

# Media Fact Sheet

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## LEADERSHIP

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**Kenneth Besserman**, Director of Government Affairs and Special Counsel

**Jerry Cross, CPA**, Director of Peer Review

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## TEXAS SOCIETY OF CPAS: CONNECTING. PROTECTING. ADVANCING.

### OVERVIEW

The Texas Society of CPAs (TXCPA) is a professional society representing Texas CPAs and finance professionals in public practice, business and industry, government and education fields, and future CPAs. Founded in 1915, the society empowers members to lead and succeed by promoting professional excellence, advocating on behalf of CPAs, and supporting a sense of community and connection among its members. With 20 local chapters and 28,000 members, TXCPA has one of the largest memberships of any CPA society in the U.S.

### MISSION STATEMENT

The Texas Society of Certified Public Accountants exists to support its members in their professional endeavors and to promote the value and high standards of Texas CPAs.

### OUR COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION AND BELONGING

TXCPA values the diverse contributions and talents of all its members. We are committed to promoting diversity, equity, inclusion and a sense of belonging in the workplace, in membership and in the accounting profession. Diversity includes, but is not limited to, race, gender, generations, abilities, orientation, and religious beliefs. (Adopted by the TXCPA Executive Board, 2020)

### PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

**TXCPA CPE Foundation, Inc.** — Founded in 1977, the Foundation provides more than 500 continuing education programs in a variety of formats to meet the needs of our members each year. CPAs are required by the [Texas State Board of Public Accountancy](#) to obtain 120 hours of continuing professional education credit within a three-year period, including an ethics requirement.

**Peer Review Program** — Created in 1989, this program administers a mandatory practice-monitoring program to more than 3,000 CPA firms in Texas. The Texas State Board of Public Accountancy requires that all CPAs engaged in the practice of accounting and/or auditing must do so through a registered practice unit and complete a peer review every three years.

### GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

**Accounting Profession, State Taxation and Business Issues** — TXCPA is the voice of CPAs at the Texas Capitol and all levels of government, working to advance and protect the accounting profession. TXCPA works to ensure state legislators and government agencies understand the importance of the accounting profession to the state economy and to make sure that the profession's opinions are respected and understood.

**CPA-PAC** — The CPA-PAC supports candidates, on a nonpartisan basis, that are supportive of the accounting profession and willing to listen to important member issues. The CPA-PAC monitors member feedback and candidates to ensure that PAC contributions advance the high standards of the profession.