CALIFORNIA BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY

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NEWS RELEASE

CALIFORNIA BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY SEEKS LEGAL CLARIFICATION REGARDING POSTING OF ACCUSATIONS TO THE WEB

(Sacramento, CA) –The California Board of Accountancy (CBA) is awaiting legal clarification of a state law regarding the posting of formal accusations against CPAs to its Web site before it takes a final vote on the matter.

At issue is whether the language in Business and Professions Code Section 5103.5 actually limits, or allows for, posting of formal accusations to the Web. The CBA currently posts notice of a formal accusation to its Web site, along with a link to where the public may request further information. The question as to whether the code limits the CBA to its current practice, or allows the CBA to post the full accusation, was raised just before the CBA was to vote on the posting of formal accusations at its meeting in Pasadena, May 12-13, 2010.

As a result, the CBA requested that the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) provide an opinion as to whether section 5103.5 limits or allows for the posting of formal accusations to the CBA Web site.. DCA Director Brian Stiger said the DCA would look into the matter, and have a response so that the CBA could move forward on the issue of posting of formal accusations to its Web site. The CBA also discussed the legislative intent of the code and whether new legislation to clarify the code is necessary.

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The CBA is scheduled to meet July 28, 2010 in Sacramento. CBA meetings may be viewed on the CBA Web site, www.cba.ca.gov. A copy of the full May 12-13, 2010 CBA meeting agenda is available online at: http://www.dca.ca.gov/cba/meetings/notices/2010/051210cba.pdf

Created by statute in 1901, the CBA's mandate requires that protection of the public shall be its highest priority in exercising licensing, regulatory, and disciplinary functions. The CBA currently regulates more than 81,000 licensees, the largest group of licensed accounting professionals in the nation, including individuals, partnerships, and corporations.

More information about the California Board of Accountancy is available at www.cba.ca.gov

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