

By Michael Cohn
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CBIZ acquires Shea Labagh Dobberstein



Courtesy of CBIZ

CBIZ, a Top 10 Firm based in Cleveland, said its subsidiary CBIZ MHM Northern California LLC has acquired the non-attest assets of Shea Labagh Dobberstein, a firm based in San Francisco, California, effective Sept. 1, 2021. At the same time, Mayer Hoffman McCann P.C., with which CBIZ operates an alternative practice structure, has acquired the attest assets of SLD.

SLD has offices in San Francisco, San Mateo and Walnut Creek, California, where it provides accounting, tax and advisory services. The firm has been in the San Francisco Bay area since 1944. SLD has 95 employees and approximately \$30 million in annual revenue. CBIZ ranked 10th on *Accounting Today's* 2021 list of the Top 100 Firms, with \$824.7 million in annual revenue. The firm has nearly 500 partners and nearly 4,000 employees. Financial terms of the deal were not disclosed.

"We continue to invest in opportunities across California as part of our long-term strategy to better establish our brand, increase our presence and expand our reach up and down the West Coast," said CEO president and CEO Jerry Grisko in a statement Wednesday. "In SLD, we found a partner with a complementary service and client mix, an expert team and a long-standing commitment to exceptional client service."

SLD expects to offer more services to its clients through the combination. "Joining CBIZ is an important step forward for our clients and team," said SLD managing principal James R. Dobberstein in a statement. "This move allows us to offer additional services to address client needs while providing growth and development opportunities for our team members."

Koltin Consulting Group CEO Allan D. Koltin advised both firms on the deal, "SLD was diligent in its efforts to identify the right partner that would enhance the client experience, expand opportunities for their professionals and continue to pursue growth," Koltin said in a statement. "SLD selected CBIZ because it checked all the boxes. The alignment on values and strong client focus made this a natural fit."

In April, CBIZ and MHM acquired **Berntson Porter & Company PLLC**, a firm in Bellevue, Washington. Last September CBIZ acquired substantially all of the assets of **ARC Consulting LLC and ARC Placement Group LLC** of San Francisco. CBIZ is expanding to the Pacific Northwest, with its subsidiary CBIZ Accounting, Tax & Advisory of Washington buying the non-attest assets of Berntson Porter & Company PLLC, a firm in Bellevue, Washington, effective May 1.