

ACCRUED INTEREST



Biannual Newsletter

New CPA pathways open

page 7

Adapting to changing standards

From the VBOA Chair

What a start to the year! The wintry weather covering most of the state, while beautiful, has served as a reminder of the necessity of preparation, adaptability, sound judgment, and steady execution—much like the accounting profession! The work that we do is of great importance, but requires that we navigate challenges, assess risks, plan responsibly, adapt to changing standards, laws, and technologies, and maintain stability amidst uncertainty.



NADIA A. ROGERS, CPA

Accounting Pipeline

For years now, the profession has been discussing and taking action to address the challenges associated with a declining pipeline. In an effort to strengthen the pipeline, the board felt it was important to make changes to the CPA licensure requirements. Effective Jan. 1, 2026, prospective licensees may pursue one of three pathways, all of which require an accounting concentration or equivalent as defined by the board, and passage of the CPA Exam:

- Master's degree, 1 year of experience
- Bachelor's degree + 30 semester credit hours, 1 year of experience
- Bachelor's degree, 2 years of experience

Additionally, the legislation no longer refers to the educational hour requirements as 120 and 150, but rather refers to the bachelor's and master's degrees overall. ([See page 7.](#))

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CHRISTINE B. WILLIAMSON, CPA, APPOINTED TO VBOA

NEW EMERITUS STATUS FOR RETIRED CPAS

VBOA TRAVELS TO WILLIAM & MARY

NEWS AND NOTES

From the VBOA chair, *continued from p. 1*

Another way the board prioritizes positively impacting the pipeline is through holding meetings on college campuses. Our November board meeting was [held at the College of William & Mary](#). We are most grateful to the college for their hospitality and the students and faculty for their interest and engagement during the meeting. We conduct regular business at meetings held on college campuses, but also spend time educating those in attendance on the role of the VBOA and each agenda item in addition to delivering presentations about the accounting profession and CPA licensure. We look forward to holding our April meeting at Virginia Union University.

License Status Changes

The board recently approved changes to its policy on Inactive licensure status and added an Emeritus

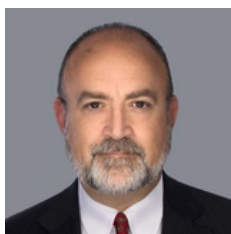
licensure status, effective July 1, 2026 ([see page 5](#)). Those meeting the requirements as approved by the board in writing through an application process will be exempt from the CPE requirements and may use the CPA title, but it must be stated as “CPA (Inactive)” or “CPA (Emeritus),” respectively. We believe the changes meet the evolving needs of licensed CPAs, while also strengthening protection of the public.

I wish you all a successful and prosperous 2026! If there is anything the VBOA can do to assist you, please do not hesitate to let us know. As a friendly reminder, we welcome your attendance at our open meetings, held at 9960 Mayland Drive in Henrico. Your insight and participation are essential to the VBOA’s mission and to advancing the profession with transparency and collaboration. — *Nadia A. Rogers, CPA*

BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY



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Manassas, Virginia



Angela Rudolph-Wiseman, CPA
Frederick County, Virginia

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NEWS AND NOTES

From the executive director:

The rapid changes to the CPA exam and licensing over the past three years have been historic—and for 12 months ending in October, I had a front row view on NASBA's board as chair of the executive directors committee.

Looking back over the last 30 years of the CPA profession's history, major changes to the exam and licensing requirements seem to be about 10 years apart.

- 1994 – The four-part CPA exam was launched.
- 2004 – The exam was digitized.
- ~2014 – Most state boards began requiring 150 credit hours to be licensed (up from 120).

But the latest three changes—the revised CPA exam through CPA Evolution (January 2024), the increased credit lifespan from 18 months to 30 months (effective in Virginia Jan. 10, 2024), and the new licensing pathways (launched in Virginia Jan. 1, 2026)—were rapid-fire changes of the requirements to pass the exam and get licensed.

I have heard concerns that these changes mean the profession is being diluted. But having been at the table for many of these discussions, I can assure you these changes in no way reduce the difficulty of the CPA exam (as seen by the [pass rates to date](#)). They do, however, provide candidates with different backgrounds options for how to achieve their CPA license.

Like many of you, I took the exam when you had to sit for all four parts in a two-day period. I was licensed after passing the CPA exam with a bachelor's degree and two years of relevant experience. When the computer-based exam was launched in 2004, allowing candidates to take one section at a time, I thought it

was going to be much easier to study and pass than the two-day exam. Instead, the continuous testing over what is now a 30-month window for passing all four sections means candidates can face continuous pressure for two-and-a-half years or longer.

The changes came in response to evolving professional demands and concerns about access to the CPA profession. The redesign modernized the exam structure to focus on skills and competencies, and a changing regulatory environment relevant to today's accounting environment.

The core requirements remain very rigorous—FAR, AUD, and REG still cover the complex technical topics that define CPA expertise. The discipline sections are in-depth specialized areas, with technically advanced questions. The shift acknowledges modern relevance—tech systems, data analytics, and cybersecurity are now as essential to the profession as debits and credits.

It's not that standards were lowered—they were just modernized and refocused. The CPA license is shifting from a one-size-fits-all generalist credential to a core-plus-specialty model. That's arguably a smarter design for today's profession, although it might feel like a reduction in breadth. It is not. There are some areas that are tested a bit less, but all the core knowledge needed to be a CPA has been redistributed throughout the exam sections and enhanced specialized knowledge has been added.

So, all those long-licensed CPAs can rest easy: The education and preparation to take the exam is still exhaustive. And considering the increased number and complexity of new standards, the CPA exam is as grueling as ever.



NANCY GLYNN,
CPA

STAFF

Nancy Glynn, CPA, Executive Director

Renai Reinholtz, Deputy Director

Matthew Ross, Enforcement Director

Alessandra Gabriel, Information and Policy Advisor

Jeff Good, IT Specialist

Patti B. Hambright, CPE Administrator

Sasha Marshall, Enforcement Specialist

Kelsie Mclellan, Enforcement Specialist

Veronica Paulson, Administrative Assistant

Nicole Reynolds, Licensing and Operations Support

Sandra Reynolds, Financial and Procurement Coordinator

TiNique Stewart, Licensing Support Specialist

Michelle Strudgeon, Accounting Analyst

Nicholas Tazza, Manager, Licensing and Examination

Kelli Yoder, Communications Coordinator

NEWS AND NOTES

NASBA board elections

- Former VBOA chair, **Laurie Warwick**, is a continuing member of the NASBA board.

[See full media announcement here >>](#)

NASBA 2026 committee appointments

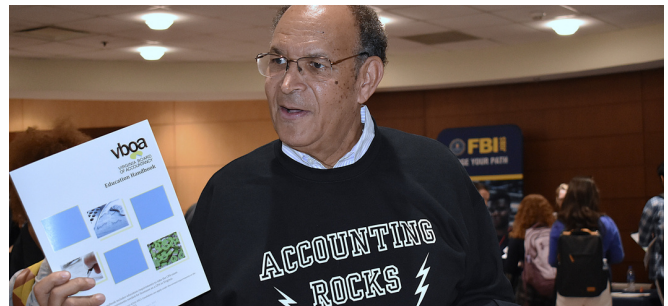
- **Dale Mullen** - Private Equity Task Force
- **Nadia Rogers, CPA** - Education Committee
- **Angela Rudolph-Wiseman, CPA** - Enforcement Resources Committee

[View all 2026 NASBA committees here >>](#)

Remembering Jim Holland

James Holland, a career CPA and former chair of the VBOA died Oct. 14. Holland served on the VBOA from 2014-2017. He also spent many years representing Virginia on National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA) committees and influencing the CPA pipeline while teaching at Virginia Commonwealth University.

Virginia State University [honored Holland's career](#) and life of service, including as the first African-American Chairman of the Chesterfield County Board of Supervisors, with a posthumous degree on Dec. 13. [Read a VSCPA profile of Holland >>](#)



Holland visited the VBOA table at a VCU career fair in 2023.

New “Emeritus” status added to licensure options

Policy update will require all Inactive CPAs to include the qualifier in their titles

At its Dec. 4 meeting, the Virginia Board of Accountancy approved an update to its former [Inactive policy](#) that includes a new CPE-exempt status for retirees: the “Emeritus” status, effective July 1, 2026.

Beginning July 1, CPAs who have retired may apply for Inactive or Emeritus status. The Emeritus status allows more flexibility for a retired CPA who wants to volunteer in different roles.

To qualify for Emeritus status, a CPA must:

- Be retired and not provide any services for compensation.
- Have been licensed for at least 30 years, or have been licensed for 15 years and have reached at least 60 years of age.

The Emeritus status will be implemented on July 1, 2026. The [VBOA website](#) will be updated with more details prior to July 1.

Use of title change

Additionally, any licensed CPAs who have been or are approved for either Inactive or Emeritus status must now use the related qualifier whenever they use the CPA title.

- Sara Miller, CPA (Inactive)
- Alex Brown, CPA (Emeritus)

ATTENTION:

All CPAs currently approved for Inactive status are required to start including “Inactive” in their title beginning July 1, 2026. Non-compliance could result in disciplinary action.

NEWS AND NOTES

Christine B. Williamson, CPA, appointed to VBOA

Governor Glenn Youngkin appointed Christine B. Williamson, CPA, PMP, of Manassas, Virginia, to the Virginia Board of Accountancy effective Nov. 1, 2025.



Williamson

Williamson has been in the advisory, tax and consulting business for more than 35 years and is currently a

Partner at CohnReznick. She served as the firm's Government Contracting Industry Practice Leader for over 17 years including several years as the Office Managing Partner for the Tysons Corner office. Her specialty is to provide advice on financial and complex accounting issues to government contracting clients. She has expert knowledge in generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR), Cost Accounting Standards (CAS) and tax compliance issues.

Williamson is highly experienced with accounting software products for government contractors of various sizes and often serves in an advisory capacity for companies that are interested in customizing and incorporating compliance into their system. She was instrumental in forming a software implementation and consultation subsidiary business to clients using various project-based products. Additionally, she provides training and writes white papers on government contracting regulations both internally and for clients.

Williamson pioneered the annual CohnReznick GovCon Lunch and Learn Series, now in its 16th year, and launched the GovCon Academy, teaching government contractors a variety of subjects. She is the co-author of the GAUGE report, in its 9th edition.

Williamson is a graduate of the University of Maryland. She is finishing an unexpired term, which will end June 30, 2026. Her first meeting was Dec. 4.

[Find all board member bios here >>](#)

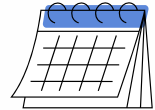
Renewal season is almost here

You can renew your individual and firm licenses beginning March 1 and must renew by June 30 or your license will expire and you will need to reinstate it. Reinstatement includes a CPE audit and a \$350 application fee.

Make sure your contact information is up to date [in our system](#) so that you receive our renewal reminders.



Add to calendar



Reminder: Security protocol for VBOA portal

As a reminder, resetting the user ID or password for your VBOA account requires a registration code specific to you. All licensees received an email containing their unique registration code in February 2025. Those registered since should have received their code within their application confirmation email.

Please save the code for use anytime you get locked out of your VBOA account or need to reset the password or username.

If you cannot find the email, please [submit this form](#) or [contact us](#).

New licenses July 1-Dec. 31

The VBOA publishes a listing of all newly issued Virginia individual and firm licenses every six months online.

View the 481 individuals and 39 firms licensed from July 1 to Dec. 31, 2025: boa.virginia.gov/newlicenses.



NEW LICENSEES >>

NEWS AND NOTES

Comment period for regulatory action, guidance document

The board periodically reviews policies and regulations and exposes proposed changes for public comment before they become effective. These public comment forums are open only during the official comment period for a stage in the regulatory process. You can find all regulatory actions and guidance documents open for public comment on the Virginia Town Hall website.

The following regulatory action is open for comments through March 27:

- [Amendments to Firm Requirements and Principal Place of Business](#)

The following VBOA guidance document was open for comments through Feb. 25:

- VBOA Policy: [Inactive and Emeritus License Status](#)

[Find all of VBOA's guidance documents here >>](#)



ID	Title	Effective Date
Agency level documents applying to all of this agency's boards		
3638	Board of Accountancy Rights and Responsibilities under FOIA	8/22/2019
5970	VBOA Policy: Trust Account	4/1/2020
5971	VBOA Policy: Continuing Professional Education Guidelines for Sponsors	8/20/2020
5972	VBOA Policy: Substantially Equivalent Jurisdictions	8/20/2020
5973	VBOA Policy: Continuing Professional Education Guidelines for CPAs	7/1/2022
5974	VBOA Policy: Publication of Disciplinary Action	12/14/2019
5975	VBOA Policy: CPA and International Qualification Examinations	12/31/2018
5976	VBOA Policy: Peer Review Oversight Committee	12/31/2018
5977	VBOA Policy: Ethics Committee	8/20/2020
5978	VBOA Policy: Inactive Status Procedure for Approval/Denial/Appointment	3/5/2020
5979	VBOA Policy: Electronic Participation in Virginia Board of Accountancy Meetings	12/12/2019
6132	Education Handbook	12/5/2024
6301	Virginia Board of Accountancy Bylaws	4/30/2020

VBOA represented at public events throughout Virginia

The following board members and staff have been representing the VBOA around Virginia:

- Board members Nadia A. Rogers and Anne B. Hagen spoke to a **Virginia Tech Careers of Accounting** class of 144 students about their career as CPAs during the fall semester.
- Board member Angela Rudolph-Wiseman moderated an employer panel at an **accounting student night at Laurel Ridge Community College** Oct. 23.
- Executive Director Nancy Glynn and VBOA Vice Chair Dale Mullen attended **NASBA's 118th Annual Meeting** in Chicago Oct. 26-29.
- Dale Mullen spoke at the NASBA annual meeting and to the **Washington State BOA** about alternative practice structures and private equity investments in the fall.
- Various VBOA staff and board members were guests of a fall semester **Virginia State University experiential learning** business class.
- VBOA's Manager of Licensing and Exams Nicholas Tazza and Deputy Director Renai Reinholtz presented the new pathway requirements at the **Virginia Commonwealth University Advisory Committee** Dec. 11.

If you are interested in having a board or staff member available at your event, [contact us here](#).



Anne Hagen presents at Virginia Tech Sept. 28.



Angela Rudolph-Wiseman moderates a career night at Laurel Ridge Community College Oct. 23.

CANDIDATES' CORNER

New pathways launched Jan. 1, 2026

CPA candidates in Virginia can officially apply for licensure under three pathways. As of Jan. 1, the board no longer requires 150 college credit hours for licensure but instead will look at a combination of degree earned and experience.

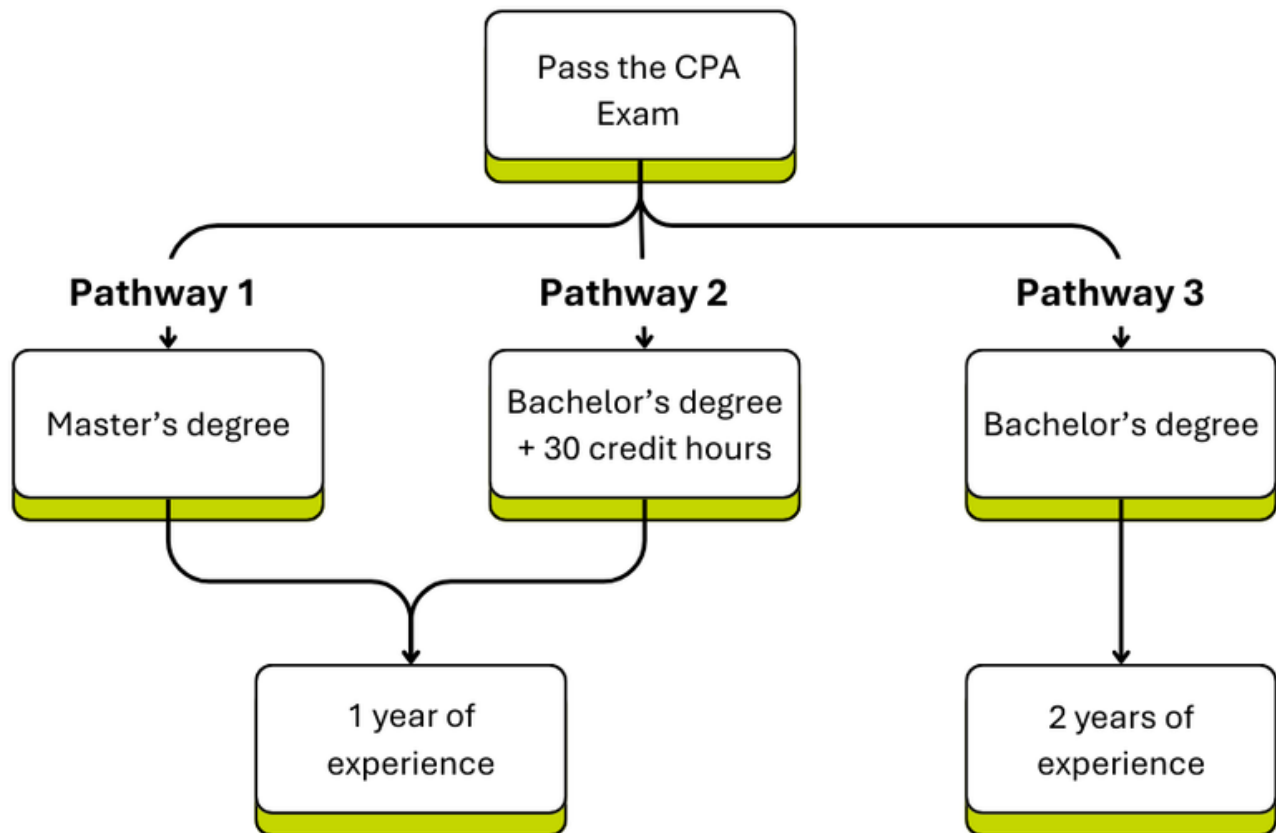
All applicants are still required to pass the CPA Exam. To be eligible to take the exam, candidates must still obtain a bachelor's or higher degree with an accounting concentration or equivalent, but the

previous requirement of 120 semester credit hours of college has been removed.

Find details of the new pathways, including required documentation here: boa.virginia.gov/initial-licensure.

Applicants who passed the CPA Exam as a candidate of a state other than Virginia have slightly different requirements, which [can be found here](#).

NEW PATHWAYS REQUIREMENTS >>



All applicants must still demonstrate an accounting concentration.

Did you apply before Jan. 1, 2026?

Only applications submitted after Jan. 1, 2026, will be reviewed under the new pathways. If you submitted a license application prior to Jan. 1, 2026, and would like to have it re-reviewed under a new pathway, please [complete this form](#). No action will automatically be taken on your behalf.

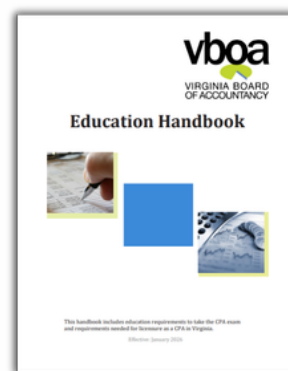
CANDIDATES' CORNER

Updated Education Handbook

The board's Education Handbook explains the education requirements for both the CPA Exam and licensure. It has been updated to reflect the changes to licensure requirements and can be found here:

boa.virginia.gov/cpa-exam/requirements/education-handbook/.

EDUCATION HANDBOOK >>



Score releases

CPA Core Exam scores will be released throughout the year on a rolling basis with continuous testing.

Scores for the discipline sections will again be administered in the first month of each quarter in 2026.

Find the full 2026 [score release schedule here](#).

Re-exam fee: \$0

The board will permanently eliminate the \$20 re-exam fee.

Core release schedule

If your exam data file is received by:	Your target score release date is:
Jan. 23	Feb. 10
Feb. 14	Feb. 24
March 9	March 17
March 31	April 9
April 23	May 7
May 16	May 27
June 8	June 16
June 30	July 10

Discipline releases:

If your exam data file is received by:	Your target score release date is:
January	March 13
April	June 16

NASBA

Sign In

Email

Password

Sign in

You can check your CPA Exam scores through your NASBA candidate portal at dashboard.nasba.org.

CANDIDATES' CORNER

William & Mary hosts fall on-campus meeting



Board Chair Nadia A. Rogers addresses students Nov. 6 at William & Mary for the fall on-campus VBOA meeting.

William & Mary's School of Business hosted the VBOA and staff in Williamsburg Nov. 6 for a college-centric VBOA meeting.

More than 50 students stopped by throughout the day to learn from a student-centered agenda, in which board members and guest speakers shared their varying journeys to becoming CPAs and many relevant resources for students.

Two special guests from the college spoke. Alex Woods, Ph.D., Accounting Department Chair and Director of the Estes Center for Excellence in Accounting, welcomed the board, faculty and students. Marc Moyers, CPA, Clinical Professor of Accounting, shared his appreciation of the board's efforts to visit college students throughout Virginia. Moyers served on the VBOA from 2012-2016.

Then Wendy Lewis, CPA and managing partner at KPMG, led a presentation giving students insights on what the life of a CPA can look like. She corrected many misconceptions of accounting and shared some possible career paths available to students, including job hunting advice and some of the varied and rewarding experiences she has had as a CPA over the course of her career.

Molly Wash, Virginia Society for CPAs vice president of advocacy and pipeline, also shared with attendees the ways in which VSCPA supports students on their pathway to the CPA, including scholarship availability and a mentoring program new in 2023.

Board Chair Nadia A. Rogers, CPA and director of the Master's of ACIS at Virginia Tech, led a presentation on becoming a CPA: the importance of CPA licensure, requirements to sit for the CPA Exam and become licensed in Virginia, and resources for CPA Exam preparation. She outlined how the CPA Exam changed through the CPA Evolution Initiative in addition to discussing the national pass rates, section volumes, timing of score releases, and potential strategies exam candidates can utilize when determining the order and timing of taking CPA Exam sections.

Then she explained the new pathways to licensure effective Jan. 1, 2026, and invited VBOA Licensing and Exam Manager Nicholas Tazza to share more about the frequently asked questions in applying for exams or licensure.

Students participated throughout the day, asking questions and taking part in discussions.



Board member Wendy Lewis calls on a William & Mary student.

DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

POLICY NOTICE

The policy of the Virginia Board of Accountancy is to publish the information of licensees against whom the VBOA has taken disciplinary action resulting in suspensions, revocations and for other professional violations. The VBOA publishes information of licensees found to be deficient in CPE credit hours in the event of a previous CPE deficiency or previous professional violation, or a disciplinary action resulting in suspension. The VBOA also publishes information of unlicensed individuals and firms against whom the VBOA has taken a disciplinary action.

Monetary penalties are deposited into the Commonwealth's Literary Fund and are not available for use by the VBOA.



VBOA disciplinary actions since 2011 are listed in alphabetical order by name on our website at boa.virginia.gov/enforcement/disciplinary-actions. Contact the VBOA for actions prior to 2011, or if additional information or documentation is needed

July-December

Svetlana Nikolaevna Arzhanova-Perry – License #31871 | Leesburg, VA | 9/16/25

Peer review [18VAC5-22-170\(B\)\(6\)](#) [18VAC5-22-90](#)

Svetlana Nikolaevna Arzhanova-Perry was fined \$480 for failing to notify the VBOA regarding failed peer review and being dropped from the AICPA peer review program, in addition to failing a CPE audit for the period of 2022, 2023 and 2024.

Yon Chung – License #45267 | McLean, VA | 9/16/25

Unlicensed activity [§54.1-4409.1\(A\)](#) [§54.1-4414\(i\)\(2\)\(4\)](#)

Yon Chung was fined \$1,000 for unlicensed use of the CPA title on her business website, social media and as a credential after her name.

Michael Whitman Decker – License #34677 | Winchester, VA | 9/16/25

Due professional care [§54.1-4413.3\(1\)-\(4\)\(7\)](#)

Michael Whitman Decker's license was revoked and he was fined \$5,000 for failing to appropriately communicate and file personal and business tax returns for a client.

Michael Whitman Decker – License #34677 | Winchester, VA | 9/16/25

Due professional care [§54.1-4413.3\(1\)-\(4\)](#)

Michael Whitman Decker's license was revoked and he was fined \$10,000 for failing to appropriately communicate and complete a tax return for a medical practice. Decker also failed to return client documentation.

Michael Whitman Decker – License #34677 | Winchester, VA | 9/16/25

Due professional care [§54.1-4413.3\(1\)-\(4\)\(7\)](#)

Michael Whitman Decker's license was revoked and he was fined \$5,000 for failing to appropriately communicate with a client between May 2024 and January 2025 regarding a tax engagement.

Michael Whitman Decker – License #34677 | Winchester, VA | 9/16/25

Due professional care [§54.1-4413.3\(1-4\)](#) [18VAC5-22-170\(A\)](#)

Michael Whitman Decker's license was revoked and he was fined \$6,000 for failing to properly communicate and complete a tax return for a client. Decker also failed to return tax documentation upon request.

DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

July-December

Katya Hernandez – No license | Woodbridge, VA | 11/6/25

Unlicensed activity [§54.1-4412.1\(A\)](#) [§54.1-4414\(ii\)\(5\)](#)

Katya Hernandez was fined \$1,000 for advertising for services restricted to firm license holders.

Sishah Lilly Mbinglo – License #48006 | Newport News, VA | 11/6/25

Due professional care [§54.1-4413.3\(1\)-\(4\)](#) [18VAC5-22-90](#)

Sishah Lilly Mbinglo was fined \$5,250 for failing to properly prepare and file a client's business tax returns and timely return documentation. Mbinglo also failed to take a Virginia-specific ethics CPE course for 2022.

Frankline Nforbou Mbunu – License #39019 | Alexandria, VA | 12/4/25

Acts discreditable [§54.1-4413.3\(1\)-\(3\)\(7\)](#) [18VAC5-22-170\(B\)\(2\)](#)

Frankline Nforbou Mbunu was fined \$25,500 for failing to disclose discipline from the Virginia State Corporations Commission, where he was penalized for operating as an investment advisor without proper registration.

Nick Morrison – No license | Charlottesville, VA | 12/4/25

Unlicensed activity [§54.1-4412.1\(F\)](#) [§54.1-4414\(i\)\(ii\)\(2\)-\(4\)](#)

Nick Morrison was fined \$5,000 for unlicensed use of the CPA title in firm name and marketing materials.

Yusufali F. Musaji – License #20CC03225800 - New Jersey | Short Hills, NJ | 11/6/25

Due professional care [§54.1-4413.3\(1\)-\(7\)](#) [18VAC5-22-170\(B\)\(2\)\(6\)](#)

Yusufali F. Musaji was reprimanded and barred from performing audit work in Virginia for three years for failing to notify the VBOA of PCAOB discipline for an audit that failed to meet standards for a Virginia company.

Kishore Pandey – License #36942 | Centerville, VA | 9/16/25

Unlicensed activity [§54.1-4412.1\(A\)](#) [18VAC5-22-90](#)

Kishore Pandey was fined \$2,240 for advertising services restricted to firm license holders and failing a CPE audit for the three-year period of 2022, 2023 and 2024.

Gary Pecher – License #40883 | Virginia Beach, VA | 12/4/25

Due professional care [§54.1-4413.3\(4\)](#)

Gary Pecher was fined \$25,000 for failing to properly notify clients regarding transfer of files and personal information relative to the sale of firm assets.

Stacy Lee Rembold – License #34404 | Inwood, WV | 9/16/25

Acts discreditable [§54.1-4413.3\(1\)-\(4\)\(7\)](#) [18VAC5-22-170\(B\)\(4\)](#)

Stacy Lee Rembold's license was revoked and she was fined \$1,250 after pleading guilty to obstruction of justice, a misdemeanor, in connection with the embezzlement of funds from a youth gymnastics group and failing to notify the VBOA regarding the same.

Joginder “Joe” Singh – License #29978 | Sterling, VA | 11/6/25

Due professional care [§54.1-4413.3\(1\)-\(5\)\(7\)](#)

Joginder Singh was fined \$2,000 for failing to have a client sign IRS form 8879, prior to filing their income tax return.

Kennard G. Smith – License #45150 | Sterling, VA | 9/23/25 (\$350 fine)

Unlicensed activity [§54.1-4409.1\(A\)](#) [§54.1-4414\(i\)\(2\)\(4\)](#)

Kennard G. Smith was fined \$350 for failing to have a client sign IRS form 8879, prior to filing their income tax return.

DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

July-December

Nannette Williams – License #26468 | Henrico, VA | 9/16/25

Unlicensed activity [§54.1-4409.1\(A\)\(1\)\(2\)](#) [§54.1-4414\(i\)\(1\)-\(4\)](#)

Nannette Williams was fined \$1,000 for unlicensed use of the CPA title as a credential on her resume, employer website and social media.

Stapleton W. Wills – License #4291 | Gordonsville, VA | 11/6/25

Due professional care [§54.1-4413.3\(4\)\(7\)](#) [§54.1-4412.1\(D\)\(7\)](#)

Stapleton W. Wills was fined \$30,000 for failing to properly notify clients regarding the transfer of files and personal information relative to the sale of his firm's assets. Wills' actions surrounding the sale and continuation of the firm were also found to be misleading to the public.

Xuelu Yan – License #45224 | Tuckahoe, NY | 11/6/25

Unlicensed activity [§54.1-4414\(i\)\(2\)\(4\)](#) [§54.1-4409.1\(A\)](#)

Xuelu Yan was fined \$1,000 for unlicensed use of the CPA title on social media.

Firms

C&K Accounting and Business Solutions – No license | Woodbridge, VA | 11/6/25

Unlicensed Activity [§54.1-4412.1\(A\)](#) [§54.1-4414\(ii\)\(5\)](#)

C&K Accounting and Business Solutions was fined \$1,000 for advertising services restricted to firm license holders.

Ernst & Young LLP – License #132249 | Richmond, VA | 9/16/25

Acts discreditable [§54.1-4413.3\(6\)](#)

Ernst & Young LLP was fined \$15,000 for conduct identified in the Securities and Exchange Commission enforcement order dated June 28, 2022.

Financial Target Solutions Group LLC – License #134528 | Leesburg, VA | 9/16/25

Peer review [18VAC5-22-170\(B\)\(6\)](#)

Financial Target Solutions Group LLC was reprimanded for failing to notify the VBOA regarding a failed peer review and being dropped from the AICPA peer review program.

Gary Pecher CPA LLC – License #134235 | Virginia Beach, VA | 12/4/25

Due professional care [§54.1-4413.3\(4\)](#)

Gary Pecher CPA LLC was fined \$25,000 for failing to properly notify clients regarding the transfer of files and personal information relative to the sale of firm assets.

Joe Singh & Associates, P.C. – License #134489 | Sterling, VA | 11/6/25

Due professional care [§54.1-4413.3\(1\)-\(5\)\(7\)](#)

Joe Singh & Associates, P.C. was fined \$2,000 for failing to have a client sign IRS form 8879, prior to filing their income tax return.

Lane & Associates PC – License #51621 | Richmond, VA | 9/16/25

Unlicensed activity [§54.1-4412.1\(A\)\(B\)](#) [§54.1-4414\(ii\)\(1\)\(2\)\(4\)\(5\)](#)

Lane & Associates PC was fined \$1,000 for performing services for which a firm license is required, while their Virginia CPA license was expired.

DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

July-December

Firms, continued

The Ark NPS, LLC – License #134797 | Newport News, VA | 11/6/25

Due professional care [§54.1-4413.3\(1\)-\(4\)](#)

The Ark NPS, LLC was fined \$5,000 for failing to properly prepare and file a client's business tax returns and timely return documentation.

Wells, Coleman & Co LLP – License #132475 | Richmond, VA | 9/16/25

Unlicensed activity [§54.1-4412.1\(A\)\(B\)](#) [§54.1-4414\(ii\)\(1\)\(2\)\(4\)\(5\)](#)

Wells, Coleman & Co LLP was fined \$2,500 for performing services for which a firm license is required, while their Virginia CPA license was expired.

Wills & Associates, P.C. – License #132964 | Charlottesville, VA | 11/6/25

Due professional care [§54.1-4413.3\(1\)\(7\)](#) [§54.1-4412.1\(D\)\(7\)](#)

Wills & Associates, P.C. was fined \$30,000 for failing to properly notify clients regarding the transfer of files and personal information relative to the sale of the firm's assets. The firm's actions surrounding the sale and continuation of the firm was found to be misleading to the public.

Yusufali & Associates – License #20CB00603500 - New Jersey | Short Hills, NJ | 11/6/25

Due professional care [18VAC5-22-170\(B\)\(2\)\(6\)](#) [§54.1-4413.3\(1\)-\(7\)](#)

Yusufali & Associates was reprimanded and barred from performing audit work in Virginia for three years for failing to notify the VBOA of PCAOB discipline for an audit that failed to meet standards for a Virginia company.

CPE deficiencies

The following CPAs violated VBOA regulation [18VAC5-22-90](#) by failing to meet the CPE requirements for a three-year reporting period. These disciplinary actions are for CPE violations that resulted in a suspension of the individual's license and/or was the individual's second or subsequent violation.

- **Edwin Robert Berna** – License #35724 | Davidson, NC | 8/19/25 (suspension, third offense, \$4,100 fine)
- **Nathanael J. Erk** – License #49204 | Cornelius, NC | 10/30/25 (second offense, reprimand)
- **Daniel Fischer** – License #28700 | Washington, D.C. | 9/19/25 (second offense, \$778 fine)
- **Carl David Henne** – License #11342 | Reston, VA | 10/30/25 (second offense, reprimand)
- **Frank P. Hodas** – License #32588 | Arlington, VA | 10/21/25 (second offense, \$618 fine)
- **Kathleen Marie Klein** – License #39127 | Alexandria, VA | 10/29/25 (second offense, \$250 fine)
- **Marcia Marrah** – License #8985 | Saint Michaels, MD | 10/7/25 (second offense, \$100 fine)
- **Ivonne Russell** – License #34567 | Glen Allen, VA | 12/15/25 (second offense, reprimand)
- **Joshua Joseph Strittmatter** – License #34384 | Murrys ville, PA | 10/20/25 (second offense, reprimand)
- **Audrey Wihelm** – License #39421 | Faith, NC | 9/16/25 (second offense, \$250 fine)

[Finish your 2026 two-hour VBOA-approved ethics CPE requirement today > >](#)



REMINDERS

Do I provide services to the public?

Many statutes and regulations that govern CPAs relate to whether or not a person or firm provides services to the public. Often, CPAs and non-licensed accountants assume they are not providing services to the public, when in fact they are based on the definitions contained in the code.

Providing services to the public is defined in the Code of Virginia at [§54.1-4400](#) as providing services subject to the guidance of the standard-setting authorities listed in the standards of conduct and practice in subdivision 5 and 6 of [§54.1-4413.3](#) or by an equivalent VBOA-approved standard-setting authority.

Subdivisions 5 and 6 of [§54.1-4413.3](#) list services subject to the technical standards and interpretive guidance issued by committees and boards of the AICPA, the Comptroller General of the United States, the Federal Accounting Standards Advisory Board (FASAB), the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB), the Governmental Accounting Oversight

Board (PCAOB), the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and comparable international standard setting authorities.

As you can see from these definitions, providing services to the public includes a lot more than just attest, compilation or financial statement preparation. The AICPA technical standards alone cover a wide range of services many CPAs and non-licensed accountants provide in Virginia, including tax preparation, valuation, and personal financial planning.

Likewise, the Virginia Code [§54.1-4400](#) also contains definitions for terms such as “Practice of public accounting,” “Professional service,” and “Providing services to or on behalf of an employer.” These definitions along with all the definitions contained in [§54.1-4400](#), should be carefully reviewed when reading and interpreting both the Code of Virginia and the VBOA’s regulations.

Authoritative sources: Where to find answers

At the VBOA, we often encounter CPAs, CPA firms and exam or licensure candidates who do not know which sources are considered authoritative.

This causes a range of problems—as simple as sending your transcripts to the wrong address to something more consequential, like illegally destroying client records based on information found on the wrong website. To help avoid these pitfalls in your career, take a moment to brush up on which organizations are authoritative sources and which are not.

In accounting, the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) is a primary authoritative source, particularly for peer review, audit and attest standards, and the code of professional conduct. The code of professional conduct covers a vast range of topics including firm name requirements, the sale of a firm or firm assets, and the required notification of clients when records are impacted.

Other authoritative sources include: the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) and the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) for GAAP, the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (PCAOB), the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) for tax. And only state boards of accountancy

can interpret how state laws are applied.

Membership organizations or training vendors have many useful resources, but their resources hold no legal weight. Sources such as CPA societies and think tanks, the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA), and CPE or other training providers have a wealth of knowledge but are not authoritative and may provide interpretations not aligned with those that are.

The VBOA has a live customer service team that answers calls during office hours. If you ask questions beyond our scope we can point you in the right direction. Most other authoritative bodies have technical hotlines or customer support queues. The AICPA and the IRS both offer high-quality technical assistance over the phone. They also provide online resources: the AICPA Professional Library and the [IRS tax preparer toolkits](#). [FASB](#) and [GASB](#) both have technical inquiry forms online.

It may not always be a quick answer, but sources with standard-setting or regulatory authority are the only sources that can give you accurate and reliable information to ensure you maintain compliance.

REMINDERS

New Taxpayer Rights Advocate Office web page

Virginia Tax's Taxpayer Rights Advocate Office has recently refreshed their resources to help taxpayers resolve problems that have not been successfully addressed through the Department's regular processes.

A [new web page](#) outlines the ways the Taxpayer Rights Advocate Office can help taxpayers who:

- Have tried but failed to resolve a tax issue through regular procedures
- Are experiencing financial hardship related to state tax matters
- Believe their rights as taxpayers have not been upheld
- Are dealing with unreasonable delays in receiving responses or resolutions

The foundation for the Taxpayer Rights Advocate Office's work is the Virginia Taxpayer Bill of Rights,

which establishes fundamental protections like the right to privacy, the right to appeal, and the right to quality service.

The Taxpayer Bill of Rights is also featured on the new web page. While the Taxpayer Rights Advocate Office cannot override tax laws or department policies, it works to ensure that existing rules are applied fairly and equitably.

Contact the Taxpayer Rights Advocate Office

Taxpayers can visit tax.virginia.gov/taxpayer-rights-advocate-office for resources, including instructions for how to submit a formal request for assistance through the Form RFA.

If taxpayers have additional questions, they can email taxpayeradvocate@tax.virginia.gov.

— Virginia Taxpayer Rights Advocate Office

Mark your calendars

Upcoming VBOA meetings:

- March 20 - Rescheduled from Feb. 18
- April 22 - Virginia Union University
- June 17 - Planning meeting

Important dates for licensees:

- Feb. 1 - 2026 VBOA-approved ethics courses live:

[VIEW COURSES >>](#)

- March 1 - June 30: License renewal season

[+ Add to calendar](#)

Office closures:

- May 25 - Memorial Day
- June 19 - Juneteenth
- July 3 - Independence Day observed



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