## BEFORE THE ACCOUNTANCY EXAMINING BOARD OF THE STATE OF IOWA

IN THE MATTER OF:	)
Brian E. Geerts	) CONSENT AGREEMENT
Certificate Number 8725	) CASE NO. 00-01
RESPONDENT	) )

The lowa Accountancy Examining Board (Board) and Brian E. Geerts (Respondent) enter into this Consent Agreement (Agreement) pursuant to lowa Code sections 17A, 272C.3(4) (1999) and 193A lowa Administrative Code section 12.7.

- 1. The Board has jurisdiction of this matter pursuant to Iowa Code chapters 17A, 542C, and 272C (1999).
  - 2. The Respondent was issued CPA certificate 8725 on the 18th day of February, 1994.
  - 3. A Statement of Charges will be filed against Respondent together with this Consent Agreement.
- 4. The Respondent has the right to a hearing on the charges, but waives this right to a hearing and all attendant rights, including the right to appeal, by freely and voluntarily agreeing to this Order. Once entered, this Order shall have the force and effect of a disciplinary order entered following a contested case hearing
- 5. This Agreement shall be part of the permanent record of Respondent and shall be considered by the Board in determining the nature and severity of any disciplinary action to be imposed in the event of any future violations.
- 6. This Consent Agreement is public record, available for inspection and copying in accordance with the requirements of lowa Code chapter 22 and section 272C.3(4).
- 7. Failure to comply with the provisions of this Agreement shall be grounds for disciplinary action pursuant to lowa Code section 272C.3(2)(a) (1999). However, no action may be taken against Respondent for violations of these provisions without a hearing or waiver or right to hearing.
  - 8. This Agreement is subject to approval of the Board.
- (a) If the Board fails to approve this Agreement, it shall be of no force or effect on either party and it shall not be admissible for any purpose in further proceedings in this matter.
  - (b) If the Board approves this Agreement, it shall fully dispose of all issues in this case.

## IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

- A. Respondent shall complete twenty-four (24) hours of classroom continuing professional education in the subject areas of audit and review. The Respondent shall develop and submit, for Board approval, an education plan. Within ten (10) days of completion of the education, the Respondent shall submit documentation of completion. The twenty-four hours of classroom education shall be over and above the hours required for the renewal of the permit to practice. The education shall be completed prior to the Respondent accepting any audit or review engagements.
  - B. Respondent shall develop, at his expense, a desk review consultation agreement with a firm of certified public accountants holding a permit to practice in the state of lowa, pre-approved by the Board, for the purpose of reviewing audits and reviews completed by the Respondent as follows:
    - (1) Respondent shall submit for pre-release review all workpapers, reports and related documents for each audit and/or review engagement.
    - (2) An executed copy of the agreement shall be submitted to the Board prior to the implementation of the agreement. The agreement shall attach and incorporate a copy of this Consent Agreement.
    - (3) The reviewing firm shall perform a desk review of the workpapers, reports and related documents for each applicable audit and review. The review shall be for facial compliance with minimum accounting and auditing standards. The reviewer will not perform field work or warrant the accuracy of the Respondent's work product, but will review workpapers, review programs, reports, and any other documents reasonably needed. The reviewer shall prepare written comments on each audit and/or review.
    - (4) The reviewer's recommended revisions or corrections, if any, shall be incorporated into each final audit and/or review report prior to releasing the report to the client or any third party. A copy of the reviewer's comments shall be submitted directly to the Board from the reviewer. The comments do not need to be received by the Board prior to the completion of the audit and/or review, but shall be submitted to the Board within ten (10) days after the comments are provided the Respondent.
    - (5) The Respondent shall, within ten (10) days of written request, provide the Board with copies of all workpapers, review programs, reports or other documents related to the audits and/or reviews subject to the desk review.
    - (6) The Respondent may file a written petition with the Board for release from the desk review requirement after one year. The Board shall rule on the Respondent's Petition for Release within sixty (60) days of filing. The Board retains full discretion on whether to release the Respondent from the pre-release desk review, but such requirement will be released if the Board is satisfied applicable auditing and accounting standards have been substantially adhered to. If the Board determines the Respondent has not substantially complied with the applicable auditing and accounting standards, the Respondent shall continue the desk review for all audits and/or reviews for a minimum of one year from the date he is notified of the Board's determination prior to filing another Petition by the Respondent to release the Respondent from the desk review requirement.

The Boards' review of workpapers, reports, desk reviewer comments and similar documents shall not constitute personal investigation and shall not disqualify the Board from making further decision in this or any related contested case.

This Consent Agreement shall not preclude the Board from filing additional charges if one or more of the audits and/or reviews subject to the desk review demonstrate probable cause to take such an action. The Consent Agreement shall also not preclude the Board from taking appropriate action in the event it receives any further complaints against the Respondent.

C. Respondent shall fully comply with peer review laws in the event he resumes an audit or review practice in the future, and shall more generally comply with all applicable laws and rules governing the practice of public accounting in lowa.

## **AGREED AND ACCEPTED:**

Brian E. Geerts	David Vaudt, Chair
Respondent	lowa Accountancy Examining Board
10-28-00	11-13-00
Date	Date