



Momentum

By Dan Sweetwood, ALD Chair



The word momentum comes to mind when I think of the status of ALD today. Like Mobility, the ALD is steadily gaining

velocity. One year ago, 28 jurisdictions stood committed to participating in the ALD. Today, that number has grown to 44, or 80% of U.S. Boards of Accountancy. This momentum can mainly be attributed to executive directors and Boards taking the time to

review and discuss the ALD with NASBA staff and Taskforce members about how the ALD can be a valuable tool to you and the whole accountancy regulatory community.

I salute and send a special thank you to our 2010 ALD Taskforce members: Rebecca Adams (CT), Sally Anderson (CA), Patti Bowers (CA), Mark Crocker (TN), Dan Dustin (NY), Russ Friedewald (IL), Michael Skinner (GA), Edith Steele (OK), Rick Sweeney (WA),

Karen Turner (CO), Viki Windfeldt (NV), and Lisa Zolman (WA) along with hardworking NASBA staff members: Joe Cote, Yordanos Dumez, Sandra Davidson, Kenny Denny and Mike Semich. Also, a special thank you to all of the state boards that stand committed to ALD.

Momentum is also a descriptor of the evolution of the ALD as a tool. The Taskforce is working to continually improve the usefulness of the tool.

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Just In...

The total number of states now participating in the ALD is 24. The following states began contributing to the ALD in the last quarter: Alabama and CNMI. Our team is actively working with California, Maryland and Ohio to begin participation in early 2010. We continue to contact other boards on a regular basis while working closely with the Mobility Taskforce to further promote the adoption of the ALD. **Hold the presses - California was just pushed live!** Look for the full story in the next issue of *ALD News*.

The New Year Brings the Next Step in the ALD

Another exciting piece of the ALD will be unveiled at the Conference for Executive Directors and State Board Staff in March. A prototype for the public version of the ALD is underway.

The purpose of the ALD has always been envisioned as two-fold. The initial purpose of the ALD is to assist states in regulating the accounting profession by providing a secure place for state board staff to share licensee information. Secondly, the ALD was created to support state boards in providing a central location for the public to research a CPA across state lines.

With mobility practice privileges, the state of licensure of a CPA may not always be known to the public. This valuable search tool will be very helpful in assisting the public in gaining basic information on whether a person is licensed and where to call for more information.

ALD Taskforce Chair, Dan Sweetwood, has appointed a sub-committee to research what information should be included in the public version. One tool that the sub-committee has implemented is a quick poll. This poll was recently released to gather feedback from state boards regarding the information you feel will need to be included. Input from your board is very important.

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Today, we have a number of improvements in development that will provide Board staff an easier path to information and expand the scope of information available.

Feel free to talk to Kenny Denny (Mr. ALD himself!) and/or any of the Taskforce members to ask questions and to gain a better understanding of how the ALD can help your Board.

We look forward to keeping you abreast of many more ALD developments in the coming year through the *ALD News*.

The ALD Discussed at Upcoming Conferences

The ALD Taskforce will meet in Nashville, TN, in conjunction with the 15th Annual Conference for Executive Directors and State Board Staff held March 21-23, 2010. The focus of the Taskforce meeting will be to review progress and to map out plans for 2010. In addition, ALD Administrator, Kenny Denny, will be on-site during the conference to conduct live ALD demos and to answer questions regarding the ALD and other related issues. Kenny will also be on the agenda for the Executive Directors Conference as well as the Conference for State Board Legal Counsel to share some exciting news regarding the ALD. Mark your calendars as you will not want to miss these informative conferences.



CONTACT US

The *ALD News* is the premier source for news and information regarding the Accountancy Licensee Database. For questions or comments, contact:

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