

From risk to managing partner

ina Valorz joined Steven Bankler's CPA firm in 1996 and Bankler Advisory, the investment advisory service of Steven Bankler's CPA firm, in 2001. Today, Valorz is the managing partner for **Steven Bankler CPA Ltd**. She was elected to the position in 2020.

Gina graduated from Thomas A. Edison High School before enrolling at UTSA where she earned her Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting degree. "My mother always stressed the importance of education and being able to take care of myself. I enjoyed the accounting class I took in high school and after doing a little research, I realized it was a career path that would enable me to support myself as well as a family."

At the time, UTSA was basically a commuter school. Gina drove to and from school every day, working part-time her junior and senior years. She joined a few clubs during her time at UTSA and was in the Alpha Lambda Delta honor society.

Gina and her husband David, both on their second marriages, have been married a little over 10 years and have a blended family. She has two sons. David has one son and one daughter.

Together, they have one dog, a chihuahua/beagle mix. Her name is Cassie. They adopted Cassie from a rescue about 10 years ago and according to Gina, is the family's little princess.

As managing partner of Steven Bankler CPA Ltd., Gina is responsible for managing the operations of the firm, which includes the firm's financial performance, personnel, business development and more. Along with the members of their executive committee, Gina is



Gina Valorz, Managing Partner, Steven Bankler CPA Ltd.

working on taking Steven Bankler CPA Ltd. to the next level while also maintaining their company culture and creating a lasting foundation that will carry their firm into the future.

"I enjoy working with our staff. Our firm has grown so much so rapidly that it's been a challenge to manage the change, but it's also been a joy. They each offer different experiences and perspectives, which enables growth, both professionally and personally.

"We've serviced construction clients for as long as I've been with the firm, which is 25 years now. Construction clients have unique tax and accounting challenges. For example, a lot of contractors use the cash method of accounting but don't realize that if they use the completed contract method they won't pay tax until their contracts are essentially complete. Working with a knowledgeable CPA can be a critical part of business success."

Two people have influenced Gina over the years. One was a CPA that she worked for while still in college. "She is the person who convinced me that I needed to sit for the CPA exam, become a CPA and settle for nothing less." The other mentor is the founding partner of their firm, Steve Bankler. "He hired me 25 years ago. He was a little hesitant because, at the time, I had only stayed for two years at each place I worked. You could say he took a risk with me, but it turned out well, and I've been here ever since. He has helped me to grow, take chances and be confident as a leader in the firm."

For relaxation and fun, Valorz enjoys date night with her husband, walking the dog, getting together with family, UTSA football games and Spurs basketball games. -cmw