

Diane DeCesare, CPA, MT

ddecesare@taxwarriors.com

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Diane joined D&S in 1992 and became a shareholder in 1994. She has been practicing in the tax field for more than 30 years, and has developed an extensive background in tax, business, accounting and financial planning for corporations, partnerships and individuals. She has also acquired substantial experience working with closely held businesses, handling issues concerning the business as well as issues specific to the owners.

In some of her recent engagements, she has represented buyers and sellers in business purchase and sales transactions, provided for the planning and facilitation of these transactions, and provided litigation support in various divorces and other cases.

In addition to her role as shareholder, Diane has directed the college recruiting and staffing efforts at D&S for more than 20 years, serves on the firm's Executive Committee and chairs its Compensation Committee.

Diane began her career in the Philadelphia office of Laventhol & Horwath as a Drexel University co-op student, where she worked in the areas of individual taxation, real estate taxation and personal financial planning. Later, she headed the tax department of a Delaware Valley financial services group consisting of thirty companies involved in such areas as banking, mortgage servicing, leasing and construction.

Diane received a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration from Drexel University, where she majored in accounting and graduated with highest honors, finishing first in her class. She later earned a Master of Taxation from the Villanova Law School Graduate Tax Program, also finishing first in her class. She also received the Elijah Watt Sells Certificate for her performance with high distinction on the Uniform Certified Public Accountant Examination. Diane is a member of both the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the Pennsylvania Institute of Certified Public Accountants (PICPA). She is active in PICPA lobbying efforts to protect and grow the accounting profession. She is a member of the Board of Directors and Chairman of the Finance Committee for Saints John Neumann & Maria Goretti Catholic High School in Philadelphia, a member of the Board of Directors for XPX Philadelphia Exit Planning Exchange, a member of the Rowan University Advisory Board, a member of the Drexel Accounting Advisory Council, and a member of the Estate and Financial Planning Council of South Jersey.

Diane resides in Marlton, New Jersey, with her husband, Mark, and their two children. Mark operates Diane's Italian Water Ices in Voorhees, New Jersey, a successful business started by the couple in 1994. Their water ice has been named "Best of South Jersey" by *South Jersey Magazine* several times and has also been featured in the "Best Finds" section of *The Philadelphia Inquirer*.