



**SPOTLIGHT**  
ASSET GROUP  
*Illuminate Your Options*

## Company News



Our company is growing! In the past quarter we've added two managing directors to our team. We are pleased to introduce Brad Tatar as the Managing Director of our new Tampa Bay office and David Tsow as the Managing Director of our new San Diego office. We also welcome three interns at our Chicagoland headquarters for the summer: Taylor Honaker, Alex Galica, and Nate Ascolani. Spotlight now has 18 full-time team members in seven locations across the country, with nine managing directors managing over \$325 million in client assets.

## Spotlight on Chief Financial Officer Bethany Riesenber, CPA

I live in Lemont, Illinois, a small town about 30 miles southwest of Chicago. I was originally born in San Diego, California and was a Navy brat for the first few years of my life. We moved to Honolulu, Hawaii when I was one and then moved to Joliet, Illinois when I was four. My parents couldn't agree on whether to stay in Hawaii or move back to California, so they compromised and came back to snow and family in the Midwest.

My husband Tom and I have been married for almost seven years and we have a daughter, Amelia, who is

15-months old. Amelia has a mind of her own and always keeps us on our toes!

My favorite movie is *The Sound of Music*. I also enjoy the Harry Potter movies. My husband and I really enjoy the Sherlock series on PBS and I also enjoy *Big Bang Theory* and *Parenthood* re-runs.

I generally listen to alternative music, including bands like Bastille, Mumford & Sons, Foster the People, and Vance Joy.

My favorite food is anything with pasta, like mostaccioli with vodka sauce. I also have a big sweet tooth for anything fruity (apple pie, cherry pie, banana bread, etc.).

My favorite vacation is a tie between a trip to Bora Bora and a river cruise in Germany. Bora Bora was relaxing and I was able to sit in the sun and read all day, which is my dream vacation. However, I also love history and I was able to see so many amazing sights in Germany.

Chasing my daughter around is what keeps me busy! If I have any downtime, I love to read any genre, but my guilty pleasure is romance novels, as I



love how they all have happy endings!

What I love about my job is working with a team of extremely talented people who make coming to the office enjoyable. I also enjoy the variety in my job – if I was only working with numbers and doing accounting, I'd get bored quickly! Lastly, Spotlight is structured in way to allow for flexible work schedules and a work/life balance, which with a new daughter is incredibly helpful. It is amazing to be a part of a company that supports women as both executives and mothers, and where my opinion is always valued.

## Market Update



- Strong gains for the month of June led U.S. markets higher for the second straight quarter, sending the S&P 500 to a record high.
- Concerns around US trade policies caused a selloff in May only to rebound in June with the S&P 500 posting an 18% year-to-date return.
- Investors found relief in the G20 talks as the U.S and China suspended additional tariffs and resumed trade negotiations.
- Volatility increased slightly in the second quarter, with both bonds and stocks adding to gains.
- Performance is being helped by central banks' willingness to continue accommodative policies to sustain the now 10th year of economic expansion. After setting a record high in April, the S&P 500 declined significantly in May – posting the first negative month of the year – only to set new all-time highs by the end of June. Foreign markets moved in a similar pattern and all major global indices are positive for the year after a strong finish in June.
- In the face of choppy waters throughout the month of May, equity markets rebounded in June to create positive results for the second quarter. Large companies composing the S&P 500 added 4.3% over the last three months, sending the index to another record high. Mid-size and smaller companies did not fare as well, adding less than 2% over the same period.
- Despite continued turbulence resulting from escalating trade wars between multiple countries, a more accommodative posture from the Fed improved investor sentiment. Foreign stocks, specifically those within the EAFE Index (Europe, Australasia & Far East), added nearly 4% for the quarter. Bonds continued their steady rise, adding another 3.1% within the Barclays Bond Aggregate Index (AGG). This topped an equally impressive first quarter and leaves the bond index up just under 6% year-to-date.
- Large swings in investor sentiment and unforeseen announcements from trade policymakers lead to the overall choppy experience. Risks remain as we enter the third quarter, including the prospect of another government shutdown without a debt ceiling compromise, limited progress with China on trade negotiations, and the potential for an economic slowdown.

