

CUSTOM CONTENT

JULY 20, 2026

WOMEN OF INFLUENCE: ACCOUNTING



Many of the nation's leading fiscal thought leaders are based in the LA region and happen to be women. We've alphabetically listed some of the very best of them here, along with key information about their careers and relevant recent successes they've achieved.

Methodology: The professionals featured in these pages did not pay to be included. Their profiles were drawn from nomination materials submitted to the Los Angeles Business Journal. Those selected for inclusion were reviewed by the editorial department and chosen based on a demonstration of impact made on the profession and on the Los Angeles community.

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LORI ROCK
Managing Director
CBIZ

Lori N. Rock’s career is distinguished by deep technical expertise, sustained leadership, and a consistent record of delivering high-impact results for a broad range of clients. As a managing director in CBIZ’s California region, Rock has built a nearly 20-year career in public accounting focused on complex tax compliance and strategic business consulting. Her work spans both publicly traded and privately held companies across diverse industries—including retail, distribution, manufacturing, technology, and service sectors.

One of Rock’s most notable strengths is her specialization in accounting for income taxes and uncertainty in income taxes, highly technical areas that require precision, sound judgment, and a deep understanding of regulatory standards.



JACKIE SAWIRIS
Partner
Duffy Kruspodin, LLP

Jackie Sawiris, EA, MBA, MAFM, has established herself as a dynamic leader known for her strategic thinking, client advocacy, and commitment to advancing specialized advisory services. As a partner at Duffy Kruspodin, LLP, she plays an important role in shaping the firm’s future while helping clients address increasingly complex financial and business challenges.

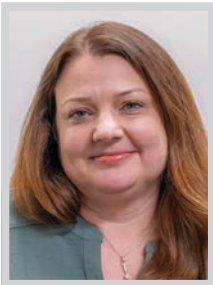
A major milestone in Sawiris’ career was her admission to partner in 2025, recognizing her leadership, professional accomplishments, and contributions to the firm’s continued growth. This achievement reflects years of dedication to serving clients, developing specialized expertise, and helping drive strategic initiatives across the organization. Sawiris currently oversees the firm’s Industry Specialization Group.



AMANDA SCHLANK
Partner, Assurance & Advisory
SingerLewak

Amanda Schlank joined SingerLewak in 2006 and brings extensive public accounting experience as an auditor serving privately held companies, publicly traded companies, and nonprofit organizations. She advises on complex accounting and financial matters, with areas of expertise that include internal controls, financing transactions, mergers and acquisitions, SEC compliance and reporting, and audits performed in accordance with the Uniform Guidance.

Schlank serves clients across a broad range of industries and is known for her practical, solution oriented approach. She excels at translating complex accounting requirements into clear, actionable guidance that supports strategic decision making and long-term business objectives.



KORI SCHNEIDER
Business Management Director
Lucas Horsfall

Kori Schneider first joined the Gettleson, Witzer & O’Connor (now Lucas Horsfall) team as an intern in the summer of 2003. Now as a director, Schneider works on a portfolio of business management and tax clients that includes leading Hollywood talent, both on and off camera, as well as successful real estate professionals and investors/entrepreneurs many of whom have been with her for over a decade.

Schneider experience and vast expertise in a wide range of fields enable her to serve as a trusted member of her clients’ professional advisory teams, working closely with their attorneys and investment brokers. She plays an integral role in such specialties as human resources and personnel management, budgeting and financial planning, estate planning, real estate acquisitions, project management and tax planning.



CYNTHIA SCHOELEN
Partner
BPM

Cindy Schoelen, partner at BPM LLP, is a transformative leader whose decades-long career has significantly shaped the accounting profession in Southern California. With more than 30 years of experience, her path from IRS agent to entrepreneurial firm founder to BPM partner reflects a rare combination of technical expertise, business acumen, and people-centered leadership. She is widely recognized for her ability to build lasting client relationships, develop high-performing teams, and guide organizations through periods of meaningful change.

Schoelen’s leadership has been particularly impactful during times of transition. She played a critical role in guiding her team through its 2023 combination with BPM, leading due diligence efforts and helping determine the strategic fit for the future.



CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE

Congratulations to Katie Hagen and Mary Ann Nguyen on being recognized in the Los Angeles Business Journal's 2026 Women of Influence: Accounting



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Katie Hagen
Director



Mary Ann Nguyen
Senior Tax Director