

National Academy of Public Accounting Professionals™

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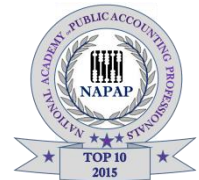
NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Long Beach Accountant Selected for Prestigious "Top 10" Accounting Award



Sept. 23, 2015 -- The National Academy of Public Accounting Professionals (NAPAP) has selected **Blake Christian, CPA**, of Holthouse Carlin & Van Trigt, LLP in Long Beach as one of the 2015 "Top 10 Public Accounting Professionals" in California.

"We are very pleased to recognize Mr. Christian for the second year in a row. His expertise, leadership and outstanding accomplishments in the field of public accounting have earned him this significant honor," says Paul Witte, Executive Director of NAPAP.

A primary charter of the National Academy of Public Accounting Professionals is to recognize and distinguish the Top 10 Public Accounting Professionals in each state. The accountants who make the NAPAP "TOP 10" list demonstrate an extensive amount of knowledge, skill, experience and success in the field of accounting. To achieve this award, the accountants must first be nominated by industry peers or satisfied clients. The nominees are reviewed by the NAPAP research committee, which evaluates each nominee's credentials against the award criteria, and compiles a list of finalists from which the NAPAP Board of Governors selects the Top 10. Selection criteria include education, years of experience, areas of expertise, certifications, publications, awards, leadership, and client satisfaction.

Christian is a tax partner with Holthouse Carlin & Van Trigt, LLP. He is a nationally recognized expert and frequent author and speaker on State and Federal Location-based Incentive Credits (LBIC's), including State Enterprise Zone Credits, Federal Empowerment, Renewal Community, Indian Tribal Lands and Gulf Opportunity Zone Credits. He has also assisted in the development of specialized software, which is used by over 200 tax departments throughout the U.S. to identify LBIC's. He is also a regular tax columnist for the AICPA Corporate Tax Insider Newsletter and a contributor to the Long Beach Business Journal's "Dollars & Sense" column.

Christian has lectured at a number of universities, including University of Southern California (Masters and Business Tax Program) and California State University, Long Beach (Annual Tax Conference) as well as various business and tax forums throughout the country. He has also been a technical resource for a number of news organizations, including USA Today, Los Angeles Times, KTLA News, Orange County News Channel, KNX News Radio, KFI Radio and various business journals.

Prior to his current position, Christian was a tax partner with the international accounting firm of KPMG Peat Marwick and also served as Tax Director with a Fortune 500 corporation.

Christian is a member of the Tax Division of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA), the California Society of Certified Public Accountants and Cal Chamber Tax Committee. He serves and has served on numerous community boards, including 2008 Long Beach Area Chamber of Commerce Chairman, 2011-2012 President-Elect of Long Beach Rotary, Vice-Chairman of the (post-bankruptcy) Orange County Treasury Advisory Committee, Long Beach Assistance League, Long Beach Symphony Corporate Circle, member of the City of Long Beach "Red Team" (Boeing C-17 project) and the city's Checkered Flag Team (automotive industry economic development).

Christian received a master's degree in Taxation from the University of Southern California and a bachelor's degree in Business Administration from California State University Long Beach.

Nominations for the 2016 NAPAP "Top 10 Public Accounting Professionals" and "Top 10 Public Accounting Professional Rising Stars" awards will be accepted beginning January 1, 2016. For details, visit www.napapweb.org.

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