

State Board of Certified Public Accountants of Louisiana



Spring 2025

State Board of Certified Public Accountants of Louisiana

BOARD MEMBERS

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Tre Mouriz — Compliance Investigator
Betsy Boudreaux — Licensing Analyst
Jean Palmer — CPE Coordinator
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Tasha Anders — Administrative Coordinator

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FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS

July 28-29, 2025
November 6, 2025

Happy Spring

As another school year winds down and we look ahead to the long, warm days of summer, it's a perfect time to pause and reflect on the state of the CPA profession—and the bright path that lies ahead.

The CPA pipeline continues to be a major focus across the country, and while the challenges are real, there's also a lot to be optimistic about. In fact, there's more momentum and innovation in our profession today than we often acknowledge—and it's worth celebrating.

Across Louisiana and beyond, we're seeing fresh ideas and renewed energy infuse the accounting profession. Colleges and universities are rethinking their curricula, educators are forging stronger ties with the business community, and firms are stepping up their efforts to recruit and support students.

At the same time, new, more flexible pathways to CPA licensure and the profession's growing emphasis on technology and advisory services are reshaping what it means to be a CPA. Today's accounting professionals aren't just number crunchers—they're trusted advisors, tech-savvy problem solvers, and strategic leaders across every industry.

Here in Louisiana, we're especially proud of the collaborative spirit driving partnerships between academic institutions, employers, and professional organizations like the LCPA. Together, these partnerships are building a stronger, more inclusive pipeline that reflects the future of our profession.

If you haven't yet found your voice in this important conversation, now is the time to join in. Your insight, experience, and leadership are more valuable than ever. Feel free to contact me and share your ideas @ Lisa.Benefield@la.gov.

Also, be on the lookout for the board's new website in June of 2025. We have been working hard since the fall to make it more streamlined, organized, user friendly, and searchable. We hope you like it!

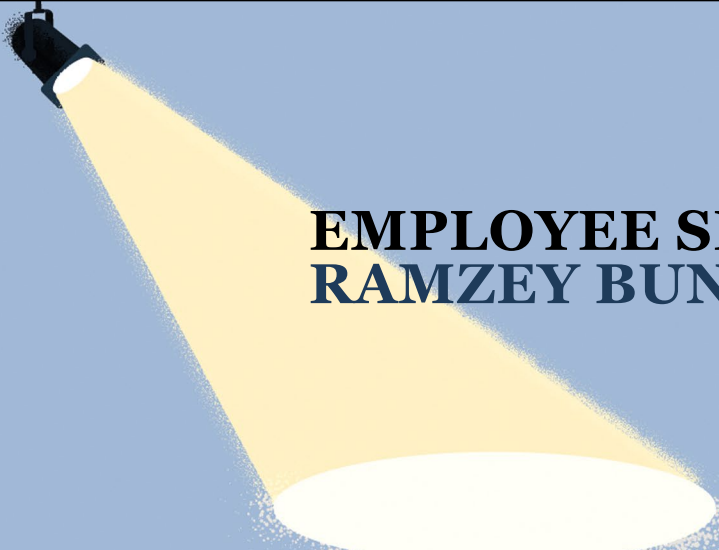
Finally, as summer approaches, we hope you'll take time to relax, recharge, and reconnect with family and friends. We thank you for your continued commitment to excellence, integrity, and the future of the CPA profession.

Sincerely,
Lisa A. Benefield
Executive Director



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW CPAs

Phillip C. May	29871	10/25/2024	Michael Gerard Condon	29923	02/13/2025
Robert Springer Argote	29872	10/25/2024	Andrew Maheu	29924	02/13/2025
Kymber-Lynn Story	29873	10/25/2024	Corey Thomas Gilbert	29925	02/13/2025
Emily Taylor Richards	29874	10/25/2024	Dylan James Fuselier	29926	02/13/2025
Usha G. Iyer	29875	11/01/2024	Gabriella Maria Meaux	29927	02/13/2025
Brenden Taravella	29876	11/01/2024	Taylor Nicole Kennedy	29928	02/13/2025
Alexis Maria Pippin	29877	11/01/2024	Chloe M. Hardin	29929	02/13/2025
Megan Mariale David	29878	11/01/2024	Brooke Olivier	29930	02/13/2025
Evan Salvador Cook	29879	11/07/2024	Rafael Valentin III	29931	02/13/2025
Camille Louise Fanguy	29880	11/14/2024	Vivianne Terese Pigeon	29932	02/13/2025
Jeremy Joseph Carron	29881	11/14/2024	Adam Matthew Guralnik	29934	02/21/2025
Sheree' Moreau	29882	11/18/2024	Ashtin Taylor	29935	03/06/2025
Alyson Bordson-Bozzo	29883	11/18/2024	Ryan Michael Comeaux	29936	03/06/2025
Jasper Tauceda	29884	11/19/2024	Gabriel E. Cupstid	29937	03/06/2025
Hayden Clay Shivers	29885	11/19/2024	Rachel Corrin Newcomb	29938	03/06/2025
Clint Edward Rogers	29886	11/19/2024	Megan Anne Almond	29939	03/06/2025
Amanda Lynn Phillips	29887	11/19/2024	Mallory Anne Fontenot	29940	03/06/2025
Roshan Patel	29888	11/19/2024	Virginia Caplis Orta	29941	03/06/2025
Victoria Mitchell Odom	29889	11/19/2024	Victor James Pologruto	29942	03/06/2025
Thu Anh Vo	29890	11/25/2024	Courtney Alexandra Templet	29943	03/07/2025
Chelsey Elizabeth Prewitt	29891	11/25/2024	Katlyn Word	29944	03/07/2025
Nicole Leigh Petit	29892	11/25/2024	Lauren Schneida	29945	03/07/2025
Collin Comenge	29893	11/25/2024	Joel Brandon Goynes	29946	03/07/2025
Thomas Krushinski	29894	11/25/2024	Cole Hunter Arseneault	29947	03/07/2025
Jon Ryan Erwin	29895	12/06/2024	Donna LaPierre-David	29948	03/07/2025
Eliza Vaughn Richardson	29896	12/10/2024	Nicholas Doremus	29949	03/17/2025
Christa O'Bryant	29897	12/10/2024	Phillip H. Hidalgo IV	29950	03/17/2025
Reginald Rideau III	29898	12/10/2024	Ryan Matthew Kimball	29951	03/17/2025
Stephen Roybal	29899	12/10/2024	Chasity Price	29952	03/17/2025
Mindy Gauthier Spears	29900	12/10/2024	Kedra Shuntell Gray-Bullock	29953	03/20/2025
Austin Bordelon	29901	12/10/2024	Jeffrey Daniel McCoy	29954	03/20/2025
Madison Huey Bosco	29902	12/10/2024	John Riley Graham	29955	03/24/2025
Hunter Scott Hulin	29903	12/23/2024	Nathan James Mouton	29956	03/24/2025
Macy Goodrum	29904	12/23/2024	Kiah Alexis Delatte	29957	03/24/2025
Patrick Richardson	29905	12/23/2024	Hannah Dickerson	29958	03/24/2025
Julian Rodriguez-Fierro	29906	12/23/2024	William Reid Giardina	29959	03/24/2025
Megan DeBlanc	29907	12/26/2024	Taylor Stelly	29960	03/24/2025
Andreas Atwi	29908	12/26/2024	Rachel McGee-Johnson	29961	03/24/2025
Kayla Wayne Domingue	29909	12/26/2024	NeKivia Latrice Sledge	29962	04/01/2025
Max Pierre Catalanotto	29912	01/10/2025	Karla Renette Seguin	29963	04/01/2025
Nicholas Jared Orlando	29913	01/10/2025	Raegan Meredith Tafaro	29964	04/01/2025
Ashlee M. Summers	29914	01/10/2025	Brandon Sherman	29965	04/01/2025
Lindsey Kolkmeier	29915	01/10/2025	Krystal Waddell White	29966	04/14/2025
Kennedy Hebert	29916	01/13/2025	Taylor Savaski Reis	29967	04/14/2025
Hayden James Willis	29917	01/14/2025	Meoni Manning-Amaya	29968	04/14/2025
Kyle Owens	29918	01/14/2025	Erin Cullen Lee	29969	04/14/2025
Emily Paige Tighe	29919	01/14/2025	Christopher Sparks	29970	04/14/2025
Allison Paige Defendorf	29920	01/14/2025	Ryan M. Lawhorne	29971	04/14/2025
Neely Michele Whites	29921	02/03/2025	Andrea Mena Hirlemann	29972	04/15/2025
Hannah H. Peterson	29922	02/13/2025			



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT: RAMZEY BUNLEY



What are the most common questions you field on the phone or via email from the public in your role as the Board's Accountant?

I'll let you in on a little secret: I don't actually get many inquiries from the public—but when I do, they are often based on a misunderstanding of our function. Most commonly, individuals reach out seeking personal accounting or tax advice—services which, understandably, fall outside the scope of the Board's responsibilities.

In such cases, I do my best to clarify our role and redirect them to the appropriate resources. While these interactions are typically brief, they serve as a helpful reminder of the importance of clear communication regarding the distinction between public sector financial operations and private accounting services.

What projects are you most proud of since you became the Board's Accountant?

One of the projects I'm most proud of is transitioning to the Thentia platform. This has been a significant undertaking that required not only adapting to a new system, but also developing new standards and procedures for reconciling daily financial activity. There's still more to learn about our new platform; however, establishing a clear, consistent process is essential to ensuring accuracy and accountability as we move away from our legacy systems.

In conjunction with this transition, I also undertook a comprehensive update of our accounting desk manual. This involves documenting the new workflows, reconciliation procedures, and system-specific processes to reflect the changes brought about by Thentia. The updated manual will serve as a reliable, up-to-date resource for both current staff and future team members, supporting continuity and operational efficiency.

What do you like about Accounting in general?

What I enjoy most about accounting is the sense of order it brings. There's something very satisfying about taking a pile of numbers and organizing them into something that makes sense—where everything ties out and tells a clear story. I like the problem-solving aspect too; when something doesn't balance, it's like a puzzle to figure out what went wrong and how to fix it.

I also appreciate that accounting plays such an important role behind the scenes. It supports good decision-making and helps keep things running smoothly and responsibly. Being part of that process, and knowing the work I do contributes to the bigger picture, is something I really value.

What are your hobbies and/or favorite things to do when you aren't at work?

When I'm off the clock, I'm either binging a show, doodling in my sketchbook, or writing stories I may or may not finish. I love trying new restaurants, hitting up festivals, and recently—Pilates has become my unexpected new favorite. But the best part of my free time? Hanging out with my 14-year-old daughter. We're currently deep into designing K-pop merch, and honestly, we take it very seriously.

CPE

As a reminder, the Board's new CPE Portal is available to you year-round to enter your CPE courses as you go. We encourage everyone to log on to your account and update your CPE during the year so it's not such a huge task in December. If you have any questions regarding your CPE requirements or how to upload your courses, please contact Jean Palmer at Jean.Palmer@la.gov.



INSPIRE THE NEXT GENERATION OF CPAS IN YOUR CLASSROOM

Inspire the Next Generation of CPAs in Your Classroom

Educators - The Louisiana CPA Board staff is here to help.

Please reach out to us if you'd like to set up in-person presentations with your Accounting students – we'll travel!

We can also do virtual presentations for your online students!

Topics we cover include:

- Education and Exam requirements for Louisiana students
- Navigating the licensure process with confidence
- Frequently asked questions from students over the last 10 years

Contact Lisa Benefield at Lisa.Benefield@la.gov or Caren Singleton at Caren.Singleton@la.gov for more information.

ENFORCEMENT UPDATES

New Employee:

We are pleased to welcome our newest Investigator to the Board's staff, Antonio "Tre" Mouriz. He's a graduate of Loyola University New Orleans, where he played baseball, and enjoys umpiring travel baseball on the weekends.

Peer Review and Enforcement Reminder:

As part of our ongoing commitment to preserving the integrity and excellence of the accounting profession, we would like to remind all licensees of the critical importance of complying with peer review requirements and adhering to professional conduct standards. Participation in an approved peer review program is essential to ensuring that firms consistently uphold the highest standards in their accounting and auditing practices.

Equally important is the enforcement process, which plays a vital role in safeguarding public trust. Disciplinary actions may be taken in response to violations of professional standards, ethical guidelines, or regulatory obligations. We strongly encourage all CPAs to stay current with applicable regulations and to embody the core values of transparency, accountability, and professional excellence.

For more information about peer review obligations or the enforcement process, please contact Bomani.Brown@la.gov.



BOARD APPROVES FEE INCREASE EFFECTIVE 7/1/25

At its May 2025 meeting, the Board voted to increase certain fees. In accordance with Louisiana Revised Statute §37:74.1, the Board is authorized to adopt rules under the Administrative Procedure Act to impose and collect fees. The new fees shall be effective July 1, 2025.

Application Fees	Not to Exceed:	Current Fees (Through 6/30/2025)	New Fees Effective 7/1/2025
Original certification application	\$250.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
Reciprocal certification application	\$120.00	\$100.00	\$120.00
Retired status application	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
Reinstatement of certificate application	\$500.00	\$200.00 plus delinquent fees*	\$300 plus delinquent fees*
Firm permit application	\$250.00	\$100.00	\$150.00
Annual Fees			
Renewal of certificate	\$120.00	\$100.00	\$120.00
Registration CPA inactive status	\$60.00	\$30.00	\$50.00
Registration CPA retired status	\$50.00	\$30.00	\$50.00
Renewal of firm permit	\$100.00	\$25.00	\$50.00
Plus per owner over 10 not to exceed	\$25.00 \$2500.00	\$15.00 \$2500.00	\$25.00 \$2500.00
Notice of substantial equivalency	\$100.00	n/a	\$50.00
Other Fees	\$100.00		
Temporary (provisional) licenses	\$100.00	n/a	n/a
Replacement of a CPA certificate	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
Transfer of grades transfer fee	\$50.00 plus application fee**	\$25.00 plus application fee**	\$50.00 plus application fee**
Written verifications	\$50.00	\$25.00	\$50.00
Pre-Exam Evaluations	\$50.00	n/a	\$50.00
*Delinquent and other fees are cited in the Act			
**Transfer of Grades Transfer Fee is added to the Original certification application fee.			



BOARD DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS BY CONSENT ORDER

RESPONDENT: Respondent Name Withheld
Deridder, Louisiana
File No. 2020-64

INFORMATION: This matter was pending before the State Board of Certified Public Accountants of Louisiana ("Board") for administrative adjudication of alleged violations of the Louisiana Accountancy Act, LA R.S. 37:71 et seq., by the Respondent, for failing to timely respond to his client relating to the preparation of a schedule K-1 form for the 2018 partnership return for St. Tammany Extended Stay Hotel, LLC. Specifically, Respondent allegedly failed to timely respond to client regarding a 2018 schedule K-1 form, which he did not mark "final".

More specifically, the Respondent is alleged to have violated the following provisions of the Louisiana Accountancy Act: LA R.S. 37:79(A)(8): Conduct reflecting adversely upon licensee's or privilege holder's fitness to perform services while a licensee.

The Respondent agreed to enter into a Consent Order to resolve the matter. Under the terms of the Order, Respondent was formally reprimanded and ordered to pay a fine of two-hundred fifty dollars (\$250).

EFFECTIVE

DATE: Consent Order effective January 28, 2025

RESPONDENT: Juliana Oliveros, CPA
Baton Rouge, Louisiana
File No. 2023-42

INFORMATION: This matter was pending before the State Board of Certified Public Accountants of Louisiana ("Board") for administrative adjudication of alleged violations of the Louisiana Accountancy Act, La. R.S. 37:71 et seq., by the Respondent, Juliana Oliveros, CPA, for providing attest services and operating her company, CPA Accounting Solutions, LLC., without an active valid CPA firm permit, and for use of the word "solutions" in association with the unpermitted firm name, which is prohibited.

More specifically, the Respondent is alleged to have violated the following provisions of the Louisiana Accountancy Act and Board Rules: La. R.S. 37:83(D): "No firm shall provide attest services or assume or use the title 'certified public accountants' or the abbreviation 'CPAs' or any other title, designation, words, letters, abbreviation, sign, card, or device tending to indicate that such firm is a CPA firm unless the firm holds a valid permit issued as provided for in this Part and ownership of the firm is in accordance with this Part and rules adopted by the board and AICPA Code of Professional Conduct: Part 1.600.010.02: False, Misleading, or Deceptive Acts in Advertising or Solicitations.

The Respondent agreed to enter into a Consent Order to resolve the matter. Under the terms of the Order, Respondent was formally reprimanded by the Board, and assessed a fine in the amount of One-thousand dollars (\$1,000).

EFFECTIVE

DATE: Consent Order effective January 28, 2025



Left: From LCPA's Educators' Conference in Lafayette, LA on April 11, 2025. Caren Singleton, Ann Lupo and Lisa Benefield

Photos from the NASBA Executive Director's & Board Staff Conference

