**Tom Quinn – Bennett Thrasher April 12, 2024** 



## REIMAGINE NOW

LEA GLOBAL NORTH AMERICAN REGIONAL CONFERENCE

C00/CFO/Controller Collaboration group



### Today – C00/CFO/Controller group

#### **Run of Show**

- "State of Your Firm" LEA/Inside Public Accounting (IPA) Survey 9:00 -10:30 AM
- Coffee Break Coffee Break 10:30 10:50 AM
- Technology Implementation Use Cases
  - Dayshape: AI assisted planning and scheduling platform 10:50 11:00 AM
  - Aiwyn: Payments/Collections & Practice O/S Platform 11:00 11:30 AM

### **Strengthening our Alliance**

- Steering committee agenda -"an eye toward fostering greater partnership & collaboration"
- Share our accomplishments What worked/What didn't, Become a resource, Specialties
- LEA/Inside Public Accounting (IPA) Survey 3 key Questions
  - Strategic Changes made in 2023
  - Strategic Changes planned for 2024
  - Top 3 firm challenges in 2024
- Results in August 2024 Polled our member firms (shout out to Carla)
- I will share BT's survey responses and then split into breakout session

## Strategic Changes made in 2023

**LEA / IPA Survey** 

- Transitioned the firm from a fiscal to calendar year-end.
- Moved into the Denver market & expanded Dallas footprint.
- Executed M&A as a new growth strategy. Closed first acquisition (Denver).
- Re-instituted Client "convenience fee" charge on credit cards. Implemented AIWYN payments and collections solution. Added Administration & Technology Fee.
- Initiated a partner <u>Draw reduction/Draw recovery</u> plan to instill business/collection accountability.

## Strategic Changes planned for 2024 LEA / IPA Survey

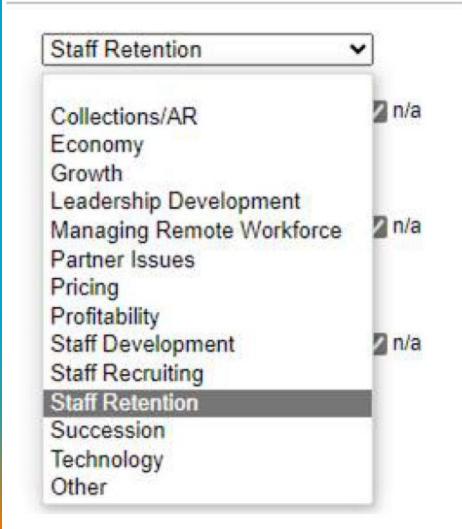
- Launched two new service lines: BT Finance Executive Search & BT Fund Administration. \*
- Invested in resource scheduling capability/AI with Dayshape\*.
- Evaluating investment in engagement letter automation capability.
- Invested in Partner dashboard reporting (Power BI) as a toolset to provide real-time data/metrics to manage their books of business effectively.
- Operational initiatives: Accountability for billable hour goals, Revamped nonbillable time entry, Workforce planning tools, Write-downs, "D" Client Culling, Rate increases for 2024-25.

Completed \*

# Top 3 firm challenges in 2024

**LEA / IPA Survey** 

- Staff retention
- Technology
- Profitability



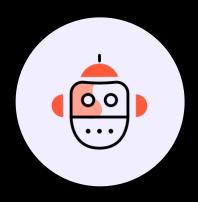
#### **Breakout Session**

- 3-4 equal groups at each table
- Discuss with your group and list your top 4-5 responses for each of the three questions
- Take 20 Minutes at the tables to answer the three questions
- Use the next hour to present and discuss the responses
  - Need a scribe (Participants Name, Role, Firm), table responses
  - Each group will present answers for question 1 and we will have discussion period.
  - Repeat until we have completed all three questions

## Dayshape: Al planning/scheduling platform

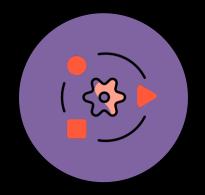
- Takes the heavy lifting out of scheduling by surfacing suggestions & opportunities that enable use to make choices capably and efficiently (Scheduling Role, Traits, Reporting)
- Promises to unlock greater utilization and realization.
- The integration with Star (PMS) bolsters efficiency, when it comes to reporting.

#### WHY FIRMS BUY DAYSHAPE



**AI-POWERED** 

Resource Allocation



**AUTOMATED** 

Budgeting & Project Controls



#### **DATA INSIGHTS**

Project Financials & Reporting





What is the "right" resourcing decision?

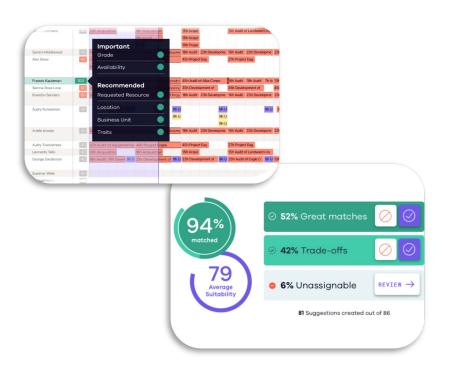






### Al-powered resourcing

Proven global-scale scheduling engine



- Increase and balance utilization
- Improve efficiency and reduce time to staff
  - Assess suitability of entire workforce in seconds
  - Advise: Surface suggestions or automate allocation decisions in seconds
- Maintain an optimal workforce plan at all times
- Attract and retain talent
- Unlock proactive and strategic resourcing

# The goal: elevating resource management into a force for growth

#### Grow Revenue

- Efficiencies at scale
- Increase utilization by more effective deployment of staff
- Win more business
- Free billable staff from administrative resourcing
- Bill more by reducing write-offs
- Budget more effectively and consistently
- Spend more time on the most profitable engagements
- Strategic decision making

#### Improve working lives

- Improve client service
- Deliver rewarding careers and retain top talent
- Reduce compliance risks



### The future: next-level resource management

Can you forecast engagement financials and help the business get it back on track? Can you provide revenue forecasts that are based on your resource plan? Can you optimize the schedule for employee skill preferences (or other factors) and explain the impact on margin?

Can you inform project pricing?

Can you inform hiring or sales strategy?

Tactical



### **Practice OS Platform**

Pat Morrell – Chief Revenue Officer & Co-founder

# Thank you!

