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Ron DeSantis, Governor

Julie I. Brown, Secretary

April 5, 2021

## **Continuing Professional Education Task Force**

Board of Accountancy
Department of Business and Professional Regulations
<a href="https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/680699581">https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/680699581</a>
Dial in: United States (Toll Free): 1 877 568 4106

United States: <u>+1 (571) 317-3129</u> **Access Code:** 680-699-581

# **Notice**

# **Task Force Members:**

Board of Accountancy Members: Steven Platau, Chair William Blend

Other Task Force Members:

Daniel Snider
Ed Duarte
Jennifer Green
Justin Thames
Dr. M.G. "Bud" Fennema
Paul Shamoun

<u>Division of Certified Public Accounting Staff:</u> Roger Scarborough, Executive Director Kevin Brown, Committee Liaison

Others Present:

Rachelle Munson, Board of Accountancy Counsel,
Office of the Attorney General
Lisa Chamberlain, LCvista
Evelynn Morse, BDO
Tie Miller, BDO
Venus Batista, BDO
Shane Barry, Accountants Coalition
Karen Pastula, FGFOA

#### Monday April 5, 2021

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 1:01pm EST.

### 2. Introduction of Task Force Members

The Chair introduces all task force members, Division of Certified Public Accounting Staff, and Ms. Munson, the Board Counsel. All members have been marked as present for this meeting.

## 3. Charge from Board Chair

The Chair provides the mission statement and direction to which this task force shall operate. Mr. Platau has acknowledged that the Department has requested that the Board of Accountancy provide feedback on how Continuing Professional Education (CPE) hours are reported for the purposes of renewing a license and to guide the Department to enforce compliance of CPE reporting. The end goal is to provide the licensees within the State of Florida a means to report their Continuing Professional Education hours in a manner that is within their liberty and complies with State statute and Division Rules.

### 4. Background

### a. Audit Historical Results

Mr. Scarborough provided the task force with a historical perspective on how the Bureau of Education and Testing conducts audits and illustrated enforcement procedures for individuals who fail to comply with CPE requirements.

b. CPE Practices in Other Professions

Mr. Scarborough presented the task force a statistical analysis of how other professions enforce their CPE requirements.

c. CPA Profession-challenges compared to other professions

Mr. Scarborough provided the task force a series of challenges that face the CPA profession in reporting CPE hours. Challenges include mobility concerns and interstate applicability of CPE.

## 5. Regulator (DBPR) Views

Mr. Scarborough provided the task force with proposed solutions from BET and the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy.

#### 6. Possible Solutions

Mr. Blend proposed a solution that would require licensees to report and would allow the providers to report.

#### 7. Other Issues

Mr. Platau recognized that the largest challenges are for the small firms, sole practitioners, and licensees in industry, government and education who obtain their CPE from a myriad of providers.

Mr. Platau charged the Task Force Members with the responsibility to consider ways to implement a CPE reporting system to accommodate smaller CPE Provider entities.

# 8. Next Meeting Date

Mr. Brown provided the Task Force Members a link to indicate their availability for the next meeting. The next meeting will be May 6, 2021 at 3:00pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:04pm.

Steven Platau, Chair

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