia Register on February 7, 2005.*

*Let me begin by introducing the members of the Board and the other individuals seated with me today --*

*Jane M. Little, Vice Chairman  
Stephen D. Holton  
O. Whitfield Broome  
Regina P. Brayboy  
Larry D. Samuel*

*And*

*Nancy Taylor Feldman, Executive Director  
Mark D'Amato, Board Administrator*

*Here are a few ground rules –*

*The Board will receive comments from any member of the public who wishes to speak and initial comments will be limited to 5 minutes.*

*If you have not signed up to speak and you wish to give testimony today, please sign your name on the sign in sheet at the table near the door at this time.*

*Anyone may speak in rebuttal to the comments of another speaker, and those comments will also be limited to 5 minutes. I will call for rebuttal comments when all speakers on the list have finished.*

*The Board may ask speakers questions to clarify statements. However, this is not the proper forum for questions to the Board.*

*If you have a question for the Board, please forward them, in writing, to the Board.*

*Any speaker who wishes to provide a written statement in addition to his oral testimony may do so and the written statement will be marked as an exhibit for this hearing by Mr. D'Amato.*

*I would like to call on Erin Collins, Government Affairs Director of the Virginia Society of Certified Public Accountants (VSCPA), who is the only member of the public present today.*

Ms. Collins stated that the VSCPA had received several letters about the Board's new annual requirement for 2 CPE credit hours in Ethics. As a result of this correspondence, she continued, the VSCPA wanted to suggest a change in the proposed regulations. Specifically, the change would involve the Board pre-approving the content for each ethics course claiming to fulfill the Board's requirement. Since CPAs take this course from numerous vendors—whether mail order, online, or in-house, the VSCPA's concern is that such courses are not properly prepared, and do not meet the Board's requirement. This pre-approval process would be mandatory only for the Board's required ethics course. By insisting on such pre-approval, she concluded, the Board could better ensure the quality of the courses being taught to CPAs, and, thereby, could better protect the public.

Upon completing her statement, Ms. Collins answered several questions asked by the Board.

Having no other member of the public present and prepared to speak on the proposed regulations, Chairman Dickinson stated the following:

*The record of the public hearing will be kept open until May 8, 2005 and written comments will be accepted through 5:00 p.m. of that day.*

*Since there is no further comment today, I declare this public hearing closed.*

Chairman Dickinson closed the hearing at 9:56 a.m.