

**BEFORE THE ALABAMA STATE
BOARD OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTANCY**

IN THE MATTER OF:)
RONALD TERRY BATES, JR., CPA) **CASE NO. 10-18**
CERTIFICATE NO. 5754)
)
RESPONDENT.)

FINAL ORDER

THIS CAUSE came to be heard before the Alabama State Board of Public Accountancy (the "Board"), on January 21, 2011 in Montgomery, Alabama. Mr. Ronald Terry Bates, Jr., CPA offered a signed Informal Settlement and Waiver, which was ACCEPTED by the Board and is incorporated herein by reference.

It is therefore ORDERED, ADJUDGED and DECREED by the Board that the provisions set forth in the aforesaid Informal Settlement are hereby approved and that the terms and conditions thereof shall become effective immediately.

DONE this 21st day of January 2011.

ALABAMA STATE BOARD OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTANCY

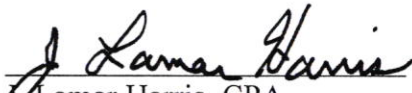
CONCUR:

MESSRS. D'OLIVE, ODOM, PATTERSON,
SCOTT, SINGLETARY AND WRIGHT

RECUSED:

MR. RICHARDS

ATTEST:


Lamar Harris, CPA

Executive Director
January 24, 2011

BEFORE THE ALABAMA STATE BOARD OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTANCY

IN THE MATTER OF:)
RONALD TERRY BATES, JR., CPA) CASE NO. 10-18
CERTIFICATE NO. 5754)
RESPONDENT.)

INFORMAL SETTLEMENT

The Alabama State Board of Public Accountancy (the "Board"), by and through its undersigned counsel, and Ronald Terry Bates, Jr., CPA ("Respondent") concur with the agreement set forth below as final disposition of this matter and hereby consent to the entry of this Informal Settlement, subject to the approval of the Board, without further adjudication of any factual or legal issues which could or may be raised by the filing of an Administrative Complaint before the Board.

AGREEMENT

1. The Board has acquired and maintains jurisdiction over Respondent by virtue of the Code of Alabama 1975, § 34-1-1 *et seq.* (Public Accountancy Act of 2003), and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder. Respondent acknowledges and herein submits to the jurisdiction of the Board.

2. Respondent understands that he has the right to a fair hearing pursuant to the Alabama Administrative Procedure Act, Code of Alabama 1975 § 41-22-20 *et seq.*, and the Public Accountancy Act of 2003, Code of Alabama 1975 § 34-1-1 *et seq.*

3. Respondent understands that by submitting to this agreement he is waiving his rights as set forth herein, thus enabling the Board to adopt and enter an Informal Settlement without further process.

4. For purposes of this proceeding between the Board and Respondent, and for no other purpose or proceeding, the parties hereto have entered into discussions in connection with the above referenced matter and hereby agree and acknowledge that in connection with the

complaint filed against the Respondent on August 17, 2010, by Steve Lee, President of Southern Home Mortgage Corporation, the Board has taken notice of the complaint and conducted an investigation. Respondent further acknowledges that the Board has a mandate to protect the public with respect to the practice of public accounting in Alabama and the Board strongly cautions against any activity that is a violation of the Alabama accountancy statute, Code of Alabama 1975, § 34-1-1 *et seq.* (Public Accountancy Act of 2003).

5. The Board and Respondent also agree that the Respondent has implemented, and is committed to continuing to implement, improvements in his policies and procedures for completing engagements timely and returning client records upon request and reasonable notice. These efforts are intended to assist Respondent in fully complying with his professional obligations, including those pertaining to the provision of public accounting services in the State of Alabama.

6. Respondent agrees to a suspension of his certificate as a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) and his personal and firm permits to practice public accounting in this state for a period of three months effective January 21, 2011; however, said suspension is stayed.

7. As a condition of the stay of suspension, Respondent shall be on probation, shall comply with the terms of this Informal Settlement, and shall violate no accountancy statutes or rules for three (3) months from the date this Informal Settlement is approved by the Board. In the event that Respondent violates this condition, the active suspension may be imposed in addition to any discipline regarding the new violation.

8. Respondent agrees to complete the AICPA continuing professional education course entitled "Professional Ethics: The AICPA's Comprehensive Course." Respondent also agrees to submit to the Board a Certificate of Completion for the course by April 21, 2011.

9. Respondent agrees to return all client records in his possession for Southern Home Mortgage Corporation to Steve Lee, President of Southern Home Mortgage Corporation at

2413 Britain Court, Carrollton, TX 75006 by January 7, 2011 and provide to the Board by January 14, 2011 written documentation that such client records have been received by the client.

10. Respondent agrees to pay seven-hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00) as a refund of the initial deposit the client made towards the unfinished engagement. Payment of the refund shall be made payable to Southern Home Mortgage Corporation in the form of a cashier's check or money order and forwarded to Steve Lee, President of Southern Home Mortgage Corporation at 2413 Britain Court, Carrollton, TX 75006 by January 7, 2011. Respondent shall provide to the Board by January 14, 2011 written documentation that such refund payment has been received by the client.

11. Respondent agrees to pay an administrative fine in the amount of one hundred dollars (\$100.00). Payment of the administrative fine shall be made payable to the Alabama State Board of Public Accountancy in the form of a cashier's check or money order. Payment shall be made immediately upon entry of this Informal Settlement.

12. Respondent understands that this Informal Settlement is subject to adoption or rejection by the Board. It is understood that, in deciding whether to adopt this Informal Settlement, the Board may receive oral or written communications from its staff, experts, attorney, or others. Such communications shall not disqualify the Board, staff, experts, attorney, or others from participating in this or other matters affecting Respondent.

13. It is agreed by all parties and the Board that, should the Board decline to approve this agreement, then the Informal Settlement shall become null and void and the Respondent shall have all the rights and privileges under the laws of the State of Alabama and United States of America.

FOR THE BOARD

11/5/11

William D. Little
Date

William D. Little
WILLIAM D. LITTLE
Attorney for the Alabama State
Board of Public Accountancy

FOR THE RESPONDENT

12-29-10
Date

Ronald Terry Bates, Jr.
RONALD TERRY BATES, JR.

State of Alabama

County of Cullman

Subscribed and sworn to before me, a Notary Public, on this 29 day of December, 2010.

Kaylabaker
Notary Public
My Commission Expires: 2-26-2013

