STATE OF MINNESOTA BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY

In the Matter of the CPA Certificate and Firm Permit of Charles Komla Amevo and CPA Global Portfolio Consulting C.A., LLC CPA Certificate No. 29125 (Revoked) CPA Firm Permit No. F2383 (Revoked)

STIPULATION AND CONSENT ORDER

Board File Nos. 2023-076

2023-077

STIPULATION

Charles Amevo ("Respondent"), CPA Global Portfolio Consulting C.A., LLC ("Respondent Firm"), and the Minnesota Board of Accountancy's Complaint Committee stipulate that, subject to Board's review and discretionary approval, the Board may issue a consent order that imposes the following sanctions:

- A. Respondent is CENSURED and REPRIMANDED pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 326A.08 (2024).
- B. Respondent Firm is CENSURED and REPRIMANDED pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 326A.08 (2024).
- C. Respondents shall pay to the Board a joint-and-several CIVIL PENALTY of \$5,000.

 Respondents shall submit the civil penalty by check to the Board within sixty (60) days of the Board's approval of this Stipulation and Consent Order.
- D. The civil penalty imposed by paragraph C is STAYED for thirty days. If Respondents repay the Lower Minnesota River Watershed District the \$17,842.00 in audit fees that Respondents collected within thirty days of the effective date of this order, this stay shall be vacated.

- E. Respondent shall comply with all statutes and rules within the Board's jurisdiction. See Minn. Stat. ch. 326A (2024) and Minn. R. ch. 1105 (2023).
- F. Respondent shall report in writing within ten days any violations of this stipulation and consent order to the Board's Executive Director.

Respondent and the Committee enter into this stipulation based on the following findings of fact, conclusions of law, and other stipulated provisions:

Findings of Fact

- The Board issued Respondent a CPA certificate on September 21, 2015. The Board revoked Respondent's certificate on May 2, 2024.
- 2. The Board issued Respondent Firm a CPA firm permit on March 11, 2020. The Board revoked Respondent Firm's permit on May 2, 2024.
- 3. Respondent and Respondent Firm entered into a contract with the Lower Minnesota River Watershed District (herein know as "District") to audit the financial statements of the governmental activities and each major fund of the District for the fiscal years ending on December 31, 2021 and 2022 and the related notes to the financial statements pursuant to Minnesota Statute Section 103B.227, subd. 5.
- 4. The Board temporarily suspended Respondent's CPA certificate and Respondent Firm's CPA firm permit on January 13, 2023.
- 5. Respondent and Respondent Firm withdrew from the contracted audit and informed the District in April 2023 that they were unable to complete the audit due to scope limitations caused by the client.

- a. Respondent and Respondent Firm did not inform the District that they were no longer able to perform the contracted audit due to the temporary suspension of their licenses.
- The District was instead informed by the Board of Accountancy of the temporary suspension.
- 6. Respondents stated the following in their email withdrawing from the engagement: "During the engagement, we did have access to the predecessor auditor that helped us understand the procedures he performed in the past. Unfortunately, the predecessor auditor cannot help with questions strictly relevant to the current years' engagement and we do not have unrestricted access to persons with knowledge of financial information and reporting processes of the accounting information for the periods covered by our engagement. For those reasons, we were unable to have access to all information that is relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements such as records, documentation, and other matters and we are left with the only one choice of withdrawing from the engagement."
- 7. Respondent and Respondent Firm engaged in dishonesty through knowingly making misleading, deceptive, or untrue representations in the performance of services when Respondents did not inform the District that they were engaged to perform an audit for that their licenses had been suspended and that they were no longer able to perform the services required.

Conclusion of Law

- 1. The Board has authority to license and regulate certified public accountants and to take disciplinary action as appropriate. Minn. Stat. ch. 326A (2024).
- 2. Respondents violated and Minn. R. 1105.5600, subp. 1(B) and 1105.7800(A) (2023).
- 3. Respondents are subject to discipline pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 326A.08 subd. 5(a)(1), (2) (2024).
 - 4. This stipulation and consent order is in the public interest.

Other Stipulated Provisions

- This stipulation and consent order must be approved by the Board to become effective.
- 2. Respondent agrees that the Committee may move the Board *ex parte*, with or without advance notice to the Respondent, to approve this stipulation and consent order. Respondent understands that the Board may either approve the stipulation and consent order or not approve it. This stipulation and the files, records, and proceedings associated with this matter may be reviewed by the Board in its consideration of the Committee's motion.
- 3. If approved by the Board, this stipulation and consent order shall be classified as public data. Minn. Stat. § 13.41, subd. 5 (2024).
- 4. If the Board does not approve this stipulation and consent order, then the matter remains unresolved and the Committee may either seek to negotiate a revised stipulation and consent order with Respondent to present to the Board or issue an order commencing a

contested-case hearing before an Administrative Law Judge at the Office of Administrative Hearings. *See* Minn. Stat. §§ 14.57–.62, 214.10, subd. 2 (2024) (describing administrative hearing process).

- 5. Respondent agrees that if this case comes before the Board again after it reviews and discusses this stipulation and consent order, Respondent waives any claim that the Board was prejudiced by its review and discussion of this stipulation and consent order and any records relating to it.
- 6. Respondent acknowledges that they were advised by the Committee of their right to a contested-case hearing in this matter before an Administrative Law Judge, to file exceptions and make argument to the Board after the hearing, and to seek judicial review from any adverse decision rendered by the Board. Respondent hereby expressly waives those rights. Respondent was further advised by the Committee of their right to be represented by counsel and that they are represented by counsel.
- 7. Respondent has read, understands, and agrees to this stipulation and has voluntarily signed it. It is expressly understood that this stipulation contains the entire agreement between the parties, there being no other agreement of any kind, verbal or otherwise. If approved by the Board, a copy of the final stipulation and consent order shall be served personally or by first class mail on Respondent. The Board's order shall be effective when it is signed by the Chair of the Board or the Chair's designee.
- 8. Pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 16D.13 (2024), any civil penalty imposed by this stipulation and consent order shall begin to accrue simple interest in accordance with that section thirty days after the civil penalty is due. Pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 16D.17 (2024), thirty

days after any civil penalty imposed by this stipulation and consent order is due, the Board may file and enforce any unpaid portion of the civil penalty as a judgment against Respondent in district court without further notice or additional proceedings.

Charles Komala Amevo, CPA

STATE OF MINNESOTA

COUNTY OF 5

This instrument was acknowledged before me on MM 19, 202 By Charles Amevo.

(stamp)



My commission expires: $\frac{1\cdot 31}{2}$.

COMPLAINT COMMITTEE

Chair

CONSENT ORDER

Upon consideration of this stipulation and consent order, and based upon all the files, records, and proceedings herein, all terms of the stipulation and consent order are approved.

Accordingly, the Board hereby ADOPTS the stipulation and issues the ORDER described above.

STATE OF MINNESOFA, BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY

Dated: 6-4-2025

CHARLES SELCER, CPA

Board Chair