

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Kristen French

Founder, Grace Financial Management

Kristen French brings nearly 30 years of finance and accounting experience to Grace Financial Management, with a career spanning Controller, Vice President of Finance, and Head of Finance leadership roles. Her experience includes privately held, private equity-backed, and public-company environments, as well as businesses navigating rapid growth, acquisitions, operational change, and increasingly complex accounting needs.

Throughout her career, Kristen has been responsible for building and leading accounting functions, strengthening financial processes and controls, improving month-end close and reporting, managing cash flow, and helping businesses create the structure and financial discipline needed to operate with greater confidence. Her work has included financial reporting, accounting operations, accounts receivable and payable, billing, payroll, budgeting and forecasting, and financial compliance.

She has worked extensively with external CPA firms on tax and audit engagements — from preparing supporting documentation early in her career to ultimately leading the company's side of the process and helping select external audit and tax firms. That experience gives her a strong understanding of what CPAs need from their clients and how to keep an engagement organized, accurate, and on schedule.

She has also led and supported significant periods of business change, including acquisitions and financial due diligence, a business carve-out, ERP selection and implementation, accounting team development, and the design of more scalable processes and systems. Her systems experience includes Microsoft Dynamics 365, NetSuite, and QuickBooks.

That experience now informs the work she does through Grace Financial Management: helping business owners establish reliable accounting foundations, bring greater structure to growing operations, and access experienced financial leadership when they need it.

EDUCATION & PROFESSIONAL CREDENTIALS

MS Finance, Bentley University · BS Business Administration, UMass Lowell · QuickBooks ProAdvisor