WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS AGAINST	:	FINAL DECISION AND ORDER
LAWRENCE P. WEISBROD AND WEISBROD & ASSOCIATES INC., RESPONDENTS.	: : :	ORDER 00074 0 9

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 19 ACC 023

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

Lawrence P. Weisbrod La Crosse, WI 54601

Weisbrod & Associates Inc. La Crosse, WI 54601

Wisconsin Accounting Examining Board P.O. Box 8366 Madison, WI 53708-8366

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Department of Safety and Professional Services P.O. Box 7190 Madison, WI 53707-7190

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 Lawrence P. Weisbrod (Birth Year 1964) is licensed and certified by the State of Wisconsin as a certified public accountant, having certification and license number 11865-1, first issued on July 25, 1989 and current through on December 14, 2021. Respondent Weisbrod's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is in La Crosse, Wisconsin 54601.

2. Respondent Weisbrod & Associates Inc. is licensed by the State of Wisconsin as an accounting firm, having license number 1361-3, first issued on September 14, 2012 and current through December 14, 2021. Respondent Weisbrod & Associates' license was expired from

December 15, 2013 to February 10, 2020. Respondent Weisbrod & Associates' most recent address on file with the Department is in La Crosse, Wisconsin 54601.

3. Respondent Weisbrod is identified in Department records as the responsible licensee in charge of Respondent Weisbrod & Associates.

4. On October 15, 2019, the Department received an email from the Wisconsin Officer of the Commissioner of Insurance with a letter from Respondent Weisbrod to a consumer, and Department records showed that Respondent Weisbrod & Associates' license had expired on December 15, 2013. Division of Legal Services and Compliance (Division) Case Number 19 ACC 023 was subsequently opened for investigation into Respondent Weisbrod & Associates' expired license.

5. On January 28, 2020, the Department emailed Respondent Weisbrod at his email address of record to request a statement on why Respondent Weisbrod & Associates' license was expired. On the same day, Respondent Weisbrod emailed the Department that he was not aware that Respondent Weisbrod & Associates' license was expired, and he would renew Respondent Weisbrod & Associates' license as soon as he knew how.

6. Respondent Weisbrod & Associates' license was renewed on February 10, 2020.

7. On May 5, 2020, Respondent Weisbrod & Associates admitted to providing accounting services while its license was expired including some attest services.

8. In resolution of this matter, Respondents consent 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, Respondents violated Wis. Stat. § 442.03 by practicing in this state as a certified public accountant as a member of a firm while the firm had not complied with all of the provisions of this chapter, including licensure.

3. By the conduct described in the Findings of Fact, Respondents violated Wis. Admin. Code § Accy 5.101 by providing attest services when the CPA firm license was expired.

4. As a result of the above violations, Respondents Lawrence P. Weisbrod and Weisbrod & Associates are subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. 442.12(1)(b) and (c).

<u>ORDER</u>

- 1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.
- 2. Respondent Lawrence P. Weisbrod is REPRIMANDED.
- 3. Respondent Weisbrod & Associates is REPRIMANDED.

4. Within ninety (90) days from the date of this Order, Respondents shall pay costs of this matter in the amount of \$1,155.

5. Any payment of costs (made payable to the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services) shall be made to the Department Monitor at:

Department Monitor Division of Legal Services and Compliance Department of Safety and Professional Services P.O. Box 7190, Madison, WI 53707-7190 Telephone (608) 267-3817; Fax (608) 266-2264 DSPSMonitoring@wisconsin.gov

You may also submit this information online via DSPS' Monitoring Case Management System at: <u>https://dspsmonitoring.wi.gov/</u>

6. In the event Respondents violate any term of this Order, Respondents' credentials (numbers 11865-1 and 1361-3), or Respondents' right to renew their credentials, may, in the discretion of the Board or its designee, be SUSPENDED, without further notice or hearing, until Respondents have complied with the terms of the Order. The Board may, in addition and/or in the alternative refer any violation of this Order to the Division of Legal Services and Compliance for further investigation and action.

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

WISCONSIN ACCOUNTING EXAMINING BOARD

Michael E. by:

A Member of the Board

9 June 2021 Date

STATE OF WISCONSIN BEFORE THE ACCOUNTING EXAMINING BOARD

LAWRENCE P. WEISBROD AND WEISBROD & ASSOCIATES INC., RESPONDENTS.	:	STIPULATION
IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS AGAINST	:	

Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 19 ACC 023

Respondents Lawrence P. Weisbrod and Weisbrod & Associates Inc. and the Division of Legal Services and Compliance, Department of Safety and Professional Services stipulate as follows:

1. This Stipulation is entered into as a result of a pending investigation by the Division of Legal Services and Compliance. Respondents consent to the resolution of this investigation by Stipulation.

2. Respondents understand that by signing this Stipulation, Respondents voluntarily and knowingly waive the following rights:

- the right to a hearing on the allegations against Respondents, at which time the State has the burden of proving those allegations by a preponderance of the evidence;
- the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses against Respondents;
- the right to call witnesses on Respondents' behalf and to compel their attendance by subpoena;
- the right to testify on Respondents' own behalf;
- the right to file objections to any proposed decision and to present briefs or oral arguments to the officials who are to render the final decision;
- the right to petition for rehearing; and
- all other applicable rights afforded to Respondents under the United States Constitution, the Wisconsin Constitution, the Wisconsin Statutes, the Wisconsin Administrative Code, and other provisions of state or federal law.

3. Respondents are aware of Respondents' right to seek legal representation and have been provided an opportunity to obtain legal counsel before signing this Stipulation.

4. Respondents agree to the adoption of the attached Final Decision and Order by the Accounting Examining Board (Board). The parties to the Stipulation consent to the entry of the attached Final Decision and Order without further notice, pleading, appearance or consent of the parties. Respondents waive all rights to any appeal of the Board's order, if adopted in the form as attached.

5. If the terms of this Stipulation are not acceptable to the Board, the parties shall not be bound by the contents of this Stipulation, and the matter shall then be returned to the Division

of Legal Services and Compliance for further proceedings. In the event that the Stipulation is not accepted by the Board, the parties agree not to contend that the Board has been prejudiced or biased in any manner by the consideration of this attempted resolution.

6. The parties to this Stipulation agree that the attorney or other agent for the Division of Legal Services and Compliance and any member of the Board ever assigned as an advisor in this investigation may appear before the Board in open or closed session, without the presence of Respondents, for purposes of speaking in support of this agreement and answering questions that any member of the Board may have in connection with deliberations on the Stipulation. Additionally, any such advisor may vote on whether the Board should accept this Stipulation and issue the attached Final Decision and Order.

7. Respondents are informed that should the Board adopt this Stipulation, the Board's Final Decision and Order is a public record and will be published in accordance with standard Department procedure.

8. The Division of Legal Services and Compliance joins Respondents in recommending the Board adopt this Stipulation and issue the attached Final Decision and Order.

Jame P. M. Lawrence P. Weisbrod, Respondent

Lawrence P. Weisbrod, Respondent La Crosse, WI 54601 Credential No. 11865-1

June P. Werd

Weisbrod & Associates Inc., Respondent By: Lawrence P. Weisbrod, Responsible Licensee La Crosse, WI 54601 Credential No. 1361-3

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Renee Parton, Attorney Division of Legal Services and Compliance P.O. Box 7190 Madison, WI 53707-7190

2/24/2/ Date

2/25/2021 Date