



CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS & BUSINESS ADVISORS
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Vrakas/Blum Welcomes New Team Members

Brookfield, WI—The local public accounting and advisory firm of Vrakas/Blum, S.C. recently announced the addition of Spencer G. Gilman, Sara M. Johnson, Brian M. Kaker, Kevin T. Meffle and Julie M. Ripple to its professional staff.

Gilman joins Vrakas/Blum's audit department as a staff accountant. He previously served the firm as a tax and audit intern in 2009. Gilman is a 2010 graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, where he earned Bachelor's degrees in accounting and finance. He is a native of Portage, Wisconsin and currently resides in Wauwatosa.

Johnson joins the firm as a staff auditor in the audit department. She graduated in 2010 from the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, where she earned a Master of Professional Accountancy degree. Johnson also received a Bachelor's degree in accounting from the University. She is a resident of Big Bend, Wisconsin.

In Kaker's new role, he serves as a staff accountant in the firm's tax department. There he provides clients with tax return preparation services, as well as training on the alternative minimum tax (AMT) and year-end tax planning. Kaker is also a member of Vrakas/Blum's Trust and Estate Committee. He earned a Master of Professional Accountancy degree from the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater and is a board member of the honorary organization, Beta Alpha Psi. Kaker is a native of Cedarburg, Wisconsin and a resident of Milwaukee.

Meffle is also a staff accountant in Vrakas/Blum's tax department. He graduated with a Master of Professional Accountancy degree from the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater in 2010 and a Bachelor of Business Administration degree in 2009. Meffle currently resides in Brookfield, Wisconsin.

Ripple is a staff accountant in the audit department. She earned a Master of Professional Accountancy degree from the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater in 2010 and a Bachelor of Business Administration degree in 2009. Ripple is a former member of Beta Alpha Psi, an active member of the UW-Whitewater Alumni Association and Institute of Management Accountants (IMA), and a student member of the Wisconsin Institute of Certified Public Accountants (WICPA). She resides in Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin.

Vrakas/Blum, S.C. is a regional mid-market accounting and consulting firm based in Brookfield, Wisconsin. The firm specializes in serving closely-held businesses and their owners and offers a full range of services including: financial statement audits, reviews and accounting; tax planning and compliance; business advisory; investment advisory; merger, acquisition and divestiture assistance and consulting; business valuation and litigation support; business management software sales and consulting; and cost segregation. Vrakas/Blum, S.C. is a member firm of CPA



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