

BOARD OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTANCY	*	BEFORE THE MARYLAND BOARD OF
v.	*	PUBLIC ACCOUNTANCY
GOLDSTEIN, ZUGMAN, WEINSTEIN & POOLE, LLC	*	CASE NO.: CPAS-17-0077A
Respondent	*	
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CONSENT ORDER

The Maryland Board of Public Accountancy (the "Board") initiated a complaint in this matter as a result of an Order Instituting Disciplinary Proceedings, Making Findings, and Imposing Sanctions ("PCAOB Order") entered by the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (the "PCAOB") against the Respondent, Goldstein, Zugman, Weinstein & Poole, LLC ("GZW&P"), on or about March 29, 2017. Upon review and a subsequent investigation, the Board determined that administrative charges against GZW&P were appropriate. On or about April 2, 2018, the Board issued a Notice of Charges and Order for Hearing alleging that GZW&P engaged in certain violations of the Maryland Public Accountancy Act and related regulations. The parties enter into this Consent Order as a full and final resolution of this matter, with terms as follows:

THE PARTIES AGREE AND STIPULATE:

1. At all times relevant to the matters set forth in this Consent Order, GZW&P was the holder of a permit issued by the Board to practice certified public accountancy as a firm in the State and/or the Board had jurisdiction over the subject matter.
2. On or about August 29, 2016, GZW&P obtained a permit from the Board to practice certified public accountancy as a firm in the State (Registration No. 42156). The permit is currently due to expire on August 15, 2018.
3. On or about March 29, 2017, the PCAOB issued an order imposing sanctions against GZW&P for violations of PCAOB Rules and related auditing standards in connection with an audit of a registered broker-dealer client. (PCAOB Release No. 105-2017-017). Pursuant to the PCAOB Order, GZW&P was censured and was required to pay a civil money penalty in the amount of \$10,000.00.
4. The PCAOB determined that GZW&P's violative conduct occurred in connection with its audit of the 2014 financial statements of Slavic Investment Corporation ("SIC"), which were filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, where GZW&P was not independent with respect to the client, SIC.
5. On or about March 28, 2017, the PCAOB granted leave to GZW&P to withdraw from registration.

6. Based on the above described facts, GZW&P acknowledges and admits that its actions were in violation of Md. Ann. Code, Business Occupations and Professions Article ("BOP"), §§ 2-410(a)(1), 2-315(a)(1)(xi), 2-315(a)(1)(xii), COMAR 09.24.01.06(A), COMAR 09.24.01.06 (G)(1), 09.24.01.06(G)(2) and COMAR 09.24.01.06(I)(1) as alleged in the Board's Notice of Charges and Order for Hearing.

7. GZW&P is entering into this Consent Order in the spirit of conciliation and cooperation and in an effort to avoid litigation. Any admission of violation by GZW&P contained herein shall be construed as an admission of violation only for purposes of this Consent Order and any other proceeding brought by the Board pursuant to its authority under the Maryland Public Accountancy Act, or to enforce the provisions of this Consent Order, and shall not be construed as an admission of violation in any claim, action, or proceeding which now exists or may arise and be pursued by any person, agency, or entity, other than the Board.

8. As a result of its violations, GZW&P agrees to the following sanctions:

a. GZW&P shall pay a civil penalty in the amount of \$1000.00 to the Board within 14 days of the date of this Consent Order; and

b. The Board shall issue a reprimand against GZW&P as the holder of a permit issued by the Board to practice certified public accountancy in the State.

9. GZW&P acknowledges and agrees that, if it fails to comply with the requirements in paragraph 8 of this Consent Order regarding the payment of the civil penalty, its permit to practice certified public accountancy as firm in the State shall be immediately and automatically suspended by the Board until such time as compliance occurs.

10. GZW&P shall abide by the provisions of the Maryland Public Accountancy Act and applicable regulations in all relevant future activities.

11. GZW&P acknowledges and agrees that this Consent Order shall constitute a Final Order of the Board and shall be enforceable as such.

12. GZW&P, by entering into this Consent Order, expressly waives the right to an administrative hearing on the charges, any and all further proceedings before the Board to which it may otherwise be entitled in this matter, and any rights to appeal from this Order.

13. GZW&P enters into this Consent Order freely, knowingly, and voluntarily and with the opportunity to seek advice of counsel.

BASED ON THESE STIPULATIONS, IT IS, THIS 19th DAY OF June, 2018, BY THE MARYLAND BOARD OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTANCY:

ORDERED that GZW&P has violated BOP, §§ 2-410(a)(1), 2-315(a)(1)(xi), 2-315(a)(1)(xii), COMAR 09.24.01.06(A), COMAR 09.24.01.06 (G)(1), 09.24.01.06(G)(2) and COMAR 09.24.01.06(D)(1);

AND IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that GZW&P shall pay a civil penalty in the amount of \$ 1000.00 to the Board within 14 days of the date of this Consent Order;

AND IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a reprimand is issued against GZW&P as the holder of a permit to practice certified public accountancy as a firm in the State (Registration No. 42156);

AND IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, in the event that GZW&P fails to comply with the requirements in paragraph 8 of this Consent Order regarding the payment of the civil penalty, its permit to practice certified public accountancy in the State shall be immediately and automatically suspended until such time as compliance occurs;

AND IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this matter shall be resolved in accordance with the terms of this Consent Order, and that the same shall be reflected among the records of the Board;

AND IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Consent Order shall constitute a Final Order of the Maryland Board of Public Accountancy.

**SIGNATURE ON
ORIGINAL DOCUMENT**

Goldstein, Zugman, Weinstein &
Poole, LLC

By: 

5/16/18
Date

**SIGNATURE ON
ORIGINAL DOCUMENT**

Arthur E. Flach, CPA, Chair
Maryland Board of Public Accountancy

6/14/18
Date