

HOWARD P. VOGEL, MBA, CPA

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A Certified Public Accountant with an exemplary record of achievement in senior management positions within the professional services industry. A twenty year record of providing financial leadership in a Chief Financial Officer/Finance Director capacity. Superior communication skills, both verbal and written. A financial leader, problem-solver, and a team player well respected among the legal financial community.

CORE COMPETENCIES

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|------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Budgeting | Financial Presentations | Financial Analysis | Benefits Administration |
| Cash Management | Planning & Forecasting | Internal controls | Operations Management |
| Profitability Modeling | Tax Return Preparation | Financial Turnarounds | System Conversions |

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

MENDES & MOUNT, LLP

June 2005-September 2009

A boutique law firm with 137 attorneys and 170 support personnel specializing in insurance defense and professional liability litigation.

Chief Financial Officer (staff of 25 employees)

Responsible for all firm accounting services including financial analysis, budgeting, payroll, billing, collections, coordination of the year-end audit with Anchin Block, Federal and state partnership tax return preparation, and Indemnity reporting. Preparation of monthly financial presentations for both the partnership and Management Committee.

Achievements:

- Directed the reconciliation of a \$1.6 million "plug" in the Firm's escrow account preventing an ethics violation
- Reduced accounting staff compensation by 10% through cost containment and restructuring
- Increased Firm revenue by \$1.5 million by reducing its unidentified cash from \$1.8 million to \$300,000
- Automated the firm's daily cash report and automatic disbursement postings resulting in the saving of fifteen man-hours per week
- Implemented write-off guidelines and a new write-off form standardizing procedures throughout the Firm
- Prepared profitability models demonstrating the need to maintain the Los Angeles office
- Analyzed associate productivity (versus the Firm's 1,800 annual budgeted hours) and proposed a bonus structure predicated on billable hours exceeding a 1,850 hour threshold
- Coordinated with the IS staff in installing Elite's Extend product and a detailed policy based escrow system which resulted in greater dissemination of financial data to all Equity Partners
- Spearheaded a major collections effort designed to clean up old receivables and collect at least \$7 million

WILENTZ, GOLDMAN & SPITZER

January 1994-June 2005

A multi-practice law firm with 171 attorneys and 265 support personnel.

Chief Financial Officer (staff of 22 employees)

Responsibilities included financial analysis, profitability modeling, treasury management and collections, banking relationships, general ledger and regional office accounting, annual and strategic budgeting, tax return preparation, client intake, conflicts, client billing, accounts payable, payroll, pension administration and escrow management. Member of the firm's Strategic Planning, Accounts Receivable, Unbilled Time and Pension committees and project leader for IRS mandated accounting change from expense to client advance method. Finance liaison with building management regarding rent, escalations, and property tax issues. Responsible for the filing of the Firm's 5500's as well as the Federal and State Corporate returns. Coordinated 401k informational meetings and employee enrollments.

Achievements:

- Created an automated payroll journal entry with Ceridian.
- Developed team profitability models resulting in reallocation of firm resources and a 5% staff reduction
- Created the Collections Department resulting in collection of \$6.2 million in Accounts Receivable over 90 days old and developed the firm's Collection Plan and related procedures
- Created firm policies for standardizing business promotion, write offs, and special billing rates
- Introduced an automobile reimbursement policy allowing tax-free distributions to shareholders
- Project coordinator for the installation of the Source 550 Payroll/Human Resource system and the Wachovia

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WILENTZ (continued)

401(k) conversion resulting in benefit information on an online real time environment

- Consolidated 32 mutual funds under a third party recordkeeper resulting in consolidated benefit statements
- Project coordinator for the installation of the CMS Accounting system and the Legalkey Conflicts software conversion (Combined budget of \$1.3 million)
- Installed the Wachovia automated bank reconciliations system, FedEx Powership software, Executive Courier electronic downloads, and Precision Lookup saving a total of 15 man-hours per month of manual data input

DEWEY & LEBOEUF (formerly LEBOEUF, LAMB, GREENE, & MACRAE) June 1989-January 1994
An international law firm with 460 total attorneys.

Director, Financial Accounting and Tax Reporting (staff of 40 employees)

Responsible for firmwide financial reporting, budgeting, Federal and state partnership tax return preparation, partner distributions, capital accounts, budget analysis, branch office profitability analysis and compliance. Liaison with Ernst & Young in preparing and publishing the year-end audited financial statements. Monitored all firm operating accounts, firm loans, and short-term investments.

Achievements:

- Installed the Corporate Cash Management system in coordination with Citibank NA
- Project coordinator for the installation of the TMC Accounting system (now Elite)
- Installed system interfaces which automatically billed clients for taxi, American Express, and Federal Express charges originally keyed in by Data Processing
- Developed and implemented automated facsimile K-1s reducing the tax preparation cycle by one month
- Responsible for partner and employee pension investments, pension financial reports & 5500 filings
- Installed in conjunction with Ernst & Young, a recordkeeping system for the partners' Profit Sharing Plan which eliminated 10 man-hours quarterly and expanded the investment cycle from quarterly to bimonthly

DELOITTE & TOUCHE (formerly TOUCHE ROSS & CO.) April 1986-June 1989
A major "Big Four" public accounting firm providing audit, tax, and management advisory services.

Assistant Controller-National Office Financial Management/National Office Internal Auditor

Responsible for National Office financial reporting including cash management, preparation of consolidated financial statements, filing of partnership state tax returns, bank reconciliations inter-firm account analysis, monthly pension and insurance allocations to local offices, year-end schedules and review of profit plan variances. National accounting coordinator for Touche Holdings, a limited investment partnership. Participation in branch office audits ensuring compliance with Firm policies and Generally Accepted Accounting Principles.

Achievements:

- Implemented the partnership Capital Loan Program with Citibank NA (Merit Award recipient)
- Installed the Interplex cash management system in coordination with Manufacturers Hanover Trust
- Merit award recipient for efforts involved in streamlining preparation of state group partnership returns

EDUCATION and CERTIFICATIONS

MBA, Public Accounting-St. John's University
BA, Accounting/Finance-Queens College
Certified Public Accountant

Jamaica, New York
Flushing, New York
State of New Jersey

MEMBERSHIPS

Member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants
Member of the New Jersey Society of Certified Public Accountants
Member of the Association of Legal Administrators

(AICPA)
(NJSCPA)
(ALA)

SOFTWARE SKILLS

MS Office (2003 and 2007), Legalkey, Quorum 1500, Computrac, TMC, Elite, and CMS accounting systems, Ceridian Source 550 PR/HR and ADP Payroll systems