



STEPHANIE M. ZALESKI-BRAATZ, CPA

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AUDIT MANAGER

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Stephanie has been with ORBA since 2012, beginning her career with the firm as a tax season intern. She has experience in both for-profit and not-for-profit industries. Her not-for-profit experience includes schools, museums, and other charitable organizations. As a member of ORBA's Employee Benefits Plans Group, Stephanie focuses on managing employee benefit plan audits. She also has experience preparing tax and information returns for not-for-profit organizations, individuals and corporations.

Stephanie is Co-Chair of ORBA's Community Outreach Committee and is a member of the firm's Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee and Women's Alliance Group. She also serves on the Board of Directors for the Illinois CPA Society.

SERVICES

Employee Benefit Plans Services
Audit Services

MEMBERSHIPS AND AFFILIATIONS

- American Institute of Certified Public Accountants
- Illinois CPA Society
 - Board of Directors

CERTIFICATIONS AND LICENSES

- Certified Public Accountant

EDUCATION

- B.S., Accounting, Purdue University
- Certificate, Entrepreneurship and Innovation, Purdue University

PROACTIVE

Stephanie makes sure she is always readily available to answer questions and concerns that her clients may have. She enjoys spending time interacting with clients and finding strategies that will help them solve their issues in the most efficient manner.

OUTSIDE OF THE OFFICE

In her free time, Stephanie loves to explore places in and around Chicago with her husband and sons. One of her family's favorite places to visit is the Chicago Botanic Gardens. They also love to try new restaurants and breweries. Stephanie enjoys traveling to new cities and visiting family and friends spread out across the country. She is also an aid reader and loves spending time gardening on her rooftop.

BLOGS

- *Despite the Potential Benefits, the Roth 401(k) Remains Underutilized*
- *How To Prepare for a 2021 Lease Audit*
- *What The Great Resignation Means for 401(k) Accounts*
- *New Lease Accounting Standard is Finally Here — Are You Ready?*
- *Audit Communications to Plan Sponsors More Robust Under SAS 136*
- *Sign Your Plan Document, Warns the IRS*
- *The Real Estate Industry Awaits a Return to Normalcy and Focuses on Tenants, not Valuations*
- *How to Handle Laid-Off Employees' 401(k) Accounts Still in Your Plan*

ARTICLES

GEN NEXT: Creating My Own Version of 'Having It All,' Illinois CPA Society Insight, Summer 2024.