



CARMINES, ROBBINS & COMPANY, PLC
Certified Public Accountants | Business Consultants

Why you should be worried about the security of your bookkeeping and accounting records. What you don't know CAN hurt you, and cost you as well.

Below are several links to local cases where businesses have been terribly hurt and damaged by trusted employees, bookkeepers, and even accountants. You may have been aware of these at the time, but do you know how they can affect you? Many Dentists, Orthodontists and other Dental Arts Professionals have a key staff member who handles much of the deposit of collections as well as much of the bill payment responsibilities. Others, utilize an external bookkeeper who either does the work off site or comes in a couple of times a month to do the recordkeeping. In most cases, this is a satisfactory arrangement, however, we have run across innumerable situations where there have been problems ranging from tremendous penalties incurred by late or non-payment of tax bills or other liabilities, to the extreme of bookkeepers helping themselves to client funds. We have been an expert witness in three situations where defalcations of funds were involved. Additionally, we have had innumerable engagements where the client thought the bookkeeper was filing payroll reports and paying the tax liabilities, only to discover they were way behind the eight-ball with large penalties and levies being implemented on their accounts.

All of our employees are bonded. Most have professional licenses to protect. We as a firm, have a professional liability policy which is more than sufficient to assure that you are covered in any event. We have never had any issue with respect to timeliness of service, and certainly no issue with the honesty or professionalism of our employees.

In other cases we have had client's bookkeepers simply disappear and stop returning calls. In most cases, they had used the bookkeeper for some time without any apparent problem. Here are the cases which popped up with a very quick google search. The thing to remember is that in virtually every case, the victims got little or nothing as compensation for their damages.

BOOKKEEPERS HALL OF SHAME!

(Note none of these were CPA's)

Beach man sentenced for embezzling more than \$250,000

<http://hamptonroads.com/2010/08/beach-man-sentenced-embezzling-more-250000>

Indictment: Suffolk pair took \$2M for cars, boat

<http://hamptonroads.com/2009/01/indictment-suffolk-pair-took-2m-cars-boat>

Game company embezzlement was betrayal to family

<http://hamptonroads.com/2009/07/game-company-embezzlement-was-betrayal-family>

He claimed to be a CPA. He lied.

<http://hamptonroads.com/2008/04/he-claimed-be-cpa-he-lied>

Accountant Pleads Guilty To Embezzling

http://articles.dailypress.com/1989-11-18/news/8911180178_1_criminal-charges-newport-sentence

Accountant Gets 20-year Term In Embezzling Case

http://articles.dailypress.com/1990-01-19/news/9001190122_1_edwards-problems-sentencing-hearing-newport

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