WELCOME

Hello and welcome to the first edition of the ALD News. If you are looking for news regarding the ALD...then you have come to the right place. In this issue, and in future issues, you will find information ranging from the history and the current status of the ALD to how states use the ALD as it relates to Mobility, etc. In this edition, we will take a look at the way Oklahoma and Nevada use the ALD, daily, in regards to enforcement issues as well as licensing. The map (located above) gives the status of each state as it pertains to the ALD.

We are very excited about the states that we are already working with to bring onboard this year. Hopefully, many more will be joining that number. If you have something you would like to see in the ALD News, let us know.
I believe the Accountancy Licensee Database (ALD) is a great tool. It will be even better once all states are participating. I personally use the ALD and the prototype on average 5-10 times per week. It’s an easy way to identify if someone has ever been licensed in any state. It also allows you to obtain information on the status of that particular individual. The other important thing to remember about the ALD is to understand how beneficial it will be once Mobility has been passed in all jurisdictions. It is not feasible to contact each state board in an attempt to track down a licensee. With a few clicks of your mouse on the ALD site, you have the information you need on any particular licensee. The ALD is like having all 50 State Board web sites connected at one central location. It benefits everyone involved! Nevada is moving forward with Mobility and has been questioned by our Legislators if a database such as the ALD exists to determine how the ALD could assist with Mobility efforts.

Edith Steele finds the Accountancy Licensee Database (ALD) very useful when dealing with enforcement issues. She uses the ALD to verify whether someone who is holding themselves out as a CPA is licensed in any other states. This is valuable information to know when trying to discipline someone or license someone in Oklahoma. The ALD ensures that Edith knows all of the jurisdictions for a particular licensee even if they are not forthcoming with that information. In a way, the ALD acts as a fail-safe for the state board. The registration clerk at the Oklahoma Accountancy Board uses the ALD almost daily when processing reciprocal, reinstatement applications, and substantial equivalency notifications when they are received by the board offices. Day to day...the ALD makes the work at the Oklahoma Accountancy Board a little easier when it comes to enforcement and licensing.

I hope you find the information in our first newsletter helpful! I want to first take this opportunity to thank the other members of the Task Force and NASBA/ALD staff for their hard work and diligence over the last year. Last year we met face-to-face in Nashville, then at the NASBA Annual Meeting in Boston, and will meet again prior to the Executive Director’s Conference in Jacksonville. As the Mobility initiative continues, the question is not “Why the ALD,” but “How the ALD?” that will require most of our attention in the coming year. As you can see from the information provided, the ALD “just makes sense” for State Boards. Our first goal is to provide any State Board with immediate help if they determine they require assistance with legal or technology issues. In Nebraska, we overcame legal obstacles and are now in direct contact with the staff at NASBA to participate on the ALD. Do not hesitate to contact me at (402) 471-3595 or at Dan.Sweetwood@nebraska.gov for further information on the ALD.

Take Care,
Dan Sweetwood
Executive Director
Nebraska Board of Public Accountancy