



Lara A. Carter, CPA, CFE

Managing Director

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Certifications

Certified Public Accountant
(CPA)

Certified Fraud
Examiner (CFE)

Professional Affiliations

American Institute of Certified
Public Accountants

Texas Society of Certified
Public Accountants

Association of Certified Fraud
Examiners

Education

Masters in Business
Administration (MBA),
Louisiana State University

B.S. in Accounting (summa
cum laude), Louisiana State
University

Lara Carter is a managing director of Carter & Hatcher Consulting, LLC. Ms. Carter's case experience includes the application of financial, economic and accounting analyses in litigation and accounting investigation engagements. She has participated in analyses related to breach of contract, accounting malpractice, intellectual property, fraud, bankruptcy, product liability, securities class action and employment class action disputes. Ms. Carter has also analyzed various complex financial and accounting transactions, participated in employee interviews and collected and analyzed electronic data in conjunction with accounting/fraud investigations.

Ms. Carter's industry experience in dispute and accounting investigation matters includes the automotive, oil and gas, financial services, manufacturing/consumer products, construction, entertainment, legal and healthcare industries.

Prior to forming Carter & Hatcher Consulting, Ms. Carter was a Director in the Forensic and Litigation Consulting practice of FTI Consulting. Ms. Carter has also worked as an auditor in KPMG's Assurance practice based in Houston. While at KPMG, she audited both private and public companies and served as a member of the core audit team for KPMG's largest client in the Houston area.

Professional Experience

Forensic Accounting

- Assisted in the investigation of a multi-million dollar construction project to determine the use of funds appropriated to the project and to search for errors and/or fraud on the part of the contractor and related subcontractors.
- Analyzed revenue and inventory accounting and participated in employee interviews for a timber production company to determine if reserve amounts had been improperly recorded.
- Analyzed accounting transactions and underlying documents and participated in employee interviews to determine if documents had been altered to support the period of revenue recognition in conjunction with an internal investigation at an industrial manufacturing company.
- Traced over \$70 million in funds misappropriated by a company's CFO to identify the use of funds and any seizable assets purchased with the funds.
- Performed a forensic investigation prompted by the discovery of misappropriated client trust funds by a law firm partner to determine the extent and magnitude of the fraudulent activity.
- Performed a forensic investigation to determine the nature and extent of fraudulent payments made by an employee of an investment partnership.
- Analyzed collections and payments to assist in reconciling receivable accounts between a medical practice and its in-office medical infusion provider.
- Performed a forensic investigation prompted by allegations of a \$3.5 million misappropriation of funds and payroll fraud scheme in the industrial painting industry. Analyzed bank transactions of both parties, reviewed payroll records and related metadata and conducted employee interviews to evaluate the allegations and determine the nature and extent of any fraudulent activity; Issued expert report and demonstratives.

Contract Disputes

- Assisted in calculating damages associated with an individual's claim related to losses from investments in variable annuity investment contracts.
- Recreated complex contract accounting in a dispute between partners in a steel plate and pipe manufacturing company to determine the proper amounts owed to each partner.
- Analyzed commission and revenue statements related to insurance sales to determine if the appropriate commission amounts had been paid to certain sales representatives based on the complex commission rate schedules per the contractual agreement.
- Analyzed the fair value of over \$3 billion in healthcare receivables purchased and held by a healthcare financial services company in conjunction with its bankruptcy and subsequent litigation.
- Reviewed and analyzed documentation related to individual partners' claimed expenses incurred and paid personally during a business start-up to determine each partner's beginning equity in the company.
- Performed a business valuation calculation to determine the value of a business segment in conjunction with a partnership dissolution..
- Calculated economic damages, including lost profits, related to breach of fiduciary duty claims in a dispute between partners in an industrial polymer coatings and repair company; Issued expert report and provided deposition and trial testimony.
- Evaluated and recalculated Defendant's counter-claim of lost profits related to a breach of contract claim in the propane supply/distribution industry; Issued an expert opinion in the form of an affidavit.
- Calculated lost profits related to a contract dispute between the buyer and seller of specific use aesthetic treatment equipment; Issued expert report.
- Calculated lost profits related to claims of tortious interference and defamation of character by a cardiothoracic surgeon; Issued expert report and provided deposition testimony.

Securities Litigation and Accounting Malpractice Litigation

- Analyzed company and auditor documents for a large industrial equipment manufacturing company to determine whether or not senior management had knowledge of internal business factors or events that would render its communications of financial information and earnings per share projections to the public false or misleading.
- Assisted counsel in an accountant's malpractice case involving a large, government regulated financial services institution in which damages were alleged from the auditor's incorrect interpretation of accounting standards and negligent audit of the financial statements.
- Analyzed company and internal and external auditor documents for an entity restating its financial statements due to the discovery of a material weakness in internal control in order to determine when the material weakness could and should have been identified.
- Analyzed internal audit documents related to a lessee/lessor relationship to determine whether or not the lease audit had been conducted in accordance with Generally Accepted Auditing Standards as required by the terms of the lease agreement.

Other Litigation Matters

- Analyzed transactions between a major international company in bankruptcy proceedings and outside financial institutions to determine the structure, purpose and consequences of each transaction for litigation purposes.
- Assisted counsel with analysis of employment records for over 6,000 individuals in conjunction with a class action discrimination claim against a company in the casino/gaming industry.
- Assisted with the critique of opposing economists' and other financial experts' analyses and the development of alternative statistical and financial measurements of direct and consequential damages in conjunction with a product-warranty liability lawsuit.
- Assisted in the development of preliminary damages for a theft of trade secrets matter in the aerospace engineering industry.
- Researched and analyzed statistically factors affecting sales of a national chain fabric and crafts store.
- Analyzed the nature of the conveyance of a term overriding royalty interest to determine the proper accounting for the transaction under Generally Accepted Accounting Principles related to a bankruptcy claim.
- Reviewed and recalculated the consolidation of related-party entity financial information to determine whether or not contractual payout thresholds had been met for a group of oil and gas well and pipeline companies.

Accounting Consulting

- Assisted an investment company in the analysis and reconciliation of the books and records of its multiple entities and developed a process for the preparation of its consolidated financial statements, including required elimination entries.
- Consulted with numerous clients with day to day accounting needs including, but not limited to managing receivables and payables, processing payroll and related payroll reporting requirements, weekly and monthly management reporting and budgeting and forecasting. Provided accounting system set-up, process development and oversight, reconciliation of accounts and training.