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Director

Johnson will bring a wealth of association management experience to the NJCPA as she transitions from her role as executive director of BKR International's Americas Region.

Isaac M. O'Bannon • May. 02, 2023



The [New Jersey Society of Certified Public Accountants](#) (NJCPA) has named Aiysha (AJ) Johnson its next CEO and executive director. She will replace Ralph Albert Thomas, CPA (DC), CGMA, who is retiring June 30 after more than 23 years leading the organization.

Johnson will bring a wealth of association management experience to the NJCPA as

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performance improvement company, supporting members with complex benchmarking needs. Throughout her career, she has organized meetings domestically and internationally, convened CEO roundtables, and led organizational change and governance efforts, technological transformation and member development.

“It is an honor to continue to support the profession and build upon the amazing success of my predecessor. My experience at BKR International has equipped me with the knowledge to understand current challenges facing the profession globally,” said Johnson. “The NJCPA remains strongly positioned to support CPAs and accounting professionals. I look forward to working closely with constituents and our members to ensure that their needs are represented and addressed.”



Aiysha Johnson.

“We could not be more excited to have AJ at the helm. She is well-versed in the accounting profession globally and in New Jersey,” said Kathleen F. Powers, CPA, CGMA, chief financial officer at Chelsea Senior Living and the 2022/23 president of the NJCPA. “She is knowledgeable about how CPAs can strengthen their organizations and personal brands.”

Johnson recently served on the University of Chicago’s Alumni Board, and previously served as the vice president and director-at-large of the Chicago Women’s Alliance. She has volunteered as a professional coach for students in the college and was the Crown Family School’s New York Alumni Regional Chair.

She earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Health Education and Promotion at Western Illinois University and a Master of Arts degree at the Crown Family School

of Social Work, Policy and Practice at the University of Chicago. She also completed

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