

**PROCEEDINGS BEFORE THE
WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY**

In the Matter of the Certified Public
Accountant (CPA) Certificate and/or
Licenses to Practice Public Accounting of:

Bram Deo
License No. 20863

Respondent.

No: ACB-1455

CONSENT AGREEMENT

The Washington State Board of Accountancy (Board) and Bram Deo (Respondent),
stipulate and agree as follows:

Section 1: Procedural Stipulations

- 1.1 Respondent understands that the Board has issued a statement of charges in this matter and proceed to a hearing before the Board upon the merits of said charges. The Board has presented this Consent Agreement in order to facilitate resolution of this matter in accordance with the legislative intent endorsed in RCW 34.05.060 and the provisions of WAC 4-30-140.
- 1.2 Respondent understands that should the Board prevail at hearing based on a statement of charges that the Board has the power and authority to deny, suspend, revoke, or refuse to renew the Respondent's CPA certificate or any individual or firm licenses to practice public accounting as a CPA or CPA firm in Washington and may impose a fine plus the Board's investigative and legal costs in bringing charges or impose conditions precedent to renewal of the certificate or license, or impose full restitution to injured parties.
- 1.3 Respondent has the right to defend against a statement of charges by demanding a hearing and presenting evidence on the Respondent's behalf. Respondent voluntarily waives the

right to a hearing and all other rights which may be accorded the Respondent by the Administrative Procedures Act, chapter 34.05 RCW, and the laws of Washington, including the right to petition the courts for judicial review.

- 1.4 Respondent wishes to expedite the resolution of this matter by means of this Consent Agreement and does not desire to proceed to a formal hearing based on the issuance of a statement of charges.
- 1.5 Respondent understands that the terms of this Consent Agreement are not binding unless approved by the Board and fully executed.

The parties further stipulate to the following Stipulated Facts, Conclusions of Law, and Agreed Order:

Section 2: Stipulated Facts

- 2.1 At all times material hereto, Respondent held a valid Certified Public Accountant (CPA) license to practice public accounting (License No. 20863) in Washington State.
- 2.2 Respondent diverted funds in the amount of \$96,250 from his former non-for-profit employer. The diverted funds were used to pay a vendor for services provided to an organization that had no relation to employer at the time. The vendor provided services to assist Respondent's renovations of a local religious establishment.
- 2.3 Respondent admitted to the diversion described in Paragraph 2.2.
- 2.4 Respondent has reimbursed his former employer for the diverted funds. Respondent is in the process of reimbursing his former employer for the costs of investigation.

Section 3: Conclusions of Law

- 3.1 The Board has jurisdiction over the Respondent and the subject matter of this proceeding.

3.2 The conduct described above constitutes cause for Board discipline under RCW 18.04.295, for violations of WAC 4-30-052(1). WAC 4-30-052(1) states that a licensee must not commit any act that reflects adversely on their fitness to represent themselves as a CPA.

3.3 The conduct described above constitutes cause for Board discipline under RCW 18.04.295, for violations of WAC 4-30-142(5). WAC 4-30-142(5) states that dishonesty, fraud, or negligence while representing oneself as a licensee is basis for Board disciplinary action.

Section 4: Agreed Order

4.1 Respondent consents to the entry of this Agreement and has waived any right to a hearing.

4.2 Pursuant to RCW 18.04.295, the Board has the power to impose discipline. Based on the preceding Stipulated Facts and Conclusions of Law, the Board and Respondent agree that:

4.2.1 Respondent's CPA license is revoked.

4.2.2 Respondent shall pay the Board a fine in the amount of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) within 90 days of the service of this Agreement.

4.2.3 Respondent shall pay the Board the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500) to reimburse the Board's investigative and legal costs within 90 days of the service of this Agreement.

4.2.4 Before the Board will consider Respondent qualified as an applicant in any respect, Respondent must:

4.2.4.1 Satisfy the terms of this Consent Agreement.

4.2.4.2 Retake and pass the CPA examination.

4.2.4.3 Comply with all applicable requirements of WAC 4-30-126.

I, Bram Deo, certify that I have read this Consent Agreement in its entirety, and that I fully understand and agree to all of it and that it may be presented to the Board without my appearance. If the Board accepts the Consent Agreement, I understand that I will receive a signed copy.

DATED this 15th day of APRIL, 2016.

RESPONDENT



Bram Deo

The Board accepts and enters this Consent Agreement.

DATED this 17th day of May, 2016.

WASHINGTON STATE
BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY



Thomas G. Neill, CPA
Chair