



To: Members of the Alaska Society of CPAs

From: Nominations Committee, Lance Bodeen, Chairman

Election of Officers & Directors

April 6th, 2021

The following are brief resumes and background information profiles on the nominees for the Officers and Directors of the Alaska Society of CPAs. Please review and use this information to aid in your selection of the persons you would like to represent the Alaska Society and you during the 2021 – 2022 term.

PRESIDENT-ELECT

Renee Bergeron, CPA, MBA

Renee Bergeron, CPA, MBA is a manager at Thomas, Head & Greisen, PC. Renee joined Thomas, Head & Greisen in 2017 and has been in public accounting since 2005. Renee started her career in public accounting at Kerr & McVey, LLC before spending 9 years at Laughlin Ogle & Rodgers, LLC.

Renee has a wide range of experience in tax services including complex individual, partnership, corporate, fiduciary and non-profit tax returns. In addition, she provides consulting services, with an emphasis in cannabis accounting, medical practices, controllership activities, and most recently compliance with CARES Act and PPP programs. Renee has published two industry articles for Alaska Business Publishing and is looking forward to continuing writing articles as time allows.

Renee is a graduate of the University of Alaska with a Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting, and earned her Master's Degree in Business Administration from Western Governor's University. She is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) and the Alaska Society of Certified Public Accountants (AKCPA). Renee currently serves on the board for the AKCPA.

TREASURER

Errol Russell, CPA

I became a student member of the AKCPA in 2013 and immediately joined the Technology Committee where I served since. I have served as a member of the board and am currently the Society's treasurer. I see the effect volunteering and involvement have on others feel privileged in my continued involvement with the society. I remember how involved my professors and employers were and how it influenced my professional career thus far. I hope to pay it forward.

I earned my license and became an AICPA member after passing my last exam in early 2016. Though my roots are in tax I am now the Chief Financial Officer for a commercial real estate investment and property management company based in Anchorage.

I grew up in Fairbanks, AK and attended UAF where I earned Bachelor degrees in both Computer Science and Mathematics. After some fumbling around in the wrong field I came to my senses and pursued a career in accounting instead, where I've since thrived. In my free time I am an avid World of Warcraft player. I know it sounds lame but that is how and where I met my lovely wife Teresa!

SECRETARY

JoLynn Blancher, CPA

JoLynn Blancher, CPA joined Laughlin, Ogle, & Rodgers LLC December, 2019. She received her bachelor's degree from UAA in 2001. She became a CPA in 2003. JoLynn works in public accounting for more than 19 years with a short transition to private companies for almost 3 years before coming back to public accounting. She missed client relationships, helping minimize tax liabilities, preparing taxes, and all the issues and challenges accompanying them.

She was born in Great Falls, MT and raised in MT and ND. JoLynn moved to AK in 1991. She raises Katie, age 15. Katie is growing into a wonderful, loving young lady. Their family includes 2 cats, Midnight and Aideen. JoLynn's son, Jeff (formerly Zack), is expecting his third child in July. Izabeaux Mabdh (Izzy) was born in March, 2020. His second daughter was born August, 2020. JoLynn is involved in her church, Katie's activities & school, and her community. She is on a continuous spiritual journey of self-improvement.

DIRECTORS

Michael Fink, CPA

I am a Partner in KPMG's Anchorage office with approximately 17 years of experience in both public accounting and private industry.

I have an extensive background in public company audits under PCAOB standards relating to both financial statement and internal control, as well as audits of private companies under AICPA standards. My industry experience includes providing services to a variety of companies in multiple industries, including the manufacturing, retail, and telecommunications sectors. Over the course of my career, I have worked as an internal auditor, an external auditor, and as a member of a management team as a controller level employee.

I have previously served on the board of directors of the Alaska Center and Abused Women's Aid in Crisis and currently serve on the University of Alaska Fairbanks School of Management Accounting Advisory Board and the Alaska Society of CPA's board. I live in Anchorage with my wife Claire, daughter Fiona, and our Vizsla dog Cherie.

Margaret Hernandez, CPA

Margaret was born in Juneau, AK and moved to Fairbanks when she was 12. She graduated from West Valley High School, which is also where she met her husband Shawn, and began studying at the University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF) shortly afterwards. She spends most of her free time with her family on their boat, skiing, or hiking.

Margaret graduated from UAF with a Bachelors of Business Administration in Accounting in May 2013. While attending UAF, Margaret was Treasurer of Great Alaskan Accounting People, the accounting student organization at UAF. She was also inducted into Beta Gamma Sigma, a premier honor society recognizing business excellence. In January 2012, she obtained an internship at Cook & Haugeberg, a public accounting firm. Upon graduating, Margaret assumed a full-time position where she was involved in a variety of tax and

attest services. After six great years in public accounting, Margaret accepted a position with Family Centered Services of Alaska as their controller, where she provides oversight and direction for the accounting and fiscal team. Margaret is also an adjunct accounting professor for UAF and teaches Intermediate Accounting II and Accounting Information Systems. In addition to teaching, Margaret is the faculty advisor for the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program.

Mrs. Hernandez is a licensed Certified Public Accountant and is currently a member of both the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the Alaska Society of Certified Public Accountants. She currently serves on the Board of Directors and finance committee for the Farthest North Girl Scout Council, and serves on the Board of Directors for Spirit of Alaska Federal Credit Union.

Dominique Kurth, CPA

Dominique joined Schneiter & Moad CPAs in July of 2018. She grew up in Anchorage and moved to the lower 48 in her early 20s to capture adventures living in Utah, Oregon, and Hawaii. During the late 90s she returned to Anchorage for a couple years and was hired as a receptionist by a local CPA. In 2003, she returned permanently to Alaska after concluding there is no substitute for the abundant opportunities provided in our great State. After a few years working a variety of jobs and building a bookkeeping client base, she decided to return to college to secure a more stable career with upward mobility in accounting. She graduated from UAA in Spring 2016 with a bachelor's degree in Business Administration with emphasis on Accounting and Finance. She excelled in her studies and was inducted into Beta Gamma Sigma, an international business honor society that recognizes top performing students. Dominique was active in Accounting Club during her time at UAA, serving as Vice President for one term, and continued to encourage and mentoring younger students long after graduating. In June of 2018 she became a licensed CPA in Alaska. She kept in touch with that local CPA throughout her early career and time at UAA. He pushed her to achieve more, a bachelor's degree instead of an associate, and then to go even further to meet the requirements to become a CPA. Eventually she was rewarded with her license and a position working with that local CPA, Mark Schneiter. Full-circle, 22 years later, she is learning about providing boutique tax advisory services to small businesses and their owners in our community from one of the most knowledgeable CPAs in our State. Mark's example of perseverance and dedication to our profession continues to push Dominique as she follows in his footsteps and becomes active in our local CPA society, keeping her on-track while our profession grows and adapts to the challenges faced by our profession in the years to come.

Mike Richards, CPA

Michael Richards, CPA was born and raised in Fairbanks, Alaska. He received a bachelor's degree in accounting from Point Loma Nazarene University in San Diego in 2000. Michael worked for the CPA firms Lipsey Millimaki in San Diego and Hagen Kurth Perman in Seattle before moving back to Fairbanks in 2007 to join RJG, A Professional Corporation. Michael became a licensed CPA in the State of Alaska in 2008 and became a partner at RJG in 2011. Michael has served on several nonprofit boards in the Fairbanks area including the United Way of the Tanana Valley and the Fairbanks Estate Planning Council. Michael's professional accounting experience has included performing attest services and tax return preparation for a variety of for-profit and nonprofit entities.

Steve Wadleigh, CPA

Mr. Wadleigh is a licensed CPA by the State of Alaska (Certificate #2768). Mr. Wadleigh is an Audit Principal in our Anchorage office responsible for review of financial reports and audit fieldwork. He joined Altman,

Rogers & Co. in October 1998. He has a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting. Steve graduated with honors from Vanguard University, California in 1996.

Mr. Wadleigh has many years of experience working with non-profit and governmental organizations, including financial compilations, reviews and audits as well as compliance audits in accordance with federal and state requirements. He has also assisted several governmental entities in obtaining the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting.

He has been a guest speaker at several non-profit and governmental organizations, where he has given speeches on the latest FASB and GASB updates as well as federal administrative and compliance requirements. He is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the Alaska Society of Certified Public Accountants, and the Governmental Finance Officers Association.

HAGELBARGER DIRECTOR

Stasia Straley, CPA

My name is Stasia Straley and I am running for the Hagelbarger Director position. I have been serving on the AKCPA board since June of 2014 and am currently serving as President of the Board. In addition, I have served on the AKCPA's Relations with Education Committee since 2012. I have been a member of the AKCPA since 2010 and a member of the American Institute of CPAs since 2004. Serving on the board has been such an honor, and I would appreciate the opportunity to serve as Hagelbarger Director.

I began my accounting career at KPMG in Anchorage, Alaska. After working at KPMG for several years and becoming involved in their training program, I began teaching at the University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA) full time.

Talking to students about the benefits of becoming a CPA has been an important part of my role here at UAA. In addition, I'm able to help students connect with the AKCPA, begin networking with accounting professionals, and to consider potential career opportunities as CPAs.

When not working or volunteering, I enjoy traveling both inside and outside of Alaska (when permitted, of course!).