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*Photos attached*

## **Weaver Promotes 14 Professionals to Partner, Making the Largest New Partner Class in Firm History**

HOUSTON, TEXAS (June 19, 2019) – National accounting firm [Weaver](#), one of the 40 largest Certified Public Accounting firms in the United States, announced today 14 employees became new partners as of June 1, 2019 — the largest class of new partners in Weaver’s history.

Weaver CEO and Managing Partner John Mackel, CPA, said, “We’re proud to present the largest new partner group in Weaver history. Each of these 14 professionals has demonstrated outstanding dedication, expertise and leadership to our clients and employees. They represent many different service lines, industry groups and locations. We thank them for their commitment to Weaver and know each one will be integral to the firm’s continued success.”

In alphabetical order, these are the new partners with practice group and location:

- Jason Avila, CPA, Partner, Tax Services, Austin — Jason has more than 14 years of public accounting experience and four years of private industry experience. He has worked extensively with private and public clients on federal and state compliance, IRS exam representation, tax planning, tax provisions and transaction work. Jason is a CPA registered in both Texas and California. He graduated with a Master of Science in taxation and a Bachelor of Business Administration in accounting from California State University of Fullerton.
- Danielle Darley, CPA, Partner, Assurance Services, Los Angeles — Danielle provides assurance services to alternative investment funds and securities broker-dealers. She is responsible for leading the coordination, planning, supervision and completion of financial statement audits ranging from small to large, complex engagements. She also leads employee benefit plan services for our West Coast market. Danielle is registered as a CPA in both California and Texas. She earned a Bachelor of Science in finance from the University of North Texas and a Master of Science in accounting from the University of Texas at Dallas.
- Brittany George, CISA, CISM, QSA; Partner, IT Advisory Services, Dallas — With more than 15 years of IT advisory services experience, Brittany oversees the planning and performance of many of Weaver’s most significant IT controls engagements. Her current focus includes information and cyber security, System and Organization Controls (SOC) reporting, regulatory compliance (including Sarbanes-Oxley) and IT audits. A Certified Information Systems Auditor (CISA), Certified Information Security Manager (CISM), and a PCI Qualified Security Assessor (QSA), she earned a Bachelor of Business Administration in management information systems from the University of Oklahoma and a Professional Graduate Certificate in cybersecurity from Harvard University.

- Rebecca Goldstein, CPA, Partner, Assurance Services, Austin — Rebecca provides financial and compliance services to many of Weaver’s public sector clients, including local governments, nonprofit organizations, higher education institutions and state government agencies. She has significant single audit and compliance audit experience in Texas state government and higher education, as well as public employee retirement systems and employee benefit plans. Rebecca earned a Bachelor of Business Administration in accounting, with honors, from Southwest Texas State University.
- Robert Holzhauser, CPA, Partner, Energy Compliance Services, Houston — Robert provides U.S. Environmental Protection Agency-mandated compliance and consulting services for large energy companies such as Shell Oil Company, Chevron Products Company, BP, and other gasoline and renewable fuel groups. He earned his bachelor of business administration in accounting at Texas A&M University.
- C. Colby Horn, CPA, Partner, Assurance Services, Dallas — Colby has more than 12 years of experience in audit, accounting and consulting for both private and public clients, primarily in the real estate, hospitality and restaurant, and manufacturing and distribution industries. In addition to providing financial statement attestation services, Colby advises clients in all aspects of mergers, acquisitions, divestitures and due diligence. He graduated with a Bachelor of Science in accounting from the University of North Texas.
- Ryan Irby, CPA, Partner, Transaction Advisory Services, Dallas — Ryan and his team help clients research, prepare for and navigate through merger and acquisition transactions. A graduate of both Texas A&M and SMU, he has more than 13 years of experience performing merger and acquisition transaction-related due diligence and working capital analysis, dynamic financial statement modeling and corporate restructuring engagements across a wide variety of industries. Ryan is a member of the executive committee of the Board of Directors and Treasurer for the Association for Corporate Growth in Dallas/Fort Worth. He earned an MBA in finance and strategy from Southern Methodist University as well as a master’s degree in finance from Texas A&M University.
- Tom Massimi, CPA, Partner, Assurance Services, Fort Worth — Tom has more than 12 years of public accounting experience leading audit, review and consulting services for both public and private companies. He has substantial experience working with private equity-backed portfolio companies primarily in manufacturing, distribution, retail, oilfield services and construction. Tom graduated with a Bachelor of Business Administration in accounting and finance from Texas Tech University.

- Greg Peterson, Partner, Assurance Services, Conroe — Greg has 14 years of experience in public accounting for nonprofit and governmental entities. He has a background managing complex audits, including those with single audits over federal funds, as well as performing accounting research for complex transactions and assisting in implementing new accounting standards. Greg is actively involved in several industry organizations, including serving on the TXCPA School District Conference Committee. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in finance from Tarleton State University.
- M. Ashley Player, P.E., Partner, Energy Compliance Services, San Diego — Ashley has 10 years of chemical engineering experience, including consulting for the petroleum and renewable fuel industries and preparing independent engineering reviews. She joined Weaver five years ago to help lead and grow its Quality Assurance Plan (QAP) presence. A professional engineer, she earned a Bachelor of Science in chemical engineering from Clemson University.
- George Rendziperis, J.D., Partner, State and Local Tax Services, Austin — George has more than 15 years of experience counseling clients on a variety of state and local tax issues. He is experienced in the areas of income/franchise tax, sales and use taxes, excise and property taxes, and incentives and credits. George earned a Juris Doctorate from Michigan State University College of Law, a Master of Science in finance from Walsh College, and a Bachelor of Arts in economics and political science with a concentration in accounting from Albion College. Notably, he was a clerk to former Michigan Supreme Court Justice Marilyn Kelly.
- Phillip Smith, CPA, Partner, Assurance Services, San Antonio — Phillip has more than 12 years of public accounting experience leading staff and directing and managing client assurance engagements. He serves a wide array of industries, including healthcare, construction, oil and gas, manufacturing and distribution, and employee benefit plans. He earned a Bachelor of Business degree in accounting from North Georgia College and State University and a Bachelor of Science degree in justice studies from George Southern University.
- K. Shane Stewart, CPA, Partner, State and Local Tax Services, Dallas — Shane has more than 13 years of experience in state and local indirect tax matters with a focus on sales and use tax consulting services for all industries. He is responsible for leading Weaver's indirect tax service offerings, which includes developing and implementing strategic growth plans and overseeing service line quality assurance measures. Shane is a licensed CPA in both Texas and Virginia. He earned a bachelor's degree in finance from Texas A&M University.
- Marc Young, CPA, Partner, Tax Services, Midland — With more than 10 years of accounting experience, Marc's primary focus is on providing tax compliance and planning for clients in the energy industry. He has extensive tax and consulting experience in oil and gas exploration and production, midstream and service companies, as well as in the trucking, manufacturing, construction, retail and wholesale, equipment rental and service industries. He earned a Master of Business Administration from Eastern New Mexico University and a bachelor's degree in accounting from Utah Valley University.

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### **About Weaver**

Weaver has built a nationwide presence on an unwavering commitment to its clients' success, acting with integrity and always striving to transcend expectations. The firm has grown to be the 37<sup>th</sup> largest firm in the United States, according to *INSIDE Public Accounting*; it is also ranked the largest independent accounting firm based in the Southwest by *Accounting Today* magazine. Weaver employs more than 750 people in offices from New York City to Los Angeles.

From Fortune 500 multinational companies to start-ups, Weaver's clients include commercial, government and nonprofit organizations. The firm is particularly well known in the financial services, energy, manufacturing and distribution, construction, technology, real estate and health care industries, as well as the public sector. Weaver services go beyond traditional assurance and tax services to include risk advisory, transaction advisory, IT advisory, energy compliance and consulting, forensics and litigation services, and specialty tax services such as international tax, state and local tax and private client services. Learn more at [www.weaver.com](http://www.weaver.com).