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Special edition: Long Island's top professional and business leaders offer their predictions for the coming year. Their forecasts might surprise you.



CAROLYN MAZZENGA

**Long Island Partner-in-Charge
Marcum**

"2015 was a very good year for Marcum. As a result of the strengthening economy, there was considerable activity among our clients – more mergers as well as organic expansions – which meant a greater need for tax strategy and business planning services. We expect this trend toward growth and expansion to continue in 2016, although it remains to be seen what impact the Federal Reserve's recent rate hike may have on our clients. We remain cautiously optimistic, which has been our general mindset, as well as our clients', since the end of the recession. In the accounting business, we are fortunate in that our baseline work is recurring. We can project our staff needs and model our business accordingly. But periods when our clients are investing in their growth, such as we have seen in 2015, can be the difference between good years and great years. Their expansion is an opportunity for us to expand the services we provide them, both in planning for and managing their growth."