

GRENADIER, COLLINS, MENCKE & HOWARD, LLP
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
QUADRANT 11 AT SOUTHPOINT
4655 SALISBURY ROAD, SUITE 300
JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32256

Edward J. Grenadier, CPA
Michael P. Collins, CPA
John G. Mencke, CPA
John W. Howard, CPA

Telephone (904) 281-0700
Fax (904) 281-0012
E-Mail: firm@gcmndh.com

Members
American Institute of Certified
Public Accountants
Florida Institute of Certified
Public Accountants
CPA Associates International Inc.

July 21, 1999

Florida State Board of Accountancy
2610 NW 43rd Street
Suite 1A
Gainesville, FL 32606

RE: Request for Opinion from the Board of Accountancy

Dear Sir,

Facts: A Florida limited liability partnership will be dissolved. One partner is retiring from public accounting, one partner is becoming a sole practitioner and the third partner along with a former partner will form a new practice. Each partner plans to retain the files and work papers of the current clients retained by him.

Issues:

1. Since the existing partnership is dissolving, what happens to the tax, audit, correspondence, billing and other work papers files of former clients who either left the firm over the past several years or clients not retained by any of the partners?
2. Who has the responsibility of maintaining the former client files if they must be retained?
3. If they must be retained, how long must the former client files be retained?

There are no citations to pertinent laws. We know of no formal guidance in existence.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,
John W. Howard, CPA
Managing Partner

