

Katherine A. Puffer
CPA/ABV, CPCU, MBA
Curriculum Vitae

- Credentials** Licensed Certified Public Accountant
Accredited in Business Valuation
Certified Property and Casualty Underwriter
- Education** MBA, University of Chicago
Graduate School of Banking, University of Wisconsin
BS Business, Carlson School, University of Minnesota
ASA Principles of Valuation Courses
ASA Uniform Standards of Professional Practice
IBA Report Writing and Analysis
NACVA Corporate Valuation—Theory and Application
IBA Excellence in Expert Witnessing Skills
CTI Matrimonial Litigation Support Workshop
PPI Appraising Family Limited Partnership Workshop
Basic Interdisciplinary Collaborative Training
AICPA National BV Conference, 2006
AICPA/AAML National Conference on Divorce, 2010
Illinois CPA Society Estate & Gift Tax Conference, 2007
Illinois CPA Society Mergers & Acquisitions Conference, 2007
Illinois CPA Society Family Law Conference, 2007, 2010
Illinois CPA Society BV Conference, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012
Center for Conflict Resolution Performance-Based Mediation Skills Training
Institute for Divorce Financial Analysts – 2012 National Conference
Institute for Divorce Financial Analysts modules 1 through 4
Consultants’ Training Institute, Expert Witness Bootcamp, November 1-3, 2018
2018 AICPA Expert Witness Skills Workshop September 26-29, 2018
- Range of Experience** Over 40 years of financial and business valuation experience. Deposition and trial testimony. Served as a financial officer of a Fortune 100 company for over 10 years.
Business valuation experience includes the following industries: financial services including public adjusting firms and insurance agencies, investment firms, restaurants, printing services, agricultural related businesses, dairies, computer industry, electronics industry, manufacturing, professional and medical practices, medical clinics, personal and business services, amusement and recreation including shooting ranges, retail, event management, advertising, trade associations, distributors, day care centers, funeral, startup businesses, franchisers, telecom, nursing home, HVAC, transportation, marinas, nurseries and landscaping and real estate holding companies. Valuation work includes family limited partnerships, intellectual property, shareholder disputes, contract disputes, marital dissolution, estate and gift, purchase price allocation, C to S corporation conversions and transaction related valuations.

232 E 14th Street, Unit 4e
Chicago, Illinois 60605
(312) 235-2866
kpuffer@vhvaluations.com
www.vhvaluations.com

Business Valuation Experience

Ms. Puffer provides business valuations, business consulting services and testimony for trial lawyers and accountants and the clients they represent. She performs business valuations for matrimonial dissolution proceedings, shareholder dissent and oppression matters, estate and gift tax purposes, contract disputes, purchase price allocation, C to S corporation conversion and transaction related valuations.

Representative engagements include the following:

- ◆ A \$20 million manufacturing company with 3 foreign subsidiaries for a family law services matter.
- ◆ Forensic accounting related to the disposition of \$1.8 million in assets for a family law services matter.
- ◆ A \$57 million manufacturer with 4 distinct business units in conjunction with estate and gift tax planning.
- ◆ A \$130 million distribution company with a \$9 million transportation subsidiary for a family law services matter.
- ◆ A start up electronics firm involved in a shareholder dispute. This engagement required the valuation of a pending patent.
- ◆ A \$10 million high growth health service system design company in conjunction with the award of stock to employees.
- ◆ A \$13 million contract dispute involving a hedge fund.
- ◆ A high growth agricultural services company to support purchase negotiations with an international suitor.
- ◆ Valuation of an investment management company to settle an IRS dispute. The IRS accepted appraisal without exception and the deduction was allowed to stand as filed.
- ◆ A \$25 million manufacturer to establish value at the date of C to S corporation conversion.
- ◆ Valuation of a trademark and related franchises for FAS #141, business combinations, reporting.
- ◆ Valuation of a civil engineering firm for purposes of negotiating a sale.

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Professional Organizations American Institute of Certified Public Accountants

Addresses and Publications “*Insider Tips on Purchasing or Selling a Business: Why is it important to get a business valuation when planning for a sale or transition of your business?*” presented to Chicagoland Entrepreneurial Center, Women’s Business Development Center, November 2007,

“*Business Valuation Basics*” presented to Norwest MAP group, January 2008

“*Best Practices in Business Valuation*” presented to Samurai Executive Networking Group, May 2008

“*Maximizing the Value of Your Business by Managing Your Working Capital*” Kensington M&A Monitor, January 2009

“*Proving Economic Damages: The BP Oil Spill and Beyond*” Commercial Law League of America Southern Regional Conference, February 2011

“*Fighting over Value in a Business Divorce*” webinar produced by West Legal Ed Center and Financial Poise, March 6, 2013, February 19, 2014, January 14, 2015, February 17, 2016 and January 19, 2017

“*Nuts and Bolts of Lost Profits Cases*” webinar produced West Legal Ed Center and Financial Poise, April 10, 2014, March 11, 2015 and March 16, 2016

“*Beyond the Obvious: 10 Things You Can Do to increase the Value of Your Business*” webinar produced by The University of Chicago Women’s Business Group, May 8, 2015

“*When to Engage a Business Valuator*” Family Lawyer Magazine, August 25, 2015

“*Business Valuations in Divorce: A Study of Issues and Challenges*” webinar produced by Association of Divorce Financial Planners, August 24, 2016

“*The Basics-Working with an Expert*” webinar produced by Financial Poise, February 28, 2019, February 27, 2020

April 2021

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