



MICHAEL J. KOVACS, CPA

DIRECTOR

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Michael has served as an accountant for closely-held businesses for more than 30 years. Michael has been with ORBA since 1986 and is the chair of the firm's Real Estate Group. He joined the firm as a tax season intern and became a director in 2000. Michael's work focuses on providing accounting, tax and business consulting services to mid-size companies in a variety of industries, including real estate, manufacturing and financial services. Michael is also one of the firm's experts in audits of employee benefit plans.

INDUSTRIES

Real Estate
Manufacturing and Distribution
Law Firms and Lawyers

SERVICES

Audit Services
Employee Benefit Plans Services
Real Estate Investment Accounting

MEMBERSHIPS AND AFFILIATIONS

- American Institute of Certified Public Accountants
- Association of Marina Industries
- Illinois CPA Society

CERTIFICATIONS AND LICENSES

- Certified Public Accountant

EDUCATION

- B.S., Accounting, Indiana University

PROACTIVE

Michael is hands-on with his clients, helping business owners to think strategically. He is also involved in helping his client's accounting departments understand the needs of the owners to ensure that they are all on the same page.

Michael is often involved in helping multi-generational businesses transition and operate successfully from one generation to another. A key element in Michael's ability to create successful transitions is his work at understanding and developing relationships with each generation.

OUTSIDE OF THE OFFICE

Navigating uncharted or rough waters is something that Michael enjoys doing outside the office, as well as inside. Introduced to the water early, he learned to water ski at three-years-old. He is a seasoned sailor and enjoys cruising Lake Michigan for as long as the Chicago season permits.

CIVIC ACTIVITIES

- Indiana University Alumni Association
- Member, Finance Committee, Chicago Yacht Club
- Treasurer, Chicago Yacht Club

SEMINARS & EVENTS

- *Real Estate Tax Planning in an Uncertain Tax Environment*, Chicago, IL, November 4, 2021
- *Legal, Financial and Tax Issues Affecting Real Estate in a COVID-19 Environment*, Chicago, IL, November 5, 2020
- *Tax Planning Strategies and Emerging Opportunities for Real Estate Professionals*, Chicago, IL, November 13, 2019
- *Tax Planning Trends and Tips for the Real Estate Industry*, Chicago, IL, November 15, 2018
- *Employee Benefits Update from Four Professional Perspectives*, Chicago, IL, October 27, 2016
- *Reducing the Most-Hated Expense of Marina Owners – Income Taxes*, "Association of Marina Industries" International Marina & Boatyard Conference, Tampa, FL, January 30, 2015
- *Employee Benefit Plan Design and Trends*, Chicago, IL, December 16, 2014

BLOGS

- *Which Plan Documents Must You Surrender if You Are Sued?*
- *2020 Lease Audit Spotlight Gain Clarity on Gross-Up Adjustments*
- *Watch Employee Turnover Rate to Avoid Partial Termination*
- *Can You Deduct Travel Costs to Monitor Real Estate Investment Properties? U.S. Tax Court Says Yes, Within Limits*
- *CARES Act Balancing Act: Helping Employees Recoup Retirement Savings*

NEWSLETTERS

- *Real Estate Group Newsletter – Summer 2019*
- *Real Estate Group Newsletter – Fall 2018*
- *Real Estate Group Newsletter — Fall 2015*
- *Real Estate Group Newsletter – Fall 2014*
- *Real Estate Group Newsletter – Fall 2013*

CLIENT ALERTS

- *CARES Act Issues Facing Real Estate Clients*
- *DOL Expands Retirement Plan Options for Smaller Businesses*