

Board of Accountancy Strategic Retreat Report

- Date and Location:** May 15, 2008 at 9960 Mayland Drive – 2nd Floor
Conference Center/Board Room #2
- Board members present:** Stephen Holton, Whitfield Broome, Dian Calderone,
Lawrence Samuel, Tyrone Dickerson and William Hunt
- Board members absent:** Regina Brayboy
- Board staff present:** Nancy Feldman, Dreana L. Gilliam, Mary Charity and Jean
Grant
- Others present:** Emily Walker, Government Affairs Director, Virginia
Society of Certified Public Accountants
- Convened at:** 9:30 a.m. in Board Room #2 of the Perimeter Center
- Security Briefing:** Dreana L. Gilliam
- Call to Order:** Lawrence Samuel
- Public Comments:** While a member of the public (Ms. Walker) was present, no public
comment was received.

Mr. Samuel advised the Board members and staff present that the goals and objectives of the Retreat were to discuss important issues having an impact on the Board and the profession. Mr. Samuel emphasized that no actions will be taken by the Board during the Retreat

The Board members and staff proceeded to discuss the following topics:

- Implementation of a Retired/Inactive Status
 - Mr. Holton led the discussion regarding implementation of a Retired/Inactive Status. Ms. Norwood advised VBOA has the statutory authority to implement if they choose to do so.
 - Review NASBA Quick Poll results
 - 31 State Boards responded to the following questions regarding allowing a retired CPA to utilize the designation:
 - Does your state allow retired CPAs to use the CPA title without completing CPE? 48% - YES and 52% - NO
 - What title does your state allow the retired CPA to use?
 - Retired CPA 13%
 - CPA (Retired) 47%
 - CPA (Inactive) 27%
 - Other 67%

- Explore Reduction of Education Requirements to take the CPA Exam
 - Approximately 13 states have reduced the requirement to sit for the exam from 150 semester hours to 120 semester hours or baccalaureate degree.
 - Mr. Samuel, Ms. Calderone and Ms. Norwood will provide the members an overview of the discussion of this topic at the NASBA Eastern Regional Meeting in early June. The presentation will be made to the members at the June 18, 2008 full board meeting.

- Substantial Equivalency/Mobility
 - VBOA will explore inviting Board Members and Executive Directors of Border States (Maryland, Tennessee, West Virginia, District of Columbia and North Carolina) to a meeting to further discuss how each will handle investigations/adjudications of CPAs practicing by substantial equivalency/mobility. Tentative date planned for mid-September.
 - Ms. Norwood will draft a legal agreement to ensure equity, timeliness and quality of the investigations/adjudications of CPAs practicing by substantial equivalency/mobility.

- Privacy vs. Public Protection/FOIA
 - A review of Chapter 37 of Title 2.2 Virginia Freedom of Information Act (Effective July 1, 2007) indicates the information provided on VBOA website is within FOIA guidelines:
 - Personal information, as defined in § 2.2-3801, including electronic mail addresses, furnished to a public body for the purpose of receiving electronic mail from the public body, provided that the electronic mail recipient has requested that the public body not disclose such information. However, access shall not be denied to the person who is the subject of the record.

- Auditor of Public Accounts (APA) Deficiencies
 - Katherine Idrissi, Special Assistant is currently in the process of ensuring all aspects of VBOA documentation adheres to the required APA guidelines.
 - VBOA must have a system in place 1 year before the next scheduled audit.
 - Systems Automation anticipated implementation date September 1, 2008.

- Future of Licensing of Public Accountancy
 - Ms. Norwood stated NASBA indicates if 100% mobility is not reached by 2010, the Federal government will consider a Federal license for CPAs auditing public companies.

 - Members do not feel the implementation of a Federal license will impact the licensing of Public Accountancy on the state level.

Comprehensive discussions in relation to each topic enabled members of the Board to have a clear understanding of the course of action to ensure adherence to the agency's mandate to protect the citizens of the Commonwealth.

Looking forward, the Board remains committed to maintaining a leading position in the regulation of the accounting profession through the development and implementation of innovative changes impacting the examination, licensing and standard setting for CPAs.

The members adjourned the retreat at 4:00 p.m.

APPROVED:

Dian T. Calderone, MTX, CPA, Chairman
Board of Accountancy

COPY TESTE:

Nancy T. Feldman, Executive Director/Agency Head