

**STATE OF MINNESOTA
BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY**

In the Matter of the CPA Certificate of

Keith Donald Kruschke
CPA Certificate No. 20636
and
Keith D. Kruschke CPA Services
CPA Firm Permit No. 20636 (Expired)

**STIPULATION AND
CONSENT ORDER
AND CEASE AND DESIST ORDER**
Board File Nos. 2025-035
and
2025-036

STIPULATION

Keith Kruschke ("Respondent"), Keith D. Kruschke CPA Services ("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's CPA Certificate, No. 20636, is CENSURED and REPRIMANDED pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 326A.08 (2024).

B. Respondent Firm shall Cease and Desist from practicing as CPA Firm in Minnesota until such time as it becomes licensed as a CPA Firm in the State of Minnesota.

C. Respondents shall pay to the Board a joint-and-several CIVIL PENALTY of \$3,000. Respondents shall submit the civil penalty by check to the Board within 60 days of the Board's approval of this Stipulation and Consent Order.

D. Respondents shall comply with all statutes and rules within the Board's jurisdiction. *See* Minn. Stat. ch. 326A (2024) and Minn. R. ch. 1105 (2023).

E. Respondents shall report in writing within ten days any violations of this stipulation and consent order to the Board's Executive Director.

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

Findings of Fact

1. The Board issued Respondent a CPA certificate on March 16, 2001.
2. The Board issued Respondent Firm a CPA sole proprietor firm permit on January 27, 2005.
3. Respondent Firm's CPA sole proprietor firm permit expired on December 31, 2015.
4. Respondent's CPA certificate expired on December 31, 2024.
5. Respondent's CPA certificate renewal form was returned on February 11, 2025, due to noncompliance with the CPE requirements and the incorrect fees being submitted.
6. Respondent carried back four hours to CPE reporting year 2024 and renewed their CPA certificate on March 19, 2025.
7. On Respondent's 2025 CPA certificate renewal, Respondent listed Respondent Firm as their primary employer, despite not having a current firm permit and using the CPA designation in the firm name.
8. Respondents held out without a firm permit with the Board by using the CPA designation in the firm name. The use of the CPA designation in a firm name requires a firm permit with the Board.
9. To date, Respondents have not applied for or renewed their firm permit in Minnesota.

Conclusions 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 Minn. Stat. §§ 326A.05, subd. 1(a)(3), 326A.1d (2024) and Minn. R. 1105.2500(A)(2), 1105.3000(A)(3) and (4), and (E), 1105.3200(D), 1105.4000(A) and (B), 1105.4200(B)(2), and 1105.5600, subp. 1(C)(1) and (5), 1105.7800(A), (B), and (D) (2023).
3. Respondents are subject to discipline pursuant to Minn. Stat. §§ 326A.08, subd. 326A.08, subds. 4, 5(a)(1) and (8), and 7.
4. This stipulation and consent order is in the public interest.

Other Stipulated Provisions

1. 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 knowingly waive that right.

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.

Keith D. Kruschke, CPA

Keith Donald Kruschke, CPA
Keith D. Kruschke CPA Services

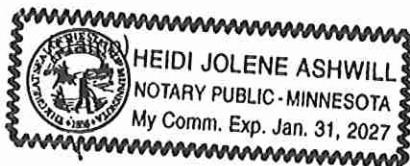
By: _____

Its: _____

STATE OF Minnesota

COUNTY OF Morrison

This instrument was acknowledged before me on 7/3/2025 by Keith Kruschke.



Heidi J. Ashwill

(Signature of notary officer)

My commission expires: Jan 31, 2027

COMPLAINT COMMITTEE

Ann Etter

ANN ETTER, CPA
Chair

Dated: July 31, 2025

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 MINNESOTA
BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY

Gordon Sewatt
[Signature]

Dated: 08/06/, 2025

For:

CHARLES SELCER, CPA
Board Chair