

DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS

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NEWS RELEASE

CBA SUSPENDS LICENSE OF BAKERSFIELD ACCOUNTANT CHARGED WITH WIRE FRAUD

Interim suspension order protects California consumers while permanent action is pursued

SACRAMENTO- The California Board of Accountancy (CBA) Thursday announced it has suspended the Certified Public Accountant license of Kevin Patrick Sluga, a Bakersfield accountant charged by federal prosecutors with felony wire fraud and aiding and abetting in a multi-faceted mortgage scam.

CBA Executive Officer Patti Bowers says the CBA sought the interim suspension order to protect the public until more permanent measures are completed. "This interim suspension order will prevent Mr. Sluga from further abusing his CPA license until an administrative hearing before the CBA can be held," said Bowers. "Ultimately, what happens as a result of the pending federal criminal sentencing will have an impact on any permanent revocation of Mr. Sluga's license."

Kevin Sluga entered into a plea agreement with the U.S. Attorney's Office in January 2010. In it, he admitted to having executed a scheme to defraud mortgage loan companies in his capacity as a CPA. Sluga agreed to the stipulated interim suspension order, which includes a provision that any violation of the agreement by Sluga will result in further discipline.

Sluga operated a business in Bakersfield, first known as California Business Solutions and later, as Comprehensive Business Solutions, that provided tax-related services to the general public.

The CBA encourages consumers who have a complaint against any accountant licensed in California to file a complaint directly on the CBA Web site, www.cba.ca.gov.

Created by statute in 1901, the CBA's mandate is to protect consumers by ensuring only qualified licensees practice public accountancy in accordance with established professional standards.

The CBA currently regulates more than 82,000 licensees, the largest group of licensed accounting professionals in the nation, including individuals, partnerships, and corporations.

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