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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FICPA TASK FORCE ON DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION SETS FIRST-YEAR AGENDA AND GOALS

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (March 2, 2021) – The Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants (FICPA) Task Force on Diversity and Inclusion has established its goals and focus for 2021.

The task force, formed by FICPA chair W.G. Spoor last September, has a three-year charge to develop programs and services that our members can use to champion diversity and inclusion within their firms, companies and the accounting profession at large.

Following its most recent meeting, the task force is committed to this list of first-year action items:

- Identify resources and develop a toolkit to share with our member organizations.
- Create web resources to support and share D&I Initiatives
- Provide training and workshops related to D&I for Florida CPAs and accounting professionals
- Offer D&I-specific continuing professional education featuring a diverse pool of panelists and speakers for events.
- Survey members to understand which dimensions of D&I to emphasize.
- Develop and identify criteria for an FICPA D&I Award
- Establish and enhance new and existing programs to further D&I initiatives within the Institute.

The FICPA would also like to recognize the members of this 15-person committee, including task force chair **Lydia Desnoyers** (Desnoyers CPA), FICPA staff liaisons **Donna Son** (Chief Operating Officer) and **Jennifer Allen** (Emerging Professionals Manager), and FICPA members **Carshena Allison** (BCA Watson Rice), **Ernest Almonte** (RSM), **Valrie Chambers** (Stetson University), **Marianela Collado** (Tobias Financial Advisors), **Michael Dupree** (Warren Averett), **Nancy Fitzgibbons** (Spoor Bunch Franz), **Tarsha Jacobs** (Tarsha R. Jacobs, CPA), **Nancy Juron** (Deloitte), **Robert Maya** (Kaufman, Rossin & Co.), **Key O'Keefe** (O'Keefe, Somerville & Associates), **Michael Reed** (LCG Capital Advisors) and **Eric Walton, Jr.** (City of Opa-Locka).

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About the FICPA

Founded in 1905, the Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants is the premier professional association representing CPAs in Florida.

With a membership of more than 19,500, the Institute's mission is to serve the diverse needs of its members, enhance their competency and professionalism, support professional standards, promote the value of its members, and advocate on behalf of the profession.