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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LBMC's Nicole Jeppesen Named to Forbes' 2026 America's Best-In-State CPAs List

Chattanooga Leader Among Seven LBMC Professionals Recognized Nationally Reflecting the Firm's
Depth of Talent Across Tennessee

Nashville, Tenn. (May 14, 2026) -[LBMC](#), one of the nation's top accounting and business consulting firms, is proud to announce that [Nicole Jeppesen](#), Shareholder and [Chattanooga](#) Market Leader, has been named [to Forbes' 2026 America's Best-In-State CPAs](#) list. This prestigious honor places Jeppesen among a carefully curated group of accounting professionals selected through independent nominations and endorsements from leading CPA associations across the country.

Forbes' editorial team evaluates honorees against a rigorous set of weighted criteria including expertise, thought leadership, years of experience, and demonstrated service to community and profession. Inclusion on this list is reserved for professionals who have not simply mastered their craft, but who have elevated the standards of their field and inspired those around them.

Nicole Jeppesen's recognition reflects what Chattanooga's business community already knows: she is one of the most trusted, impactful, and forward-thinking advisors to high-net-worth individuals and families in the region.

About Nicole Jeppesen

Nicole has built her career around one of the most personal and consequential kinds of work in tax and financial planning - helping wealthy individuals and families protect what they've built, navigate what's changing, and thoughtfully pass on what matters most to the next generation. She specializes in tax compliance and planning for high-net-worth individuals and families, their related investment entities, and trusts, guiding clients through the full complexity of personal wealth: from multi-year income tax strategy and estate planning to trust structures and wealth transfer.

What distinguishes Nicole is not just technical depth in individual and family tax matters, though she has plenty of that. It's the way she engages. Wealth planning at this level is deeply personal. It involves goals, values, family dynamics, and legacy. Nicole understands that. She asks the right questions. She listens before she advises. She takes a long view on relationships, helping families think through not just what they own, but what they're building and why. That approach has made her one of the most trusted advisors to high-net-worth clients in the Chattanooga market, and that gets noticed by peers in the profession.

Nicole is also deeply invested in Chattanooga itself. She mentors emerging professionals, contributes to the region's business and civic community, and leads with the kind of quiet consistency that tends to outlast more visible forms of recognition.

"This is meaningful recognition, and I'm genuinely grateful. But honestly, what makes me think about is the team around me and the clients who've trusted us with the things that matter most to them. That trust is what we work for every day." — Nicole Jeppesen, Shareholder & Chattanooga Market Leader, LBMC

National Expertise. Local Teams.

One of the things that sets LBMC apart is the ability to bring national-caliber expertise to clients through advisors who are embedded in their markets and invested in their communities. Nicole's recognition is part of that larger story. This year, six additional LBMC professionals across multiple states were also named to Forbes' Best-In-State CPA lists, spanning audit, tax, deal advisory, and firm leadership.

That kind of breadth doesn't happen by accident. It reflects a firm that has been intentional about developing talent, building deep industry knowledge, and staying close to the clients and communities it serves.

Jim Meade, CEO & Managing Shareholder — Leads firm strategy, M&A, and technology investment with a focus on building a people-first, tech-forward firm. Active in Leadership Nashville and the Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee.

David Morgan, Co-Founder — Co-founded LBMC in 1984 and shaped the firm's culture for over 40 years. Recipient of the Tennessee Society of CPAs TSCPA Apex Lifetime Achievement Award.

Jeff Drummonds, Shareholder — Former CEO with deep expertise in tax strategy, M&A advisory, and private equity across healthcare, manufacturing, and technology. Recognized nationally as a Top 100 Financial Influencer.

Bill Meyer, Shareholder & Louisville Market Leader — Provides clients with expertise in tax planning, deal structure, due diligence, and financial growth strategies.

Courtney Bach, Board of Directors & Shareholder, Audit — A national audit leader and board member whose work spans clients and industries across the firm's full geographic footprint.

Lindsey Franks, Manager, Tax, Knoxville — Brings focused tax strategy expertise to clients in the East Tennessee market.

About LBMC

LBMC is one of the Southeast's largest accounting and business consulting firms and a nationally recognized top 35 firm serving more than 14,000 clients with diverse needs across a spectrum of industries. Primary client groups include privately-owned and private-equity-backed middle market companies in the healthcare, manufacturing/distribution, real estate, and technology spaces. LBMC leverages advanced business intelligence and AI technologies to drive growth, efficiency, and strategic insights for our clients. Founded in 1984 as a traditional accounting firm, LBMC today is an industry leader in audit, tax, advisory, technology, human resources, and wealth advisory services for businesses and individuals. LBMC has more than 1,000 team members, with offices in [Nashville](#), [Chattanooga](#), [Knoxville](#), and [Memphis](#), Tennessee; [Louisville](#), Kentucky; [Charlotte](#), North Carolina; [Philadelphia](#), Pennsylvania; Chennai, India (a subsidiary of LBMC); and a dedicated Remote Office supporting clients nationwide. For more information on LBMC's experts and comprehensive services, [visit our website](#) or call 615-377-4600. [Discover career opportunities](#) and learn more about how LBMC's services and culture can support your business goals. Connect with us on [LinkedIn](#) for the latest insights on talent, client engagement, and business growth.