Committee Meeting Minutes S. C. Department of Labor, Licensing & Regulation Board of Accountancy REGULATION TASK FORCE

Wednesday, July 16, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.

 Call to Order – Ken Whitener, CPA, Chair, was present and called the meeting of the South Carolina Board of Accountancy Regulation Task Force to order on July 16, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. Other task force members present were Jayne Maas, CPA, Mark Hobbs, CPA, David Knoble, CPA of SCACPA, Greg Krippel, Ph.D from Coastal Carolina University, and Brie Allen, Esq. of NASBA.

2. Adoption of Agenda

Jayne Maas made a motion to adopt the agenda. David Knoble seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

3. Discuss Potential Regulation Changes

On Regulation 1-01, the task force agreed with the removal of the requirement that an applicant for licensure who passed the exam three or more years prior to applying for licensure must show completion of 120 hours of continuing education, as this requirement has been removed from the statute. The task force also supported including a section specifying that the NASBA experience verification service can be used to prove experience as it involves a licensed CPA completing the experience verification form and selecting the box for 'direct knowledge' of the applicant's experience and would follow the existing process of being directed to the Chair for approval and if needed, a full Board hearing.

The task force also discussed including in Regulation 1-01 additional courses that could count towards the accounting and business hour requirements. The consensus was to list in Regulation 1-01 the courses from the UAA model rules that were excluded in the statute for each requirement and add that one business law course up to 3 semester hours can count towards the accounting hour requirement. For both the accounting and business requirements, 'other courses included in the Uniform CPA Exam Blueprint' was added to allow adaptability.

In Regulation 1-05, sections were added related to revocable trusts and alternative practice structures of registered firms. For revocable trusts, the new section will specify that firms with ownership by a revocable trust will have the burden of proving beneficial ownership rests with a qualified individual owner and the individual is an active participant in the firm. The task force suggested adding additional detail about when a firm would need to show proof of this. A section was also added specifying that firms using an alternative practice structure may be required to show compliance with applicable federal and state laws, regulations, and professional standards including ownership and independence requirements. The task force also suggested adding details about when a firm would need to provide such information.

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In Regulation 1-08, the increment allowed for CPE courses was changed from one fifth credit hour to one tenth. The task force felt this would simplify CPE reporting and prevent confusion that could be caused by changing to a different increment.

4. Public Comment (No Votes May Be Taken)

There were no public comments.

5. Adjournment

Ken Whitener adjourned the meeting at 11:30am on July 16, 2025.