STATE OF MINNESOTA
BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY

In the Matter of the CPA Certificate of	**STIPULATION AND CONSENT ORDER AND CEASE AND DESIST ORDER**
Steven Douglas Broden CPA Certificate No. 10082 and Steven Douglas Broden CPA CPA Firm Permit No. 10082(Expired)	Board File No. 2024-203 and 2024-204

STIPULATION

Steven Broden ("Respondent"), Steven Douglas Broden CPA ("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 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.

B. Respondents shall pay to the Board a joint-and-several CIVIL PENALTY of $1,000. 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.

C. 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).

D. 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 October 15, 1986.

2. The Board issued Respondent Firm a CPA sole proprietor firm permit on January 1, 2003.

3. Respondent Firm's CPA sole proprietor firm permit expired on December 31, 2016.

4. When Respondent renewed their certificate on December 30, 2024, they listed the Respondent Firm as their secondary employer for which they use the CPA designation.

5. In the response, Respondent explained that they are currently employed as a controller in private industry. They further explained that they provide income tax return services as a CPA and that they provide no audit, attest, review or compilation services.

6. Respondent Firm is holding out in Minnesota as a CPA sole proprietor firm without a firm permit.

7. To date, the Respondent Firm has not applied for or renewed the CPA sole proprietor firm permit.

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. Respondent violated Minn. Stat. §§ 326A.05, subd. 1(a)(3) and 326A.10(d) (2024) and Minn. R. 1105.4000(B), 1105.4200(B)(2), 1105.5600, subp. 1(C)(1), and 1105.7800(A) and (D) (2023).

3. Respondent is subject to discipline pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 326A.08, subds. 4, 5(a)(1), and 7 (2024).

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.

7/8/25

Steven Douglas Broden, CPA
Steven Douglas Broden CPA
By: _____
Its: _____

STATE OF Minnesota

COUNTY OF Hennepin

This instrument was acknowledged before me on July 8, 2025 by Steven Broden.

(stamp) JEAN RAE CARLBERG
Notary Public
State of Minnesota
My Commission Expires
January 31, 2028

(Signature of notary officer)

My commission expires: Jan. 31, 2028

COMPLAINT COMMITTEE

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

Dated: 08/06/, 2025

FOR:
CHARLES SELCER, CPA
Board Chair