

# Board of Accountancy

## WASHINGTON STATE

Summer Edition 2015



### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Richard Sweeney, CPA  
Executive Director

#### CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THOSE WHO SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED THE UNIFORM CPA EXAMINATION!

Elsewhere in this newsletter, you will find the Board's recognition of the four Washington State CPA Examination applicants who received the AICPA Elijah Watts Sells award for their success on the 2014 Uniform CPA Examination.

As the Board's Executive Director, I would be remiss if we did not also recognize the pride the Board has in the additional 171 Washington State CPA Examination applicants who also successfully completed the 2014 CPA Examination as their first step in qualifying for licensure as a Certified Public Accountant.

All of you have demonstrated the commitment and skill sets that will serve you well throughout your future.

**The Washington State Board of Accountancy wishes you all a satisfying future.**

*Life is just a Journey. Best Wishes On Your Individual Travels.*



### WHAT HAPPENS AT BOARD MEETINGS?

Have you ever wondered why things are the way they are with regard to your licensing, renewal, or CPE requirements? Attend a Board meeting which includes a public rule-making hearing or a rules review session, and you can see the Board's rule making process up close and personal.

Have you ever wanted to give input to the Board regarding the education, experience or ethics requirements? Attend a Board meeting, and you will be given the opportunity to speak to the Board personally.

Board meeting agenda items vary from meeting to meeting and may include:

- Public rule-making hearings and rules review sessions.
- Board Chair, Executive Director, and Director of Investigations reports.
- Board Policy and Delegation of Authority reviews.
- Committee reports.

Attend a Board meeting and you can:

- Share your ideas, thoughts and concerns with us.
- Learn about upcoming issues and events that will impact our profession.
- Become involved in the rule making process.
- See first-hand how the Board makes decisions.

The Board meets four times a year – January, April, July and October – to accomplish its business. Board meeting dates are posted on the [Board's online calendar](#) and are open to the public. Meeting agendas are posted to the [website](#) approximately two weeks prior to a scheduled meeting.

We hope to see you at the next meeting!

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A MEMBER OF

NASBA

**WA STATE BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY  
BOARD MEMBERS**

**Positions effective July 1, 2015**

*Officers:*

Donald F. Aubrey, CPA - Chair  
Lauren C. Jassny - Vice-Chair  
Karen R. Saunders, CPA - Secretary

*CPA Members:*

Emily R. Rollins, CPA  
Edwin G. Jolicoeur, CPA  
Elizabeth Deak Masnari, CPA  
Thomas G. Neill, CPA

*Public Members:*

James R. Ladd  
Favian Valencia

**OFFICE CLOSURES**

**Monday, September 7, 2015**  
Labor Day

**Wednesday, November 11, 2015**  
Veteran's Day

**Thursday, November 26, 2015**  
Thanksgiving

**Friday, November 27, 2015**  
Native American Heritage Day

**Friday, December 25, 2015**  
Christmas

**Friday, January 1, 2016**  
New Year's Day

**HELP US, HELP YOU,  
ANY SUGGESTIONS?**

Please send your suggestions to  
[customerservice@cpaboard.wa.gov](mailto:customerservice@cpaboard.wa.gov).

**HOW TO . . . .**

[Create an Online Service Account  
Through Secure Access Washington](#)

[Log back into your SAW account](#)

[Update your SAW profile](#)

[Update your Board \(WBOA\) profile](#)

[Find the List of Board Approved Ethics  
Courses](#)



## IT'S HOT OUTSIDE 5 WAYS TO BEAT THE HEAT

**1. Stay Hydrated & Eat Light**

- Swig often to replace the moisture you lose as you sweat, and be sure to drink plenty. As you lose water to dehydration, your body temperature rises.
- There is a reason for salads in the summer: they are much easier to digest rather than a hamburger, which leaves you feeling sluggish in the Summer heat.

**2. Dress Right**

- Try wearing synthetic fabrics, or thin, light colored cotton fabric; the looser the clothing the better to allow the perspiration to evaporate more quickly.

**3. Put Up Sun-blockers**

- Closing curtains and blinds in the early morning can help reduce the amount of heat in your home by as much as 45% according to the U.S. Department of Energy.

**4. Make a Cold Compress**

- Fill a cotton tube sock with rice, then close using a rubber band or twine, and freeze it for two hours before use. You can also wrap it around your neck or slide it between your sheets at bedtime.

**5. Fan Strategically**

- When the day's heat is trapped inside your home; in the evening, once the temperature drops, use a window fan with blades facing outside to suck the hot air out of the house and bring the cool air inside.

### WE WANT TO COME BY FOR A VISIT!



*Our goal is to reach out to our state and provide basic financial protection tips, educate the public on the role of our Agency, and to provide answers to your questions regarding the Certified Public Accountant profession.*

*Please pass this information on; there is no organization that is too small or too big.*

*Contact us by email at [customerservice@cpaboard.wa.gov](mailto:customerservice@cpaboard.wa.gov) or by telephone at 360-753-2586. We are excited to hear from you.*

# ELI WATTS SELLS AWARD FOR 2014

The American Institute of CPAs (AICPA) announced the winners of the 2014 Elijah Watt Sells Award.

The Elijah Watt Sells Award program was established by the AICPA in 1923 to recognize outstanding performance on the CPA Examination.

Sells was one of the country's first CPAs. He was active in the establishment of the AICPA and played a key role helping to advance professional education in the profession.

The award is bestowed upon candidates who have obtained a cumulative average score above 95.50 across all four sections of the Uniform CPA Examination, completed testing during the 2014 calendar year, and passed all four sections of the Examination on their first attempt. More than 91,384 individuals sat for the Examination in 2014, with 60 candidates meeting the criteria to receive the Elijah Watt Sells Award.

## The Board would like to congratulate the following Washington State Candidates who received the 2014 Elijah Watts Sells Award:

**William Chandler  
Margaret Freeland  
Mathew Mburu  
Joseph Viraldo**

## CHANGING CONTACT INFORMATION

### Do I really need to notify the Board if I change my contact information?

WAC 4-30-032 says yes. All individuals licensed in this state, CPA-Inactive certificate holders, CPA firms licensed in this state, individuals registered with the board as resident nonlicensee firm owners, and applicants must notify the Board in writing within 30 days of any change of address.

Firms licensed in this state must notify the Board of any opening, closing, or relocation of the main office or a branch office in this state.

### What does the Board consider as part of my address?

The Board considers both your mailing address and your electronic mail (e-mail) address to be part of your address.

### Why do I need to provide and update my e-mail address?

In an effort to become greener, the Washington State Board of Accountancy has complied with the Governor's request to reduce our carbon footprint by reducing the amount of paper and postage we use. We are doing this by utilizing e-mail to send most notifications.

### How do I navigate Secure Access Washington (SAW) and the WBOA Online service?

The Board is aware that regaining access to your SAW account can be challenging; many credential holders only access SAW once every three years when it is time to renew. It is a common misconception that it is easier to just create a new account rather than accessing the account you no longer have a password for, or one that you registered under an old e-mail address.

However, this is not the case. It takes only a few short moments to reset a password, even when you have the account registered to an old e-mail address. All you need is your User ID and you are set. (Please visit our Secure Access Washington (SAW) page on our website. SAW Tip #2 provides password reset instructions.)

Don't have your User ID? No problem; e-mail [customerservice@cpaboard.wa.gov](mailto:customerservice@cpaboard.wa.gov) and they will get back with you as soon as possible.

## WA STATE BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY BOARD STAFF:

Richard C. Sweeney, CPA  
Executive Director

Jennifer Sciba  
Deputy Director

Charles Satterlund, CPA, CIA  
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Management Analyst

Tia Landry  
Information Technology Specialist

Mic helle Tuscher  
Information Technology Project Manager

Taylor Shahon  
Special Assistant

Kelly Wulfekuhle  
Administrative Assistant

Kirsten Donovan  
Special Assistant

Jordan King  
Communications Specialist

## USEFUL LINKS ON OUR WEBSITE

Looking for something on our website?  
Here are two commonly visited links from our website:

### Approved Ethics and Regulations Courses

Board approved ethics and regulations courses with specific application to the practice of public accounting in Washington State:

<http://www.cpaboard.wa.gov/individual-licensing/continuing-professional-education-cpe/approved-ethics-and-regulations-courses>

### Study Guide for Washington Ethics Test for CPA Applicants

Applicants for initial licensing in Washington State are required to successfully complete a test on "Ethics and Regulation in Washington State" with a grade of 90% or higher as part of the initial licensing requirements.

<http://cpaboard.wa.gov/sites/default/files/WashingtonStateEthicsforCPAApplicants.pdf>



**FROM THE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY CORNER – OUCH!**

Secure passwords are of great importance in securing your information. How do you create a better secure password, and one that you will remember? If you will check out the OUCH! monthly newsletter for April 2015 at the following site [http://www.securingthehuman.org/newsletters/ouch/issues/OUCH-201504\\_en.pdf](http://www.securingthehuman.org/newsletters/ouch/issues/OUCH-201504_en.pdf), you will find great information on Passphrases.

Subscribe to OUCH! now or read this in another language. Check out all the languages supported by “OUCH! and Securing the Human” at the following link <http://www.securingthehuman.org/resources/newsletters/ouch/2015>.

The “Securing the Human” site <http://www.securingthehuman.org/> is a great resource for sharing security awareness information and training with your employees, family and friends.



## REMINDER TO NEW APPLICANTS

**Washington State has an additional ethics examination that must be passed prior to applying for the CPA License.**

**For great information regarding the Washington Ethics Exam for New Candidates, review the article, “A Reflection on the First Year of the New Washington Ethics Exam,” from the *December 2014 WBOA Newsletter*.**

# CALLING ALL 2016 RENEWAL APPLICANTS

*ARE YOU UP FOR RENEWAL IN 2016?  
CLICK HERE TO FIND OUT.*

*In order to renew your CPA license, CPA-Inactive Certificate, or your registration as a Non-licensee firm owner, you must complete the required CPE by December 31, 2015.*

Status	Total Requirement	Limitations Non-Technical
License	120 hours of CPE Including a <u>Board Approved Washington State Ethics Course</u>	24
CPA-Inactive Certificate*	<u>A Board Approved Washington State Ethics Course</u>	N/A
Non-License Firm Owner	<u>A Board Approved Washington State Ethics Course</u>	N/A

*\*The CPA-Inactive Certificate is no longer an attainable status. Those individuals that were grandfathered in to the status back in 2001 can renew with the status.*



## 2015 - NOTICE OF LAPSED INDIVIDUAL CREDENTIAL

Did you receive a notice that your CPA license, CPA-Inactive Certificate, or non-licensee firm owner registration lapsed effective July 1, 2015? If yes, and you would like to reinstate, you must first meet the Board's reinstatement requirements.

To reinstate your expired CPA license, you need to:

- Complete 120 hours of continuing professional education (CPE) **within the 36 months before you submit your application:**
  - \* Limited to 24 hours of non-technical subjects
  - \* Including four hours of CPE in Board approved ethics and regulations **within the six months before you submit your application.**

To reinstate your expired CPA-Inactive Certificate or Non-licensee Firm Owner Registration, you need to:

- Complete four hours of Continuing Professional Education (CPE) in Board approved ethics and regulations **within the six months before you submit your application.**

Once you have met the reinstatement requirements, log into the online services with SecureAccess Washington and enter your CPE information into the "Track CPE" feature. Once you have tracked all of your CPE, you may apply for the reinstatement by selecting "Reinstate/Reactivate."

## 2015 - NOTICE OF CPA FIRM DISSOLUTION

Did you receive a notice that your CPA firm license expired effective July 1, 2015? If so, then the firm has 90 days to get back into compliance, which will require the firm to pay the renewal fee along with the \$100 late fee.

To get your firm back into compliance you will need to e-mail your request for a paper copy of the 2015 CPA Firm Renewal form to [customerservice@cpaboard.wa.gov](mailto:customerservice@cpaboard.wa.gov). Please write "Firm Reinstatement" at the top of the form, fill out, and e-mail to [kellyw@cpaboard.wa.gov](mailto:kellyw@cpaboard.wa.gov) or fax to 360-664-9190 to the attention of Kelly. Once the form has been received, you will receive an e-mail with an invoice to pay the \$330 electronically.

If the firm does not comply within 90 days, the firm will need to apply as a new firm.

If you still have questions after reviewing the Board's requirements, please contact us at [customerservice@cpaboard.wa.gov](mailto:customerservice@cpaboard.wa.gov) or (360) 753-2586.

## CANDIDATE PERFORMANCE

The National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA) gathers data regarding candidate's CPA Exam application and performance information for all 55 U.S. Jurisdictions. Washington State's candidate summary for 2014 was:

	Exam Type		
	Overall	FT	RE
Candidates	2,674	2,120	1,259
Sections	6,822	4,309	2,513
% Pass	50.1%	54.9%	41.9%
Avg Score	71.7	72.2	70.7
Avg Age	31.3	30.2	33.2

	Exam Section			
	AUD	BEC	FAR	REG
Candidates	1,456	1,339	1,546	1,286
Sections	1,819	1,589	1,824	1,590
% Pass	45.2%	54.4%	50.2%	51.4%
Avg Score	71.5	73.5	70.3	71.6
Avg Age	31.4	41.7	31.3	30.7

## Gender



### Male Candidates

Candidates - 1,205  
 Sections - 3,564  
 % Pass - 48.5%  
 Avg Score - 71.0  
 Avg Age - 30.7



### Female Candidates

Candidates - 1,238  
 Sections - 3,258  
 % Pass - 51.8%  
 Avg Score - 72.4  
 Avg Age - 31.9

AVERAGE AGE

31.3

## AS OF JUNE 12, 2015 – WHERE DO OUR CPAS RESIDE?

Washington Resident – 11,976

Out-of-State Resident – 2,042

Foreign Resident – 2,543