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Jan. 17, 2013

Two Connecticut accounting firms have announced their merger. Guilmartin, DiPiro & Sokolowski, LLC, of Middletown, and Lipman & Company, PC of Hamden, have combined practices.

The principals of the second firm, Michael B. Lipman, CPA and Cathy J. Forsberg, CPA, have joined the staff at GDS. Lipman has a background in general practice accounting with expertise in tax preparation for small businesses and business owners. Forsberg has a specialty in nonprofit auditing as well as general business accounting and business tax return preparation.

"We are excited to welcome Lipman & Company to the GDS team," says Mike Sokolowski, partner at GDS. "The merger will help us to expand our capabilities in the Greater New Haven region and enhance our ability to provide the highest levels of specialized expertise to our clients."

"We have had an outstanding working relationship with the partners and staff at GDS for many years," says Forsberg. "We share a philosophy of excellent client service and are confident that this merger is a win-win opportunity."

Forsberg is a past president of the Rotary Club of Hamden and the recipient of the prestigious "Service above Self" award from Rotary International, an award given to fewer than 150 Rotarians each year out of a membership of 1.2 million. Lipman has served on various boards of directors for nonprofit organizations including Marrakech, Inc., Habitat for Humanity of Greater New Haven and the Hamden Chamber of Commerce. Both have professional affiliations with the Connecticut Society of CPAs and the American Institute of CPAs.

In addition to their careers in accounting, Lipman and Forsberg are founders and

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