STATE OF FLORIDA BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY

Deputy Agency Clerk

CLERK Brandon Nichols

CLERIK Br Date 9;

9/24/2012 2012-05947

FILED

IN RE: PETITION FOR WAIVER AND VARIANCE BY RAFAEL J. DURAN

FINAL ORDER VW 2011-34

This matter came before the Board of Accountancy (hereinafter "the Board"), at a duly noticed public meeting held on August 3, 2012, in Tampa, Florida, on the request of Rafael J. Duran, (hereinafter "Petitioner"), for a reconsideration of his petition for a permanent waiver of Rule 61H1-33.003(6), Florida Administrative Code (FAC). On January 24, 2012, the Board voted to deny Petitioner's petition and its Notice of Intent to Deny was filed on March 15, 2012, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and incorporated herein. The reasons for denial are set forth in Exhibit "A."

At the hearing on this matter, Petitioner was present and testified in support of his petition. The Board was represented by Mary Ellen Clark, Assistant Attorney General.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Petitioner completed the additional CPE hours that he was previously found to be deficient.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact, the Board adopts the following as its Conclusions of Law:

- 1. Petitioner established that the purpose of the accountancy continuing education statute, Section 473.312, Florida Statutes, would be met, in that he has now completed the required hours.
 - 2. Petitioner established that the Board's full application of Rule 61H1-33.003(6).

FAC, to his circumstances would violate principles of fairness and would impose a substantial hardship on him.

ORDER

Based on the foregoing findings of fact and conclusions of law, it is **ORDERED** that the prior order filed March 15, 2012 is **VACATED** and the petition for a permanent waiver of Rule 61H1-33.003(6), FAC of Rafael J. Duran is **GRANTED**.

This Final Order shall become effective upon filing with the Clerk for the Department of Business and Professional Regulation.

DONE AND ORDERED this 13 day of September, 2012, by the Florida Board of Accountancy.

Veloria A. Kelly, Division Director

NOTICE OF RIGHT TO APPEAL

A party who is adversely affected by this Final Oder is entitled to judicial review pursuant to Section 120.68, Florida Statutes. Review Proceedings are governed by Rules 9.110 and 9.190, Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure. Such proceedings are commenced by filing one copy of a Notice of Appeal with the Department of Business and Professional Regulation, Attn: Ronda L. Bryan, Agency Clerk, 1940 North Monroe Street, Suite 92, Tallahassee, Florida 32399 and a Second copy, accompanied by filing fees prescribed by law, with the District Court of Appeal, First District, or with the District Court of Appeal in the Florida Appellate District where the Party Resides. The Notice of Appeal must be filed within thirty (30) Days of Rendition of the Order to be reviewed.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been furnished by U.S. mail to Rafael J. Duran, 4125 Clearview Terrace, West Palm Beach, Florida 33417; Jesslyn Krouskroup, Chief Attorney, Joint Administrative Procedures Committee, Pepper Building, Room 680, 111 W. Madison Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1400, and Mary Ellen Clark, Assistant Attorney General, PL-01 The Capitol, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1050 this 241 day of September, 2012.

Brandon M. Nichola

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STATE OF FLORIDA **BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY**

IN RE: PETITION FOR WAIVER AND VARIANCE BY RAFAEL J. DURAN

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CLERK Brandon Nichols Date

3/15/2012 2012-01651

NOTICE OF INTENT TO DENY

Petitioner, Rafael J. Duran, filed a petition for a permanent waiver of Rule 61H1-33.003(6), Florida Administrative Code (FAC) on December 8, 2011. The notice of the petition appeared in the Florida Administrative Weekly on December 23, 2011, in Volume 37 Number 51; no comments by interested persons were received. The petition was heard at a duly-noticed public meeting of the Board of Accountancy on January 24, 2012, in Tampa, Florida. At the hearing on this matter, Petitioner was neither present nor represented by counsel. The Board was represented by Mary Ellen Clark, Assistant Attorney General.

STATEMENT OF RELEVANT FACTS

The facts relevant to the petition are as follows:

- 1. Petitioner is currently licensed as a CPA in Florida, seeking reactivation of his license. Petitioner's license became delinquent on January 1, 2011, after he falled to submit a CPE reporting form for the 2010 renewal period.
- 2. Rule 61H1-33.003(6), FAC, provides in part that, "each Florida certified public accountant shall, as part of the biennial licensure renewal, on or before December 31 prior to his/her biennial license renewal, report on forms prescribed by the Board, compliance with continuing professional education requirements (CPE) completed during the applicable reestablishment period,"

- 3. Petitioner states that from June 2009 to May 2010, he provided 24 hour care for his ailing wife. Petitioner states that, as of June 30, 2010, he had completed 84 CPE credits and that in either July or August, 2010, a visiting family member mailed a copy of his CPE reporting form for that reporting period to DBPR. When Petitioner paid his reactivation fee in early December 2010, he became aware that his license was delinquent. Petitioner states he then mailed an additional copy of the reporting form to DBPR in January, 2011.
- 4. Based upon staff review of the CPE reporting form received in January, 2011, Petitioner was found to be deficient eight (8) hours total CPE hours including four (4) of those required in accounting and auditing.
- 5. Petitioner is requesting a waiver or variance of Rule 61H1-33.003(6), FAC, to the extent necessary for his ilcense to be reactivated and to have the Board accept his CPE reporting form for the period ending December 31, 2010, as timely filed and as documentation of all required hours.

GROUNDS FOR DENIAL

The Board determined that the petition should be denied on the following grounds:

- 6. Petitioner failed to establish that the purpose of the accountancy continuing education statute, Section 473.312, Florida Statutes, would be met, in that he has not completed the required hours.
- 7. Petitioner further failed to establish that the Board's full application of Rule 61H1-33.003(6), FAC, to his circumstances would violate principles of fairness and would impose a substantial hardship on him.

This Order shall become effective upon filing with the Clerk of the Department of

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Business and Professional Regulation.

DONE AND ORDERED this 22rd day of Sebruar

2012, by the Florida Board of Accountancy.

NOTICE TO APPLICANT

You may seek review of this Order, pursuant to Sections 120.569 and 120.57, Florida Statutes, by filing a petition with the Division Director of the Board, 240 Northwest 76th Drive, Suite A, Gainesville FL 32607, within 21 days of receipt of this Order. If you dispute any material fact upon which the Board's decision is based, you may request a hearing before an administrative law judge pursuant to Section 120.57(1), Florida Statutes; your petition must contain the information required by Rule 28-106.201, Florida Administrative Code, a copy of which is enclosed, including a statement of the material facts which are in dispute. If you do not dispute any material fact, you may request a hearing before the Board pursuant to Section 120.57(2), Florida Statutes; your petition must include the information required by Rule 28-106.301, Florida Administrative Code, a copy of which is enclosed. If you request a hearing, you have the right to be represented by an attorney or other qualified representative, to take testimony, to call or cross-examine witnesses, to have subpoena and subpoena duces tecum issued, and to present written evidence or argument.

Pursuant to Section 120.573, Florida Statutes, you are hereby notified that mediation pursuant to that section is not available.

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PETITIONER
Rafael J Duran CPA
4125 Clearview Terrace
West Palm Beach
Florida 33417

VW 2011-343

License #0008403-Issued March 8, 1980

AMENDED PETITION TO FLORIDA BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY, FOR PERMANENT VARIANCE FROM THE FOLLOWING RULES, AS REQUIRED BY SECTION 120 .542, FLORIDA STATUTES

- RULE 28-104.002(2)(d) —Florida Administrative Code.

 Petition to the Board for <u>permanent</u> variance
 or waiver of Rule 61H1-33.003(6) Florida Administrative
 Code, which requires CPAs to complete and report to DBPR
 at least 80 total CPE Hours (at least 20 in accounting and
 auditing, 4, in ethics and maximum 20 in behavioral subjects)
 of CPE earned within two-year period. In the petitioner's case,
 July 1st (year 1) to June 30th (year 2). Reporting to DBPR must
 be on or before December 31st year 2.
- RULE 28-104.002(2) (e)-Florida Administrative Code. Implementation of Section 473.312, Florida Statute, authority for all continuing education rules.

• RULE 28-104.002(2)(h)-Florida Administrative Code Details of the reason or purpose(s) why the Petitioner is requesting the <u>variance</u> or the weiver.

Main reason(s) and hardship was from June 2009 thru May 2010 my wife was very sick from cancer; most of the time either hospitalized or radiations, etc. Suffering constant pain I have to attend her 24 hours either at home or hospitalized. At home I set up a portable office next to our bedroom, to work and study while she was calm or sleeping. At the hospital, they always gave us a private room, so I could work and study.

In spite of her painful suffering, she encouraged me to work and study. I dedicated my study to comply with CPE and I completed 84 credits on June 30, 2010.

My daughter (live next to us) compiled my mail and brought it to me at least twice during the week. She and the rest of the family alternated to visit, at my request, so that they could comply with their work or family obligations.

Around July or August one of our visiting family member mailed for me. in the outside night depository of a small post office, the nearest from the hospital, an envelope with a copy of the CPE transcript. The hospital desk kindly gave me the postage. That's all I remember.

When I paid my license fee, early December, 2010, is when I started to concern about whether the Board had received the reporting, and, apparently, never received it.

I mailed them a copy, but it was during January.

I respectfully hope the Board members kindly reconsider the incredible hardship I have been through, including the eventual death of my un-forgetful wife and approve my requested Petition. God Bless all of you!

Sincerely,

3,

FLORIDA BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION REACTIVATION REPORTING FORM

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RETURN TO: Board of Accountancy 240 NW 76th Drive, Suite A Galnesville, Fioride 32607

RJD

CPE CONDENSED WORKSHEET Period July 1, 2008 to June 39, 2010

FLORIDA BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION REACTIVATION REPORTING FORM

NAME: RAFAEL J DURAN LICENSE NUMBER: 0008403 MAILING ADDRESS: 4125 CLEARVIEW TERRACE WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA, 33417

	te of spousor f Self Study	Date of Completio	n Name of Course or Program	A/A		redits-	
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Page 1 of 2

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(z) G	icim Accounti	ng 06/30/2010	Tax Precedures (2009)		4	}	
	Totals from J	uly 1, 2008 to Ju	me 3 0 , 2010	44	30	4	=84

I certify that the above information is true and correct and that the reported courses directly relate to enhancing my professional knowledge and competence. I have properly identified all sponsored courses with the correct sponsor name. I understand that any or all credit is subject to the Committee's review. I agree to retain all documentation relating to the above programs for two years after this reestablishment period. 10/30/2011 Repressed Reporting for Jimmauzins details #0008403 of each CPE hour acht.

Signed; Rafael Jorge Duran S.S 267-68-9401

Certified Public Accountant - Florida License #0008403

Member Florida Institute CPAs Member American Institute CPA

Membership:

Association Cuban-American CPAs

Association Cuban CPAs



FLORIDA INSTITUTE OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS 325 WEST COLLEGE AVENUE • P.O. BOX 5437 • TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32314 TELEPHONE: (850) 224-2727 • FAX: (850) 222-8190

Rafael J. Duran Sr Campyen Cattle Company 15049 SW Conners Hwy Okaechobse, FL 34874-9764 Date: 6/30/2010 FICPA Member # 8223 FL Certificate # 9008403

For all courses attended 7/1/2010 - 6/38/2012

Please Note:

- It is the responsibility of the individual participant to report hours of credit to the Florida Board of Accountancy.
- The FICPA is not responsible for reporting credit.
 The FICPA sponsor ID is 0002098. The FICPA Ethics Provider number is 3461.

CURRICULUM CODES

AC =Accounting, Auditing, and

Assurance

ET =Ethics

SK =Specialized Knowledge

CS =Consulting Services

GO =Government/Not-for-

EB =6mployee Benefits

Profit

PD =Personal Development

TX =Texation

EP =Estate/Financial Planning

MG =Management

TE =Technology

FICPA Courses Verified by:

Senior Director of **Professional Development**

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- My annual license renewal fees, \$155 payment, is annually scheduled to be paid by Bank of America as part of my electronic recurring payment plan, during the first week of December. For 2010 it was debited 12/08/2010 per bank confirmation number BV71T-L12LT.
- For 2011, I have already selected, 44 self study on line credits, which I plan to start next month, thus allowing time, to recover myself from the unexpected emptiness created inside myself, due to my wife's death only two months ago.



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Online Help (FAQs)



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Add/Update Continuing Education Course

Please fill in the course information below:

Name of

Gleim Accounting

Sponsor: Sponsor

Code (If Applicable): **QAS 004**

Name of Course Program:

Audit Engagements: Observ/Concl/Recor (Choose from list of approved courses)

Date of Completion:

(08/18/2008) (Select a date between 7/1/2008 and 7/6/2008.)

Self Study: Yes) .

Credit Hours Claimed As:

Participant | A/A or GA/A:

Instructor A/A or GA/A:

Reestablishment period

ending JUNE 30, 2010

Technical Business:

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Behavioral: 0

By reporting this course, you attest that this information is correct and true to the best of your knowledge.

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Printer Address

State: FLORIDA

25p: 33417-8212

Street: 4125 CLEARVIEW TERRACE Phone:

City: WEST PALM BCH

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CE Reporting Summary

Reestablishment period ending: (June 30, 2010 License Number: AC0008403

Are you required to complete governmental hours? N Name of Employer or Firm: CAMAYEN CATTLE CO

Course

Requirement Participant Instructor Total

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USER 10 4431275

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Reestablishment period

ending JUNE 30, 2010

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Sponsor: Sponsor Code (If

Name of

QA\$ 004

Applicable): Name of Course Program:

hareholders' Equity: Accounting Treats (Choose from list of approved courses)

Date of Completion:

06/09/2008 (Select a date between 7/1/2008 and 7/6/2008.)

Self Study:

Credit Hours Claimed As:

Participant A/A or GA/A:

Instructor A/A or GA/A:

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By reporting this course, you attest that this information is correct and true to the best of your knowledge.

Submit

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1440 NORTH MONAGE

RAFAEL J DURAN, CPA, MA, EA. 4125 Clearview Terrace West Palm Beach Florida 33417

June 5, 2011

ridurancpa@AOL.com

PERSONAL
MEMORANDUM RESPECTFULLY E-MAILED
"TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN"
IN COMPLIANCE WITH A REQUEST OF MY DYING,
BELOVED WIFE OF 60 YEARS,
HILDA D DURAN(R.I.P)

Although not expected that soon, my dearest wife, of 60 years of excelsior love and unforgiving wifely and motherly care, passed away, last week, with all her children, grandchildren and myself, by her bed side.

Hilda died peacefully on my arms, after two years of constant intensive pain, hospitalization admission and readmissions, surgeries to cure intestine obstruction, including cancer. She sustained bravely her fight for survival and I thank the Lord, the doctors, hospital principals and my children for allowing me to stay with Hilda, day and night, during all that time.

Hilda, a very educated home-maker was - very effectivelythe family devotional guidance and advisor, and extremely concerned about my higher professional education and ethically excelling on my job as a top corporate officer and advisor, including completing my PhD and teach par-time. As Hilda's sickness progressed, she started to concern about the time that I was dedicating to her, and that she wanted to send a personal memorandum to those concerned with potential delays in meeting my obligations, so that they could be aware, and ,assist me, in case of unavoidable delays in performing my obligations, thus protecting my career, my job and our plans.

Respectfully emailed,

Karaei

-1 , HAVERHICL STATION 3800 HAVERHILL RD N WEST PAIN BEACH, FL 33417-9998

10/30/2011

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MEMO

DATE: October 27, 2011

FROM: Rafael J Duran AC 8493 4125 Clearview Terrace West Palm Beach Florida 33417



TO; Ma Karan Loe Regulatory Specialist II Florida Dept Professional Regulation

Good Evening, Ms Lee.

Thank you for letter of October 18th. I am sorry I was unable, until tonight, to comply with your request, but due to family emergency, I had to be absent since Tuesday.

Monday I called your office, to suggest, if you so desired, to call me to explain, over the phone, or to mail my internal worksheet of how I control the CPE credits to stop at 80, or exceed by 4 or 5 credits, which is how I prefer; or read in your files my correspondence, where I detailed, several times the total of 85. However you were out until Mussley.

Tonight, thinking about how to assist you, I thought that I better fax or email this Messo, tonight and small it when I fill (tomerrow) the blank reporting form, with the same information. I have to work until the afternoon; so I will do it after I finish my work.

Regarding the apparent deficiency of 8 CPE hours on the Petition filed by me, requesting for variance or waiver of Rule 61H1-33.003(6), with all respect and consideration to you. allow me to emphasize, that I would never had filed the Petition, knowing that the entire Petition and the attachments were not 100% correct. To me, that is equivalent to fraud.

All my entire life I have lived within the frames of honesty, professionalism, respect, for others and abiding by the laws and regulations.

I have the honor of being a certified public accountant, to act and work as such, and making all efforts to attain the goals which permit me to have the honor of being regulated in my profession by the Florida Board of Accountancy. Hence it is my duty to respect and appreciate the assistance that I receive from members like Karen Lee. God Bless you all! RAFAEL



OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL Administrative Law Bureau

MARY ELLEN CLARK Assistant Attorney General PL-01 The Capitol Tallahassee, FL 32399-1050 Telephone (850) 414-3300 Fax (850) 922-6425

November 15, 2011

Rafael J. Duran 4125 Clearview Terrace West Palm Beach, FL 33417

Dear Mr. Duran:

This is in response to your petition, received October 11, 2011, by the Florida Board of Accountancy, for a variance from Rule 61H1-33.003(6), Florida Administrative Code (FAC), and continuing professional education requirements for reactivation of your license. Let me begin by saying I am very sorry for the loss of your wife. I understand that during her illness and with everything you were managing, you did not timely submit your continuing education reporting form in 2010 and that you are deficient four hours of the required education.

The Board will be happy to address your concerns upon completion of the missing hours and receipt of a proper petition. Your letter/petition does not contain all of the information required by Section 120.542, Florida Statutes (FS) and Rule 28-104.002, FAC and, thus, cannot be presented to the Board at the present time. As written, your petition is lacking required information, as follows:

- 1. Rule 28-104.002(2)(d), FAC; a recitation of the specific language of the rule that you have determined applies to your situation (someone who does not have a copy of the rules book in front of them must be able to know to which text you are taking exception);
- 2. Rule 28-104.002(2)(e), FAC: a citation to the statute the rule is implementing (a citation is the number of a Florida Statute; here Section 473.312, FS, is the authorization for all continuing education rules);
- 3. Rule 28-104.002(2)(h), FAC: the reason why the variance or the waiver requested would serve the purposes of the underlying statute, and

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4. Rule 28-104.002(2)(i), FAC: a statement whether the requested variance or waiver is permanent or temporary.

You are encouraged to submit an amended petition by fax to (352) 333-2508 or mail to:

Board of Accountancy 240 Northwest 76th Drive, Suite A Gainesville, FL 32607

Sincerely,

Mary Ellen Clark, Esquire Assistant Attorney General Counsel to the Florida Board of Accountancy