

2015 Best Firm



“Be yourself,  
LEARN EVERYTHING  
you can about  
BUSINESS,  
ask for what  
YOU WANT AND  
communicate.”

SUZANNE LOZANO

Principal

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BEST CPA FIRM FOR WOMEN 2015

# Suzanne Lozano

Women Leaders in Accounting



## Meet Suzanne

My husband, John, and I have been married 19 years. We have 14-year-old triplets, Alyssa, Alec and Tyler. Alyssa is a dedicated, competitive dancer and I enjoy spending time with her at out-of-town dance competitions. Our sons are involved in a variety of sports including soccer, basketball and track. As a family we enjoy spending time together and taking beach vacations whenever we can. I am passionate about community service. Currently, I am involved with Peace Lutheran School and Church and serve on the board of the Mid-Michigan Children's Museum.

I am an Ohio State alumni and devoted fan. After college, I worked six years in private accounting in Ohio. In 1999, I started at Yeo & Yeo and began my career in public accounting.

## Tell us about your career with Yeo & Yeo

My career path has been interesting. I always knew that I wanted to be an accountant, but I wasn't sure about working in public accounting. After college, I began my career in private accounting and obtained my Certified Public Accountant license in Ohio.

After moving to Michigan and working in private accounting, I began looking for a more challenging and fast-paced position. I became aware that Yeo & Yeo was looking for staff accountants and after researching Yeo & Yeo, decided to pursue a position at the Saginaw office.

I will admit initially I did not enjoy living in Michigan and was planning to only stay for a few years. After I started to work at Yeo & Yeo things began to change. My co-workers at Yeo & Yeo embraced me and I immediately made new friends. I began creating a strong foundation of trusted clients and became involved in the community. Today, I am very happy living and working in Michigan in public accounting and with Yeo & Yeo. I love working with my clients and helping them achieve their business goals.



## Suzanne, describe a time where Yeo & Yeo's work-life flexibility positively impacted you.

I love the flexibility I have working at Yeo & Yeo. I have to maintain a healthy balance of work-life flexibility. I have triplets, a husband and personal hobbies. Need I say more?

Yeo & Yeo provides me with the ability to set my schedule for work and also be available for my family. I am able to attend the many school and extracurricular activities for my children.

I work hard and prioritize my work and family to enjoy the flexibility that Yeo & Yeo provides. It is a give-and-take; sometimes work needs to be a priority but other times family needs to be the priority. I think it is important to make work and your personal life work well together. Work-life integration is going to be different for everyone at different times of their lives.

## How does Yeo & Yeo encourage the advancement of your career and how are you helping develop future leaders?

I was one of the first CPAs with private accounting experience that Yeo & Yeo hired to be on the partner track. I felt it was important to show that private accounting experience was a benefit to Yeo & Yeo and to myself. I have encouraged others who are on the same path.

One way that I assist in the development of future leaders in the firm is by helping women and men with young children figure out how to make work and home successful. This combination is difficult to come by and although there is not one solution, I can give guidance and show by example how I am able to successfully integrate work and home.

I also am a member of our Career Advocacy Team (CAT Team) which is designed to continually seek out ways to make Yeo & Yeo more rewarding for men and women. In addition to my placement on the CAT Team, I encourage all our staff to get out of their comfort zone and do things that will benefit themselves and Yeo & Yeo. I believe that engaged employees make great employees and I will do all I can to help our staff achieve their goals.

## What challenges have you faced as a woman in accounting and how have you overcome them?

I am fortunate to say that I have not faced challenges in my career simply because I am a woman. Throughout my career I feel I have been compensated equally, I have not been discriminated against and I have not been segregated. Yeo & Yeo has been a fantastic firm for women and my story is a testament to the opportunities available. We value each employee, their strengths and their ideas equally. A person's gender does not have any bearing on their success in this firm. So while my story is a testament to why our firm is a great place for women, my story equally serves as an indication to why our firm is a great place for men.

## What is your favorite motivational quote and best advice you have ever received?

Choose someone for your partner who wants an equal partner. My husband is an amazing husband and father and he equally supports my home and work ambitions.

Live intentionally – be grateful for the blessings you have, work hard for the things you want and help others every day.

*Yeo & Yeo is among 10 firms named to the 2015 Accounting MOVE Project Best Public Accounting Firms for Women list, conducted by Wilson Taylor, [www.wilson-taylorassoc.com](http://www.wilson-taylorassoc.com). Follow Yeo & Yeo on LinkedIn and Facebook as we profile women leaders within our firm through September.*