

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Berntson Porter Hires Chris Laine as Director of State and Local Tax Services

BELLEVUE, WASHINGTON – August 31, 2010 – Berntson Porter & Company, PLLC, welcomes Christine Laine, CPA, as Director of State and Local Tax (SALT) Services. Chris will provide compliance and planning services to business clients in relation to Washington State and local excise taxes and multi-state income, franchise, and sales and use taxes.



Chris' industry experience includes manufacturing & distribution, construction, real estate, professional services, retail and technology. She has worked with the Washington State Department of Revenue Stakeholder process to review administration of excise tax law and rules, including the construction joint venture stakeholder process, assistance with the re-drafting of Washington State rule on refund claims, and involvement with the tax avoidance and economic nexus rule implementation process. Chris has also represented clients before the Washington State Department of Revenue under audit and appeal situations.

"We are extremely pleased to welcome Chris to Berntson Porter," said Bob Berntson, co-founder and president. "She brings exceptional expertise in state and local tax compliance, reporting techniques, economic nexus and more. We know she's going to bring tremendous benefit to our clients."

Chris Laine has more than 15 years experience as a CPA and consultant. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Biology from Mercer University and a Bachelor of Arts in Accounting from Central Washington University.

About Berntson Porter & Company, PLLC

Berntson Porter & Company, PLLC, founded in 1985, is a premier Certified Public Accounting and business consulting firm based in Bellevue, WA. It serves closely-held businesses and their owners throughout the Pacific Northwest, Alaska and California.

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