

NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Peer Review Oversight Committee

Meeting Agenda

NYS Education Department: Room 211, 89 Washington Avenue  
Albany, NY 12234

Other Locations:

20 Sloan Drive, Greenwich, NY 12834  
100 Jericho Quadrangle, Jericho, NY 11753  
432 Western Ave, Albany, NY 12203  
410 East Upland Road, Ithaca, NY 14850  
28 E Main St, Rochester, NY 14614  
21 Greatwater Avenue, Massapequa, NY 11758

February 1, 2023

The following members were present:

Frank S. Venezia, CPA, Chair  
David Pitcher, CPA  
David Iles, CPA

Mary E. MacKrell, CPA, Vice Chair  
Grace G. Singer, CPA

The following members were absent:

Mitchell Mertz, CPA

Others in attendance:

Jennifer Winters, CPA, Executive Secretary, NYS Education Department  
Thomas Cordell, Auditor 2, NYS Education Department  
Philip Jesmonth, Auditor 1, NYS Education Department

**Call to Order:** On a motion by Mr. Pitcher, seconded by Mr. Iles, the Committee unanimously agreed to move to public session at 9:01 a.m.

**Minutes:** Based on a motion made by Ms. MacKrell, seconded by Mr. Pitcher, the Committee approved the October 26, 2022, meeting minutes with a minor edit on page 3.

**PROC Member Update:** The Committee bid farewell to Ms. MacKrell after serving 10 years on the PROC. Ms. MacKrell will be receiving a signed certificate signed by the Deputy Commissioner in honor of her service on the PROC. The Committee has been reaching out to potential members to fill the new vacancy and will continue to do so. The Committee agreed that this vacancy should be filled with another active peer reviewer. Ms. Singer, Mr. Iles, and Mr. Pitcher will contact potential leads.

**Future Meetings:** Ms. Winters noted that future meetings via WebEx Video Conference must list the individual member's address of where they will be attending. These locations must be open to the public. The Committee has scheduled the following future meetings:

- May 17, 2023, 10:00 a.m. –80 Wolf Rd, Albany, NY
- August 9, 2023, 9:00 a.m. - Video Conference

### **AICPA Peer Review Board Open Meetings**

November 16, 2022- Ms. Winters and Mr. Cordell attended the call. The focus was on the exposure draft included in the open meeting materials. The Committee noted on page 23, the change to the language regarding firms checking with the state boards before resigning from the Peer Review Program. After 42 months of unenrolling from the program, the firm will no longer be listed in PRIMA/FSBA. On page 46 it was noted that the AICPA is trying to increase the peer reviewer pool. Mr. Iles suggested having no fees for the conferences and training to further attract future peer reviewers who may be debating becoming a peer reviewer. Ms. MacKrell suggested that the AICPA make it more known that peer review is a very lucrative job for a firm to undertake.

### **Future AICPA Peer Review Committee Open Meetings in 2023:**

February 8<sup>th</sup>, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, September 7<sup>th</sup>, and November 16<sup>th</sup> - Ms. Winters and Mr. Cordell will attend the meetings.

### **PCAOB – A Firm’s System of Quality Control and Other Proposed Amendments to PCAOB**

**Standards, Rules, and Forms:** Ms. Singer suggested that these changes may give the PCAOB more teeth.

**NYS Board for Public Accountancy - Mandatory Peer Review Website:** Ms. Winters informed the Committee that NYSED moved to a new website and all the questions and answers the PROC worked on are now posted. Ms. Winters gave a brief explanation on how to access the PROC Members Only Sharepoint site on the new website. Mr. Venezia requested two minor edits.

### **PICPA Monitoring:**

Mr. Mertz was to attend the November 15, 2022, PRC meeting. The Committee will seek his report at the May PROC meeting. Ms. Singer attended the December 15, 2022, RAB meeting. She reported that the meeting started out with a familiarity threat and there was a consensus agenda. There was not a lot of deliberation, only one New York firm and the meeting was run very well with very little deferrals.

Ms. Singer will attend the May 18, 2023, PRC meeting and Mr. Pitcher will attend a RAB meeting before the August PROC meeting.

### **New Business:**

Ms. Singer resent the letter for Mr. Pitcher’s review regarding the matter of the AICPA addressing the non-cooperation and will report back on it at the May PROC meeting.

**Public Session:** On a motion by Mr. Iles and seconded by Mr. Pitcher, the Committee voted unanimously in favor of adjourning the public session at 9:39 a.m.

**Executive Session:** On a motion by Ms. Singer and seconded by Ms. MacKrell, the Committee voted unanimously to enter executive session at 9:41 a.m.

On a motion by Ms. Singer and seconded by Ms. MacKrell, the Committee unanimously agreed to close executive session and end the meeting at 10:34 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Jennifer Winters, CPA  
Executive Secretary