

Ohio | ACCOUNTANCY BOARD

CHAIR MESSAGE

It is a pleasure and an honor to be writing to you as I begin my term as Chair of the Accountancy Board.

The Accountancy Board Mission is to assure services received by Ohio citizens and businesses from CPAs will always be performed in an ethical and professional manner and to strictly and fairly enforce Ohio's statutes and rules. The Board is responsible for examining and licensing Certified Public Accountants, licensing remaining public accountants, registering public accounting firms, and enforcing the statutory provisions of Chapter 4701 of the Ohio Revised Code and the regulatory provisions of Chapter 4701 of the Ohio Administrative Code.

I assure you that the Board members and Board staff are dedicated and work diligently to uphold the Mission of the Board and enforcing the provisions

of the Ohio Statutes and Administrative Code. If you have any questions or issues regarding these responsibilities or your specific situation, I strongly encourage you to reach out and discuss with a staff member.

I would like to thank outgoing Chair James P. Gero for his leadership this past year. It is a pleasure to tell you he will continue to serve on the Board this year as Past Chair. His knowledge, insight, and guidance are greatly appreciated. This year's Executive Committee is comprised of myself, Michael M. Guinigundo who serves as Vice-Chair, and Margaret A. Gilmore who serves as Secretary.

I would like to thank Adriana Sfalcin for her many years of service as a Board member. Her term recently ended and, on behalf of the entire Board and Staff, I want to thank her for her

commitment and dedicated service to the Board and the CPAs of Ohio over the past seven years. Adriana, you will be missed.

On a more positive note, I would like to welcome Richard (Scott) Blake as our new Public Member. Scott is a financial advisor with Northwestern Mutual in Columbus. We look forward to his participation on the Board.

In addition to questions or issues, we appreciate input from you regarding what is or is not going well in the practice of public accounting in Ohio. Please feel free to communicate in the manner that is the easiest and most comfortable for you. I assure you we recognize and value all input.

Sincerely,

James D. Gottfried, Chair

CLOSING THOUGHTS FROM OUR PAST CHAIR

Who would have thought, when I received my Ohio CPA license in October of 1987, 30 years later I would be Chairing the Board that granted me that license. It has been my honor to serve as the 75th Chair of the Accountancy Board of Ohio, and I want to personally thank all of the 2017 Board members. It has been an honor and privilege to serve with each of you.

Please join me in congratulating our new officers, James D. Gottfried, CPA as chair; Michael M. Guinigundo, CPA as Vice-Chair; Margaret A. Gilmore,

CPA as secretary. The Board is in good hands with these high quality individuals.

Additionally, I want to thank our outgoing Board member, Adriana Sfalcin, Public Member, for her service and her friendship. It has been an honor serving with you.

Also, I look forward to working with our new Public Member, Richard (Scott) Blake, as I serve my final year on the Board.

Continued on Page 2



ACCOUNTANCY BOARD OF OHIO MEMBERS

Officers

James D. Gottfried, CPA, Chair
Michael M. Guinigundo, CPA, Vice-Chair
Margaret A. Gilmore, CPA, Secretary

Members

James B. Redmond, CPA
John E. Soucie, CPA
Kenya Y. Watts, CPA
Gerald P. Weinstein, CPA
James P. Gero, CPA, CGMA (Past Chair)
Richard (Scott) Blake, Public Member

ACCOUNTANCY BOARD OF OHIO STAFF

Executive Director:

John E. Patterson (614-995-0192)
john.e.patterson@acc.ohio.gov

Assistant Executive Director:

Tracey F. Fithen (614-644-9037)
tracey.fithen@acc.ohio.gov

Investigations Officer:

Donna Oklok (614-728-3004)
donna.oklok@acc.state.oh.us

Investigators:

Charlene Nortey (614-466-1660)
charlene.nortey@acc.ohio.gov

Faith Ottavi (614-752-2468)
faith.ottavi@acc.ohio.gov

Administrative Staff:

**Elisabeth (Newell) Kelley, Revenue & Deposits,
Education Assistance Program (614-728-6764)**
elisabeth.kelley@acc.ohio.gov

Kelly A. Kelly, Firm Registration (614-752-8249)
kellyann.kelly@acc.ohio.gov

**Luann Rager, Information and Verification
Updates (614-752-5075)**
luann.rager@acc.ohio.gov

**Karen Salyer, CPA Certification and Licensing
(614-752-7472)**
karen.salyer@acc.ohio.gov

OUR PAST CHAIR (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

During the past year we worked on many issues, including the impact of implementation of the new CPA exam and continuing to address audit quality and administration of peer review. While we have addressed many issues in executing our primary duty to regulate the practice of public accounting in Ohio, my personal highlight was continuing the tradition of personally signing over 780 CPA certificates issued by the Board in 2017. I would like to congratulate and welcome the new Ohio CPAs these certificates represent.

The Board has remained active with the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA). This participation allows us to stay current with national issues affecting the CPAs we regulate.

Current and Former Board Members participate in committee and officer positions with NASBA. I want to congratulate two past Board Chairs of Ohio, Theodore (Ted) Long, Jr., CPA as NASBA's 2017-2018 Chair and to W. Michael Fritz, CPA as a member of NASBA's 2017-2018 Board of Directors.

Finally, no closing thoughts could be given without recognizing the staff of the Accountancy Board of Ohio. John Patterson, our Executive Director, and our Assistant Executive Director, Tracey Fithen, lead a staff of quality professionals, whose assistance in fulfilling the Board's obligations, are invaluable.

Sincerely,

James P. Gero, CPA

Increased Exam Fees

Effective October 21, 2017

Effective October 21, 2017, the Uniform CPA Exam fees charged by Prometric, NASBA, and the AICPA were increased. The fees are as follows:

Administrative Fees	
Initial Exam Application	\$230.00
Re-Exam Applications	\$ 75.00

Section Fees	
Auditing (AUD)	\$208.40
Financial Accounting & Reporting (FAR)	\$208.40
Regulation (REG)	\$208.40
Business Environment & Concepts (BEC)	\$208.40

NEW ONLINE SYSTEM COMING SPRING 2018

A new online eLicense system is coming in the Spring 2018. This system will operate in a secure web-based environment. The new system will allow you to print a receipt for fees paid, request a wallet card, update contact information, request a wall certificate, etc. The new system will improve the ability of the Board to communicate with and guide you through the license renewal process. There are many new and improved features in this system, several of which were developed

based on requests from CPA licensees like you.

More information to come!



BOARD MEETING HELD AT CASE WESTERN UNIVERSITY

Three years ago, the Accountancy Board of Ohio resolved to hold subsequent September meetings at an Ohio college or university, focusing on students interested in the CPA profession. The Board held meetings at The Ohio State University in 2015 and University of Cincinnati in 2016. This year, the Board had the pleasure of holding our September 2017 Board meeting at the Cleveland Botanical Gardens, hosted by Case Western Reserve University. Many members of Case Western's accounting faculty and students were in attendance, in addition to students and staff from Cleveland State University, University of Akron, Baldwin Wallace College, and Kent State University, totaling more than 100 attendees.

The Board extends an invitation to attend their public meetings to anyone who may have an interest in Board operations. The Board's meeting schedule and list of Board members is available on our website.



Colleen Conrad, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of NASBA spoke regarding preparing for the CPA Exam, the expanded Exam requirements, and statistics of note specific to those who sit for the Ohio Exam. Representative managers from the Ohio Society of CPAs, Becky Hixen (Senior Manager of Student and Young Professional Engagement) and Mandy Hohler (Manager of Student Engagement), spoke to the group about the benefits of professional membership and outreach programs available via OSCP student ambassadors.

Three disciplinary hearings were held and the Board conducted regular business during this meeting.



77 South High Street
Suite 1802
Columbus, OH 43215-6128

PHONE: 614.466.4135

FAX: 614.466.2628

<http://acc.ohio.gov>

HAVE YOU MOVED? CHANGED EMPLOYERS?

Please send all contact information changes to Ms. Luann Rager at: luann.rager@acc.ohio.gov

BOARD MEETINGS

Our Board meetings are open to the public. Information regarding upcoming rule changes, AICPA and NASBA updates are discussed. Disciplinary hearings are held. Meet the Board members and Board staff. The 2018 Board meeting schedule is:

- February 9, 2018
- April 27, 2018
- June 1, 2018
- July 20, 2018 Room South B & C
- September 7, 2018
- October 19, 2018
- December 3, 2018 1:00 p.m.
- December 4, 2018 9:00 a.m.
- February 8, 2019

Meetings are held at the Vern Riffe Building, 77 S. High St., 31st Floor, Room West B & C, Columbus, OH 43215 and begin at 10:00 a.m. unless otherwise noted.

BECOMING A CPA!

The Board has the privilege of awarding certificates of Certified Public Accountant to many individuals each month. The below chart indicates the numbers of individuals certified during the year 2017.

January	159	July	47
February	81	August	52
March	54	September	76
April	63	October	113
May	62	November	104
June	44		

Congratulations to all who obtained their certificate of Certificate Public Accountant! The Board wishes you great success on your journey as a CPA!

VERIFY A CPA LICENSE

You may verify a CPA license, including issuance and expiration date, license number, etc. by visiting the Ohio E-Licensing Center at: <http://acc.ohio.gov/Resources/LicenseLookup.aspx>.

The website is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

GETTING TO KNOW ELISABETH KELLEY



Mrs. Kelley has worked for the Accountancy Board since 2011 but has been with the State of Ohio for 11 years. She is responsible for processing all fees received in our office. Ms. Kelley is also the administrator of our CPE Sponsor and Education Assistance Programs.



THEODORE W. LONG, JR., CPA IS THE 2017-18 NASBA CHAIR

Theodore W. Long, Jr., CPA was elected the NASBA Chair 2017-2018 at the November Annual Business Meeting. Mr. Long served on the Accountancy Board of Ohio for eleven years, including three terms as its Chair. He is a retired partner of Ernst & Young, LLP. Mr. Long has served on NASBA's Board of Directors as the Great Lakes Regional Director, former NASBA Treasurer, Director-at-Large and Chair of the CPE Advisory, Global Strategies, UAA Mobility Implementation, and Relations with Member Boards Committees.

Chair Theodore W. Long, Jr., CPA, began his inaugural address with "Promises, Promises. Who hasn't said or heard the phrase, Promises, Promises? One thing that is promised is tomorrow...regulators must adapt to changes to ensure a safer tomorrow for the public they serve."

There are three promises that must be kept by NASBA and Boards of Accountancy: 1-To enforce board's rules and regulations; 2-To guard against deregulation; and 3-To engage in the evolution of the profession. Chair Long, in his role as chair, personally promised to act on behalf of the state boards.

