

## 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	:	
	:	FINAL DECISION AND ORDER
RAYMOND C. LADD,	:	
RESPONDENT.	:	<b>ORDER 0008138</b>

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Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 18 ACC 008

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

Raymond C. Ladd  
Milwaukee, WI 53217

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 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 Raymond C. Ladd (Birth Year 1957) is certified and licensed by the State of Wisconsin as a certified public accountant, having certification and license number 11434-1, first issued on December 9, 1988 and expired as of December 15, 2019. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Department) is in Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53217.

2. On April 25, 2018, the Department received a complaint against Respondent. The complaint alleged that Respondent had been employed by Complainant's deceased father-in-law to file his 2016 taxes, and that Respondent had failed to file the taxes, and failed to return financial documents to Complainant upon request. The Division of Legal Services and Compliance (DLSC) subsequently opened Case Number 18 ACC 008 for investigation.

3. On September 18, 2018, the Department mailed two letters via certified mail to two of Respondent's addresses of record to request a response to the complaint. The Department did not receive a response.

4. On October 24, 2018, the Department received a phone call from Respondent. Respondent admitted that he had received the Department's letter of September 18, 2018, and that he had lost contact with Complainant's family. When Respondent was informed that his credential had been expired since December 15, 2017, Respondent stated that he was unaware of this, and that he had been practicing while his credential was expired.

5. On December 4, 2018, the Department emailed Respondent at his email address of record to request additional information. The Department did not receive a response.

6. On January 10, 2019, the Department emailed Respondent at his email address of record to request additional information.

7. On January 24, 2019, Respondent emailed the Department and stated that he was working with the deceased's son (I.P.), and that he would provide a response to the complaint within one week. The Department did not receive Respondent's response.

8. On January 28, 2019, Respondent renewed his credential.

9. On September 6, 2019, the Department spoke to I.P. by phone. I.P. stated that Respondent had failed to return his father's financial documents despite numerous requests, and that Respondent had failed to file his father's 2016 tax returns.

10. On September 9, 2019, the Department mailed a letter via certified mail to Respondent's address of record to request additional information. The Department did not receive a response.

11. On November 4, 2019, the Department mailed a letter via certified mail to Respondent's address of record to request additional information. The Department did not receive a response.

12. On December 14, 2019, Respondent allowed his certified public accountant credential to expire.

13. On January 13, 2020, the Department mailed a letter via certified mail to Respondent's address of record to request additional information.

14. On January 31, 2020, the Department spoke to Respondent by phone. Respondent admitted that he was performing work as a certified public accountant, despite allowing his credential to expire.

15. On February 28, 2020, the Department mailed a letter via certified mail to Respondent's address of record to request additional information.

16. On March 24, 2020, Respondent emailed the Department. Respondent stated that he was performing work as a certified public accountant, and that he was still working on Complainant's father-in-law's 2016 tax returns.

17. On March 24, 2020, the Department emailed Respondent at his email address of record to request copies of Complainant's father-in-law's tax returns. The Department did not receive a response.

18. On July 15, 2020, the Department sent a letter via email and certified mail to Respondent at his address of record to request additional information. The Department did not receive a response.

19. On July 23, 2020, the Department received a certified mail receipt from the Department's letter dated July 15, 2020.

20. On September 9, 2020, the Department sent a letter via email and certified mail to Respondent at his address of record to request additional information. The Department did not receive a response.

21. On October 16, 2020, the Department received an email from Complainant. Complainant stated that Respondent had failed to file Complainant's father-in-law's tax returns, and that he had stopped responding to Complainant's family.

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

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The 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. Pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 440.08(3), Respondent retains the right to renew his credential until December 14, 2024.

3. By the conduct described above, Respondent violated Wis. Admin. Code § Accy 1.407 by failing to respond to communications from the Department within 30 days.

4. By the conduct described above, Respondent violated Wis. Admin. Code § Accy 1.401(1) by committing an act discreditable to the profession pursuant to Wis. Admin. Code § Accy 1.401(2)(a) by failing to return financial documents when requested.

5. By the conduct described above, Respondent violated Wis. Stat. § 442.03 by practicing as a certified public accountant while his credential was expired.

6. By the conduct described above, Respondent violated Wis. Admin. Code § Accy 5.201 by practicing as a sole proprietor without a firm license.

7. As a result of the above violations, Respondent Raymond C. Ladd is subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 442.12(1)(b).

ORDER

1. The attached Stipulation is accepted.

2. Respondent Raymond C. Ladd's right to renew his certified public accountant certification and license (no. 11434-1) is **SUSPENDED** for a period of ten (10) days, beginning ten (10) business days from the date of this Order.

3. After the period of suspension, Respondent may not renew his certified public accountant certification and license (no. 11434-1) until he provides proof of all continuing education for the last biennium preceding his renewal or reinstatement application to the Department Monitor. However, if Respondent applies after December 14, 2023, he will need to supply continuing education for the two bienniums immediately preceding his application.

- a. Respondent shall submit proof of successful completion of the above education in the form of verification from the institution providing the education to the Department Monitor at the address stated below.
- b. The education completed pursuant to this Order shall be retroactively applied to the appropriate biennium.
- c. The education completed pursuant to this Order may not be used to satisfy any other continuing education requirements with the Board.

4. Within ninety (90) days from the date of this Order, Respondent Raymond C. Ladd shall pay the COSTS of this matter in the amount of \$1,996.00.

5. All required submissions and payment of costs (made payable to the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services) shall be sent by Respondent 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 7190, Madison, WI 53707-7190  
Telephone (608) 266-2112; Fax (608) 266-2264  
[DSPSMonitoring@wisconsin.gov](mailto:DSPSMonitoring@wisconsin.gov)

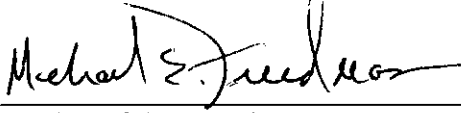
Respondent may also submit this information online at: <https://dspsmonitoring.wi.gov/>

6. In the event Respondent violates any term of this Order, Respondent's certification and license (number 11434-1), or Respondent's right to renew his certification and license, may, in the discretion of the Board or its designee, be **SUSPENDED**, without further notice or hearing, until Respondent has 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.

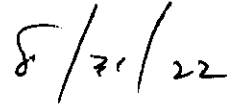
7. This Order is effective on the date of its signing.

WISCONSIN ACCOUNTING EXAMINING BOARD

by:



A Member of the Board



Date

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE ACCOUNTING EXAMINING BOARD

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IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY  
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

RAYMOND C. LADD,  
RESPONDENT.

STIPULATION

**ORDER 0008130**

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Division of Legal Services and Compliance Case No. 18 ACC 008

Respondent Raymond C. Ladd 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. Respondent consents to the resolution of this investigation by Stipulation.

2. Respondent understands that by signing this Stipulation, Respondent voluntarily and knowingly waives the following rights:

- the right to a hearing on the allegations against Respondent, 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 Respondent;
- the right to call witnesses on Respondent's behalf and to compel their attendance by subpoena;
- the right to testify on Respondent's 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 Respondent under the United States Constitution, the Wisconsin Constitution, the Wisconsin Statutes, the Wisconsin Administrative Code, and other provisions of state or federal law.

3. Respondent is aware of Respondent's right to seek legal representation and has been provided an opportunity to obtain legal counsel before signing this Stipulation.

4. Respondent agrees 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. Respondent waives all rights to any appeal of the Board's order, if adopted in the form as attached.

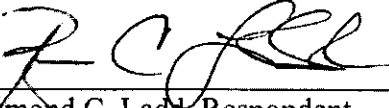
5. If the terms of this Stipulation are not acceptable to the Board, the parties shall not be bound by the contents of this Stipulation, and the matter shall then be returned to the Division of Legal Services and Compliance for further proceedings. In the event that the Stipulation is

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 Respondent, 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. Respondent is 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 Respondent in recommending the Board adopt this Stipulation and issue the attached Final Decision and Order.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Raymond C. Ladd, Respondent  
Milwaukee, WI 53217  
Credential No. 11434-1

6/7/22  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
~~Renee M. Parton~~, Attorney Alicia M. Kennedy  
Division of Legal Services and Compliance  
P.O. Box 7190  
Madison, WI 53707-7190

06/08/2022  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date