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Perkins & Co Continues to Expand Female Leadership Footprint

Portland, Ore. – Since its founding in 1986, [Perkins & Co](#) has been committed to placing women in positions of leadership, a commitment that started on day one with the company’s namesake, former founding partner, Cheryl Perkins. Today, Portland’s largest locally owned public accounting firm is excited to announce the promotion of [Paris Powell](#), [Lisa Zauner](#), and [Colleen Murray](#) from Senior Managers and Director of Operations, respectively, to Shareholders. In addition, Tax Senior, [Rosie Brammer](#), is one of just a few young CPAs nationwide to have been selected to attend the AICPA Leadership Academy.

Zauner joined Perkins & Co in 2008 and is a member of the firm’s [High Tech & Emerging Growth](#) and [Real Estate](#) practice groups. Her primary responsibilities include planning and performing audits and reviews for companies in the manufacturing and distribution, retail, insurance and professional service industries along any stage of the business lifecycle. Zauner’s professional and civic affiliations include the American Society of Certified Public Accountants, the Oregon Society of Certified Public Accountants—where she serves as Vice Chair of the Accounting and Auditing Project Committee. Additionally, she serves as a Board Member on the Finance Committee for the National Crime Victim Law Institute and for Rosemary Anderson High School. Prior to her accounting career, Lisa was a journalist in the Army and served in Korea and Kentucky (where she met her fellow Army journalist husband). Outside of the office, Lisa dominates the trail running scene; in 2015 she placed as top female in the Mary’s Peak 25K, and she’s completed Forest Park’s half marathon and Hagg Lake’s 50K Mud Run.



*Lisa Zauner, CPA, Shareholder,
Perkins & Co*

“Lisa has proven herself to be an invaluable member of our audit team,” stated Gary Reynolds, Shareholder and President. “I’m confident she’ll bring the same passion and excellence to our shareholder ranks.”



*Colleen Murray, MBA,
Shareholder, Director of
Operations, Perkins & Co*

Murray landed at Perkins in 2002, where she started as an HR Generalist and steadily worked her way up to Director of Operations (did we mention that she also obtained her MBA from the University of Portland while climbing Perkins’ corporate ladder?). She’s only the second non-CPA to obtain Shareholder status at the firm, and her duties include strategic planning and communications, project management, and leading or participating in most firm-wide operational, governance and firm management activities, in addition to overseeing the HR department. “Colleen’s rise through our ranks has been nothing short of extraordinary,” commented Reynolds. “She has been an exceptional HR leader and has already had a significant impact on our overall operations, governance and culture.” Additionally, Colleen’s passionate about employee empowerment and facilitating leadership for future



generations and will be launching an employee-run Leadership Council at Perkins to ensure that Millennials have an opportunity to do just that. Murray's professional and civic affiliations include the Society for Human Resource Management and serving as Board Member and Treasurer for Northwest Earth Institute. She was also an adjunct professor in organizational behavior at Portland State University. As a native Oregonian, it will come as little surprise that in her downtime Colleen enjoys dancing, stretching her mind and body at weekly yoga classes, and spending time outdoors kayaking and biking.



*Paris E. Powell, CPA, ABV, CFF,
Shareholder, Perkins & Co*

Powell joined Perkins' tax department in 2003, and we knew she'd be a future leader of the firm as soon as she stepped onto the Perkins stage. "We're very pleased to have Paris among our ranks," noted Reynolds. "From day one, she's displayed leadership skills and drive, along with her clear involvement in building and supporting the growth of Clark County at so many levels." After earning her Accreditation in Business Valuation and Certification in Financial Forensics, Paris waltzed her way into [business valuation](#). Today she co-leads the BV group along with our [Litigation Support](#) practice and is involved with the firm's [Beer, Wine & Spirits](#) practice group. In addition to all the work she does for the BV niche, Paris consults with our audit team on clients' fair value issues, and most recently pioneered the creation of our new [Business Transition and Succession](#) practice group. Paris has accolades, almost too numerous to mention, but include in 2014 being named a Washington State University Vancouver 25 Notable Alumni and a 2011 Outstanding Volunteer of the Year for their Foundation. She was also recognized by the Vancouver Business Journal as an "Accomplished Under 40" in 2009, and in 2012 was one of only 36 CPAs nationally bestowed the prestigious honor of attending the AICPA Leadership Academy. In addition to her dizzying number of industry association involvements, Paris is engaged in multiple civic organizations including her service on the WSU Vancouver College of Business Board of Advisors and as Immediate Past President of a local chapter of WSU Alumni Association. When not cheering on her Cougs, Powell loves to get out on the dance floor for some good two-stepping and swing dancing.

"We are so proud of our newest additions to our shareholder ranks. It's a clear indicator of the culture we've created from day one, starting with our founder's namesake, Cheryl Perkins," effused Reynolds.

In addition to our shareholder announcement, we are pleased to report another leadership appointment. Nominated by Paris Powell, [Rosie Brammer](#), Tax Senior, has been selected to attend the AICPA Leadership Academy. She is one of only 34 young CPAs in the nation chosen this year to attend this very important program. The Academy exposes the next generation of CPAs to a strong ethic of leadership and service while providing candidates with the strategies to become leaders within their organizations, communities, and the CPA profession. Supporting and giving back to the profession has always been a hallmark of Perkins, and we are delighted to continue to do so through Rosie's appointment. We see a future shareholder in the making!



*Rosie Brammer, CPA, Tax Senior,
Perkins & Co*

About Perkins & Company, P.C.

Perkins & Company, P.C. was founded in Portland in 1986 and has grown to be the largest locally owned accounting firm in Portland, plus the fourth largest of all accounting firms in Portland according to the Portland Business Journal's annual rankings. The firm has been voted eight times as one of the most



admired professional service firms in the area, according to the Portland Business Journal's Most Admired Companies vote. Perkins' entrepreneurial mission is to be an alternative to the national firms while focusing on the business needs of the region's closely held companies. Perkins specializes in a number of industries, including manufacturing, wholesale distribution, real estate, professional and creative services, high tech & emerging growth, beer, wine & spirits, dealerships, healthcare and nonprofits. The firm also provides services to public companies and is an independent member of the BDO Alliance USA, a nationwide association of independently owned local and regional accounting, consulting and service firms with similar client service goals. For more information, visit: www.perkinsaccounting.com.

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