

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

<p>IN THE MATTER OF:</p> <p>Joseph Stein CPA Certificate #O13754</p> <p style="text-align:center">Respondent.</p>	<p>Case No. 18-20</p> <p>CONSENT ORDER</p>
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A. Statement of Charges

1. The Iowa Accountancy Examining Board (“**Board**”) has jurisdiction of this disciplinary matter pursuant to Iowa Code chapters 17A, 272C, and 542 (2017).

2. Joseph Stein (“**Respondent**”) was issued certificate number O13754 on December 31, 2015. Respondent reported he had completed 40 hours of CPE on his 2018 on-line renewal; the requirement was 80 hours. In November of 2018, the Board conducted a random CPE audit. Respondent was selected and required to provide documentation substantiating the CPE hours claimed by him during his 2018 renewal. Respondent was able to provide CPE documentation for 83 hours. However, 80 of those hours were reported as self-study hours, which is 40 hours over the limit for self-study. *See* Iowa Admin. Code r. 193A—10.8(6) (“The maximum credit [as it relates to self-study hours] shall not exceed 50 percent of the renewal requirement.”).

3. The Board charges Respondent with failure to comply with the continuing education requirements necessary to remain qualified for continued certification, providing the Board with false information in connection with an application to renew a certificate, and being unable to document the continuing professional education hours reported to the board in connection with an audit or other request for documentation in violation of: Iowa Code sections 272C.2(1) and 542.6(3); and Iowa Administrative Code rules 5.5(7), 10.5(1), 10.10, and 14.3(5)(a).

4. The Board and Respondent have agreed to fully resolve these charges through the following Consent Order, rather than proceed to contested case hearing.

B. Settlement Agreement and Consent Order

1. Respondent has a right to a hearing on the charges, but waives Respondent’s right to hearing and all attendant rights, including the right to seek judicial review, by freely and voluntarily entering into this Consent Order. This Consent Order constitutes discipline against Respondent, and is the final agency order in a contested case, pursuant to Iowa Code section 17A.10 and 193 Iowa Administrative Code 7.4. Respondent acknowledges that Respondent had an opportunity to review this Consent Order with legal counsel before signing it.

2. Respondent agrees the State’s counsel may present this Consent Order to the Board and may have ex parte communications with the Board while presenting it.

3. This Consent Order shall be part of the permanent record of Respondent and shall be considered by the Board in determining the nature and severity of any future disciplinary action to be imposed in the event of any future violations.

4. This Consent Order is a public record available for inspection and copying in accordance with the requirements of Iowa Code chapter 22.

5. Failure to comply with the provisions of this Consent Order shall be grounds for further disciplinary action pursuant to Iowa Code section 272C.3(2)(a). However, no action may be taken against Respondent for violations of these provisions without a hearing, or waiver of hearing.

6. This Consent Order is subject to approval of the Board:

- a. If the Board fails to approve this Consent Order, 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 Consent Order, it shall fully dispose of all issues in this case.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:


- A. Respondent is reprimanded for failing to comply with the continuing education requirements necessary to remain qualified for continued certification, providing the Board with false information in connection with an application to renew a certificate, and being unable to document the continuing professional education hours reported to the board in connection with an audit or other request for documentation.
- B. Respondent shall pay a civil penalty of \$500 within thirty (30) days of the date this Consent Order is signed by all parties.
- C. Respondent shall complete forty (40) additional hours of continuing professional education for the 2020 renewal, none of which may be applied to any other renewal. Eight (8) of these additional hours shall be in professional ethics, and none of them shall be self-study hours. Put another way, Respondent shall complete and be able to demonstrate a total of 160 hours within the prior three (3) year period for the 2020 renewal.
- D. Respondent shall supply the Board with documentation substantiating the CPE hours claimed by him as part of the 2020 renewal.

AGREED AND ACCEPTED:

Respondent

Iowa Accountancy Examining Board


By: Joseph Stein


By: ~~Robert Snodgrass, CPA, Chair~~
S. James Smith, CPA, Vice Chair

6-14-19
Date

6/27/19
Date