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Washington SmartCEO Announces the 2015 CPA & ESQ Awards Finalists

*More than 40 accountants and attorneys to be recognized in
SmartCEO's CPA & ESQ Awards program*

Washington, DC (March 17, 2015) — Washington SmartCEO is pleased to announce the 2015 CPA & ESQ Awards finalists. The CPA & ESQ Awards celebrate the distinguished achievements of more than 40 of Washington's top accountants and attorneys. This year's finalists collectively generate more than \$8 billion in annual revenue and employ over 2,000 individuals. Finalists will be profiled in the May/June issue of *SmartCEO* magazine and celebrated at an awards ceremony on Monday, June 15, 2015 at the Bethesda Marriott.

Please see below for a complete list of finalists and for program details. To share in the excitement leading up to the event, follow us @SmartCEO #CPA&ESQAwards.

“No business can survive without its network of trusted advisors — those service professionals, including accountants and attorneys, who help Washington's CEOs attain new levels of success. These finalists demonstrate expertise and have implemented innovative processes to ensure success for their business clients,” says Jaime Nespor-Zawmon, President of SmartCEO Events. “SmartCEO is honored to share their stories of dedication to helping our region's businesses achieve their goals.”

The Washington CPA & ESQ Awards ceremony on June 15, 2015, is an expected sell-out event, where 150 local accountants, attorneys and guests will gather to celebrate their achievements. The event will kick off with a networking reception, followed by the awards ceremony and a final toast to the accountants and lawyers of Greater Washington.

About SmartCEO

SmartCEO's mission is to educate and inspire the business community through its award-winning magazine, connections at C-level events and access to valuable online resources. SmartCEO's integrated media platforms reach decision makers in the Baltimore, New York, Philadelphia and Washington, DC, metropolitan areas.





About the CPA & ESQ Awards

The CPA & ESQ Awards program honors the region's most enterprising accountants and attorneys for their leadership, accomplishment, innovation and success. An independent committee of local business leaders chooses the CPA & ESQ finalists based on the quality of nominations submitted. SmartCEO shares their inspiring stories in the May/June issue of *SmartCEO* magazine and celebrates their success at an awards reception in June.

Complete Program Information

2015 CPA & ESQ Awards

Date: Monday, June 15, 2015

Time: 11:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Location: Bethesda Marriott
5151 Pooks Hill Road, Bethesda, MD 20814

Attire: Business

2015 Washington CPA & ESQ Finalists

CPA – Rising Star

Ryan Crabbs

DeLeon & Stang CPAs and Advisors

Lindsay Andrews

Thompson Greenspon

ESQ – Rising Star

Tara Eliza Castillo

Alston & Bird LLP

Cassie Mathias

King & Spalding

Brian A. Benko

McDermott Will & Emery LLP

Christopher Edwin Hopkins-Gillispie

Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP

Mark J. Pak

Net eSolutions Corporation (NETE)

Sandra Brooks

Offit Kurman, P.A.

CPA – Industry Practice

Mark J. Ellenbogen

BDO USA, LLP

Chun Yeh

BDO USA, LLP

CPA – Industry Practice Cont.

Joseph M. English III

Burdette Smith & Bish LLC

Frederick White

Dixon Hughes Goodman, LLP

Sylvia J. Lagerquist

Haines and Lagerquist CPAs

W. Andrew Powell

Halt Buzas & Powell, Ltd.

James Scott Jr.

Penan & Scott, P.C.

Lawrence J. Hoffman

Raffa, P.C.

Michael Wetmore

Ryan & Wetmore, P.C.

Peter J. Ragone II

SC&H Group, LLC

Kola A. Isiaq

Williams, Adley & Company-DC, LLP

ESQ – Industry Practice

Barbara S. Kinisky

Centre Consulting, Inc.

Laurence E. Besignor

EagleBank





ESQ – Industry Practice Cont.

Jennifer S. Huber

Fluet Huber + Hoang, PLLC

Jack L. White

Fluet Huber + Hoang, PLLC

Sam Garbia

GarbiaPlocki, LLP

Scott Meza

Greenberg Traurig

L. Elise Diertech

Kutak Rock LLP

Allison Driver Rule

Marashlian & Donahue, LLC

Julian Haffner

McMillan Metro PC

Eric Horvitz

Odin, Feldman & Pittleman, P.C.

Fredric A. Press

Press & Dozier, LLC

Kathleen A. Kelley

Protora Law PLLC

ESQ – Industry Practice Cont.

Ayaz Shaikh

Sidley Austin LLP

A. Ari Ghosal

Whiteford, Taylor & Preston LLP

CPA Firm of the Year

Councilor, Buchanan & Mitchell, PC

DeLeon & Stang CPAs and Advisors

Kositzka, Wicks and Company

Raffa, P.C.

Ryan & Wetmore, P.C.

Tate & Tryon CPAs and Consultants

Williams, Adley & Company-DC, LLP

ESQ Firm of the Year

Fluet Huber + Hoang, PLLC

Marashlian & Donahue, LLC –

The CommLaw Group

Sidley Austin LLP

To find out more about the 2016 CPA & ESQ Awards nomination process, email us at DCprograms@smartceo.com. For information about sponsorship opportunities, email us at Washington@smartceo.com.

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