



LOCAL FIRM
NATIONAL KNOWLEDGE
GLOBAL REACH

GROWING WITH INTENTION WHILE MAINTAINING SIGNATURE EXCEPTIONAL CLIENT EXPERIENCE

By Laura Watkins, Marketing & Public Relations Manager

Accounting Today recently named BMSS the third fastest-growing accounting firm in the United States with a “scorching growth” rate of 51 percent for 2018. In their 2019 Top 100 Firms report, they listed BMSS as the third largest CPA firm in Alabama, ranked by 2018 revenue. In the same week, *The Birmingham Business Journal* listed BMSS as the third largest accounting firm in the state of Alabama based on the number of local professionals.



Make no mistake, this “rapid growth” did not happen overnight or without a steadfast focus on prioritizing clients and maintaining intentional, values-based relationships both internally at our firm and within our local communities.

YOU CAN'T KNOW WHERE YOU'RE GOING UNTIL YOU KNOW WHERE YOU'VE BEEN



Nearly 30 years ago, Keith Barfield, Don Murphy and John Shank took a leap of faith and left a large, local firm to establish a new type of public accounting firm. Their vision was to create a business where exceptional client experience was a priority while still providing a work-life balance for its employees. Thus, the accounting firm that “stands out from the herd” was created. Shortly thereafter, Steve Smith came on board to round out the firm’s tax practice and add the fourth name to Barfield Murphy Shank & Smith.

Over the past two decades, the firm has experienced tremendous client growth in addition to an expansion of its Alabama footprint, now boasting six offices strategically placed throughout the state of Alabama with **30 partners** and approximately **225 employees**. Auburn and Opelika-based Himmelwright Huguley & Boles, P.C. merged with BMSS in January of 2017, followed by Gadsden’s Hindsman, P.C. in 2018 and, this past January, Huntsville-based Hall Albright Garrison & Barnes.

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AUBURN | BIRMINGHAM | GADSDEN | HUNTSVILLE | OPELIKA



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Right: Auburn/Opelika Team Members

Bottom Left: Huntsville Team Members

Bottom Right: Gadsden Team Members



NEW NAME, NEW WEBSITE

With all the changes and new faces, it seemed appropriate to refresh the firm name so that it would pay homage to our roots while no longer being based on individuals. So, on January 1, 2019, we refreshed our logo and released our new name, BMSS, LLC, to the public. The reception has been overwhelmingly positive.

At that time, we also launched a new website – still located at www.bmss.com – which is optimized for displaying videos and responsive to all devices. The site showcases our employees in the “Our People” section and provides a bevy of information detailing the industries and services we can provide for our clients as well as pertinent information clients and prospects may find useful.

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BMSS has great depth of experience in a variety of industries, including Manufacturing & Distribution, Construction, Real Estate, Nonprofit, Government & Municipalities and Government Contracting, to name a few. In addition, we provide a variety of services that go beyond traditional accounting and auditing such as State & Local Tax, Private Client Services and System and Organization Control reports. The new website provides relevant news and information for each niche (industry or service).



INDUSTRIES

Construction



You make critical decisions every day in managing your projects and your people, but do you have the time to control the bigger financial management issues facing your business? Our goal is to provide sound advice to the general contractors, subcontractors and home builders we serve by developing solutions for the more complex business management needs of the construction industry. Our professionals have been serving clients in the construction and contracting business since the establishment of our firm. We provide decades of experience with a vast array of knowledge relating to the issues you face every day, such as bidding, estimating, project financing, bonding, cash flow and cost recovery. We can help you minimize tax liability, maximize banking and bonding capacity and plan for future growth. Our engagement team will quickly become your go-to resource for financial guidance and planning.

Additional services beyond the traditional CPA firm are available through our family of companies – [Abacus Technologies](#), [Payroll & Benefit Solutions \(PBS\)](#) and [BMSS Wesson Wealth Solutions](#) – ensuring human resource, information technology, wealth management and PEO needs are met.

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Just as in 1991, BMSS remains unwavering in its goal to create peace of mind by providing uncommon professional service for all. We treat each client as if they are our most important client and will not sacrifice our clients' exceptional experience in the pursuit of growth. We remain small enough to value personal relationships yet large enough to offer specialized expertise and service.

As Founding Member John Shank said, ***"We aren't after growth for growth's sake but as a means to add valued services to clients while attracting and retaining top talent."***

To learn more about our niches, our offices and upcoming events, follow us on social media: [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [Twitter](#).