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NEWS RELEASE

CALIFORNIA BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY VOTES TO POST FORMAL ACCUSATIONS TO THE WEB

(Sacramento, CA) –The California Board of Accountancy (CBA) Thursday voted to post formal accusations against CPAs and CPA firms on its website.

In its vote, the CBA included a provision which would allow licensees 15 days to request an investigative hearing.

CBA President Manuel Ramirez said the decision supports the CBA's mission to protect consumers by ensuring that only qualified licensees practice public accountancy, and also allows CPAs and CPA firms to address the complaint against them.

“The CBA wants to make it possible for consumers to be able to make informed decisions, and at the same time, enable CPAs who are accused to address those accusations before they are posted on the CBA Web site,” said Ramirez. “This decision represents the fairest option for everyone involved.”

An accusation is a formal document that charges violation(s) of the California Accountancy Act and/or California Board of Accountancy regulations by a licensee. The charges in the accusation are allegations. Allegations are not a final determination of wrongdoing and are subject to adjudication and final review



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by the CBA pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act.

In other action, the CBA voted to develop legislation which would create a new license status for retired CPAs. Currently, the CBA has no special license designation for retired CPAs, and therefore they are not differentiated from CPAs who have allowed their licenses to expire.

Created by statute in 1901, the CBA's mandate requires that protection of the public shall be its highest priority in exercising licensing, regulatory, and disciplinary functions. The CBA currently regulates more than 85,000 licensees, the largest group of licensed accounting professionals in the nation, including individuals, partnerships, and corporations.

More information about the California Board of Accountancy is available at www.cba.ca.gov

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