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James D. Matthis, III, CPA, MAC

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Aside from the accounting websites, which blog/website do you consider a must-read?

Wall Street Journal. It's important to have a diverse knowledge of what's happening in the world

In what ways have you contributed to your firm/company to make it better?

My most significant contribution to my firm is acting as the main change agent. Constantly evaluating how you do things, and why, is a tough but necessary task; and one that I welcome.

In what ways do you participate in the professional community to change/improve the accounting profession?

I am actively involved in our state association in order to promote our profession, designation, and association in our state. As a current member of our state association's Member Engagement Team, we are responsible for analyzing how to promote more active involvement from our members and better support our profession.

In what ways do you participate in your local community to help others?

I dedicate a certain portion of my time each year to pro-bono non-profit work, and support various civic and professional organization in my community. I am also an active member of my local church.

What changes do you foresee in the accounting profession of the near future (3-5 years)?

I foresee that accounting firms will evolve to provide other services than those traditionally offered. Firms will also be forced to adapt to a more flexible work structure with their

employees and clients, as technology and the immediacy of information continues to change

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Build upon your successes, learn from your failures. Always be content, but never be complacent.

Describe one person who has been an important mentor to you and how that person helped change your life.

My father has had a huge impact on my life, both personally and professionally. He is also a CPA, and has been a huge source of wisdom and guidance throughout my career. He constantly pushes me to break through any perceived limitations I may place on myself or my company.

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