

## WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE ACCOUNTING EXAMINING BOARD

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IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY  
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

STEPHEN P. FREDRICHS,  
RESPONDENT.

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FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

ORDER 0002489

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Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 12 ACC 023

The parties to this action for the purpose of Wis. Stat. § 227.53 are:

Stephen P. Fredrichs  
1515 Parkview Ln.  
Port Washington, WI 53074

Wisconsin Accounting Examining Board  
P.O. Box 8935  
Madison, WI 53708-8935

Division of Legal Services and Compliance  
Department of Safety and Professional Services  
P.O. Box 8935  
Madison, WI 53708-8935

The parties in this matter agree to the terms and conditions of the attached Stipulation as the final disposition of this matter, subject to the approval of the Wisconsin Accounting Examining Board (Board). The Board has reviewed this Stipulation and considers it acceptable.

Accordingly, the Board in this matter adopts the attached Stipulation and makes the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent Stephen P. Fredrichs (dob January 24, 1952) is licensed in the State of Wisconsin as a Certified Public Accountant, having license number 14964-1, first issued on April 28, 1995, and current through December 14, 2013. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is 1515 Parkview Lane, Port Washington, Wisconsin 53074.

2. On November 20, 2012, the Department received a complaint alleging Respondent failed to file state income taxes properly. Division of Legal Services and Compliance case number 12 ACC 023 was subsequently opened.

3. Respondent failed to file a 2011 Wisconsin Income Tax Return for his clients even though he told his clients he did. He further asserted that his clients were due a refund based on assumed estimated tax payments.

4. Respondent did not verify that all estimated tax payments were made and therefore there was actually tax due on his clients' 2011 Wisconsin Income Tax Return.

5. In resolution of this matter, Respondent consents to the entry of the following Conclusions of Law and Order.

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Wisconsin Accounting Examining Board has jurisdiction to act in this matter pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 442.12, and is authorized to enter into the attached Stipulation pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 227.44(5).

2. By the conduct described in the Findings of Fact, Respondent Fredrichs violated Wis. Admin. Code § Accy 1.201(1)(b) by failing to exercise due professional care in the performance of an engagement.

3. As a result of the above violation, Respondent is subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 442.12(1)(b).

#### ORDER

1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.

2. Respondent Stephen P. Fredrichs is REPRIMANDED.

3. Within 90 days from the date of this Order, Respondent shall pay COSTS of this matter in the amount of \$284.00.

4. Payment of costs shall be made payable to the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services and sent to the Department Monitor at the address below:


Department Monitor  
Division of Legal Services and Compliance  
Department of Safety and Professional Services  
P.O. Box 8935, Madison, WI 53708-8935  
Telephone (608) 267-3817; Fax (608) 266-2264  
DPSMonitoring@wisconsin.gov

5. Violation of any of the terms of this Order may be construed as conduct imperiling public health, safety and welfare and may result in a summary suspension of Respondent's license. The Board in its discretion may in the alternative impose additional conditions and limitations or other additional discipline for a violation of any of the terms of this Order. In the event Respondent fails to timely submit payment of costs as ordered, Respondent's

license (no. 14964-1) may, in the discretion of the Board or its designee, be SUSPENDED, without further notice or hearing, until Respondent has complied with payment of the costs.

6. This Order is effective on the date of its signing.

WISCONSIN ACCOUNTING EXAMINING BOARD

by:   
A Member of the Board

6/20/2013  
Date