



**Southeast**  
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**Connection**

**Tax Hiring News Digest**  
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## Regional CPA Firms in the Southeast Region Consolidate through Mergers

This year saw several mergers between regional public accounting firms. Charlotte-based Dixon Hughes Goodman, the largest firm based in the Southeast Region, merged with BKD, headquartered in Springfield, Missouri. The resulting firm was re-branded as FORVIS (combining the words 'Forward' and 'Vision'). Baker Tilly US LLP, a top-10 firm based in Chicago, acquired True Partners Consulting, which had a large presence in the Southeast Region. Rehmann, a top-40 firm based in Detroit, expanded into Florida by acquiring Vestal & Wiler in Orlando and Alonso & Garcia in Miami. Marcum LLP acquired Friedman LLP to create the twelfth largest CPA firm. Carr Riggs & Ingram, based in Alabama, acquired Atlanta-based Brown Nelms Co. Detroit-based firm UHY expanded into the Tennessee market by acquiring PHB of Franklin, Tenn. Top-50 firm RubinBrown made a tech investment by acquiring Himes Consulting Group, a provider of CRM (customer relationship management) and RPA (robotic process automation) services. RubinBrown previously acquired Liberty Technology, an ERP solutions provider.

### ***Recent Executive Tax Appointments in the Southeast Region:***

GoHealth urgent care in Atlanta appointed Wes Bond as Tax Director; he came from Cox Media ... The new headquarters of Honeywell in Raleigh added Meridith Weadon as Tax Director; she came from FORVIS ... SalesLoft in Atlanta announced the hiring of Jena Quinnell as Tax Director; from PwC ... Zelis Payment Solutions in Atlanta recruited Kelli Pruet as Head of Tax; she had previously been with Fusion Telecommunications ... Brown & Brown Insurance in Daytona Beach appointed Christopher McCann as Director of Tax; from KPMG ... Glatfelter in Charlotte named Tim Cobb VP Tax; from PRA Health Sciences ... LeasePlan fleet services in Alpharetta recruited Olga Hebert from BrandSafway as its Tax Director ... Pirelli Tires in Rome, Georgia appointed Jay Burlison as Tax Director; he came from Zep cleaning products in Atlanta ... EBSCO Industries in Birmingham added Scott Lusk as Tax Director; he came from Harbert Management Corp ... White Cap in Atlanta, the spin-off from HD Supply, recruited Frank Lai from Westrock as Director of Tax Reporting and Maria De Leon from Premiere Global as Director of Income Tax Compliance ... Kathy Wang re-joined Birla Carbon in Atlanta as Director of Tax; she had been at Novelis ... Chick-Fil-A in Atlanta appointed Keisha Lusane Miller Principal Tax Counsel; she came from WestRock ... Feld Entertainment (*Disney on Ice. Monster Jam*) in Sarasota named Angela Anderson as VP of Tax Planning and Compliance; she came from KPMG ... PGA TOUR Superstores, a licensee of the PGA TOUR owned by the Arthur Blank Foundation, appointed Jennifer Booth O'Kelley as Tax Director ... Raymond James Financial in St. Petersburg announced Shawn Joseph as VP of Corporate Tax; he came from Legg Mason ... Brightspeed internet services in Charlotte hired Erika Thompson as Tax Director; she was previously Head of Tax for Clariant Chemicals ... She was replaced at Clariant in Charlotte by Grant Savage, who had worked at Albemarle Chemicals ... Mohawk Industries floor covering in Atlanta appointed Janet Newlander Director of Tax Provision; from NCR Corporation ... NextEra Energy in Juno Beach, Florida hired Prince Stokely as Principal Tax Attorney; he came from Westrock in Atlanta ... Pratt Industries in Atlanta appointed Melissa Paulik as VP Tax; she came from Chart Industries ... Scientific Games in Atlanta named Mark Dwier VP of Tax; he was previously with Imerys ... TopBuild Materials in Daytona Beach, the largest maker of insulation, named John McCarthy as VP of Tax; he came from FieldCore, a GE Company in Tampa ... Oxford Industries in Atlanta hired Ashley Couey as its Tax Director; she had been at UPS ... Crown Laboratories in Johnson City, Tennessee appointed Chad Forsyth as Director of Global Tax; he came from Altium Packaging in Atlanta ... SIXT Rent-a-Car in Miami appointed Danial Garces as US Head of Tax; he had worked at Carnival Cruise Lines ... NCR Corporation in Atlanta recruited Yong Fang from Serta Simmons Mattress to serve as Executive Director of Tax Operations ... Mike McCoy left his role at Inspire Brands (*Arby's*) to take over the tax department at Asbury Automotive, a dealership chain in Atlanta ... Werner Company in Charlotte, a leading maker of ladders, recruited Martin Marquez from APR Energy in Jacksonville as its Global Head of Tax ... Flexport in Atlanta recruited Sean Moore as Tax Director; he had been with Mauser Packaging Solutions.

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