



CPA & ESQ AWARDS

The advisors you need to know
Honoring New York's top
accountants and attorneys **PAGE 30**

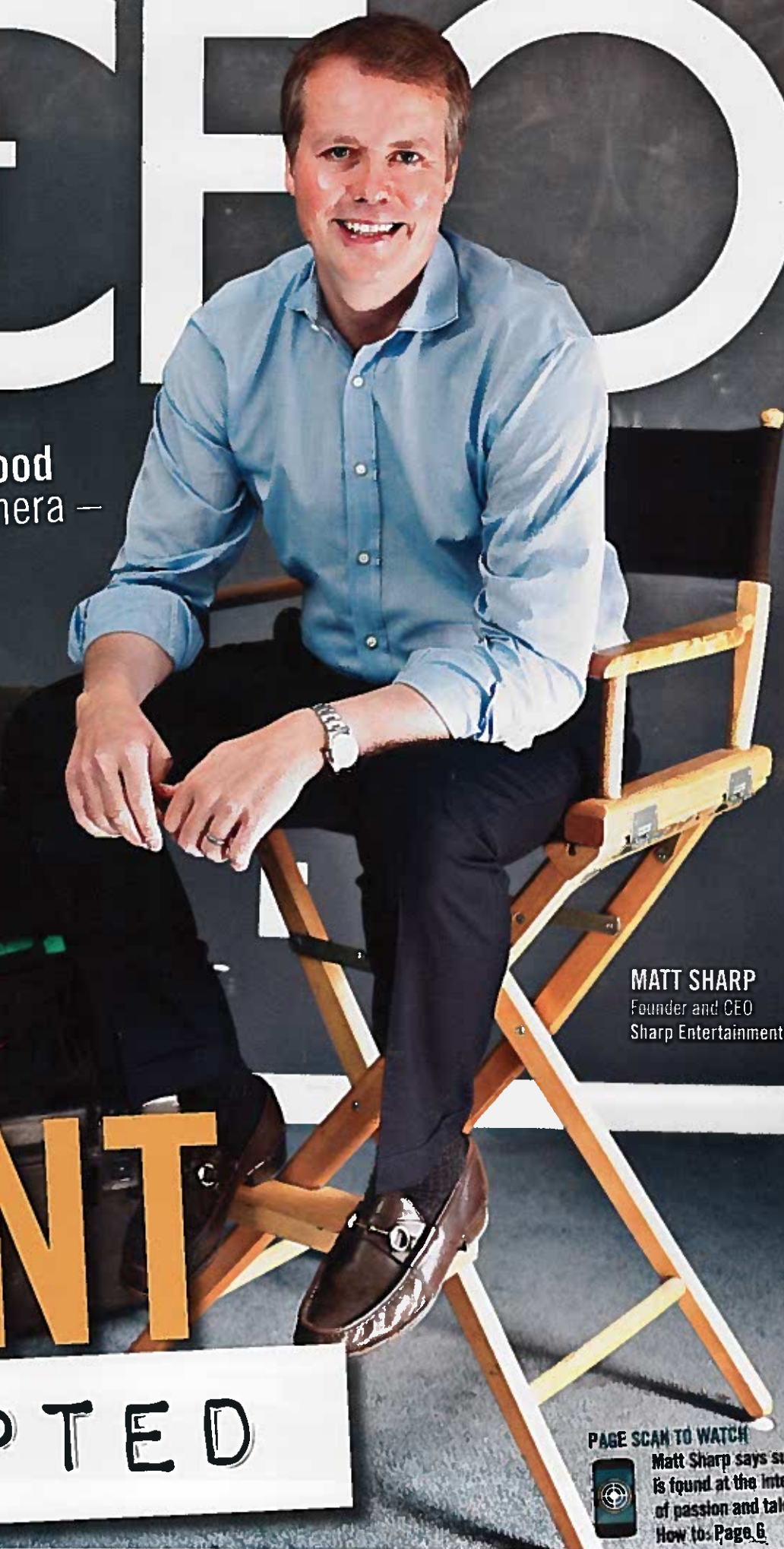
July/August 2014

NEW YORK

smart

activating ideas for growth

CEO



How the makers of **Man v. Food**
find stars in front of the camera —
and behind the scenes

+

Is a culture clash
costing you A players?

The pros and cons
of partnerships

Ready, fire, aim?
Business planning mishaps

MATT SHARP
Founder and CEO
Sharp Entertainment

TALENT

UNSCRIPTED

PAGE SCAN TO WATCH
Matt Sharp says success
is found at the intersection
of passion and talent.
How to: Page 6

LAW FIRM OF THE YEAR

ESQ

SmartCEO's CPA&ESQ Awards



**BERKMAN BOTTGER
NEWMAN & RODD, LLP**

**JACQUELINE NEWMAN
MANAGING PARTNER**

Location: New York, NY

ONE OF A KIND: Berkman Bottger Newman & Rodd, LLP is a boutique New York divorce law firm, concentrated exclusively in the area of family and divorce law. It is the only Manhattan firm that specializes in litigation, mediation and collaborative law.

WELL-ROUNDED: The firm offers specialists in all three processes of divorce (litigation, mediation and collaborative law). The firm is not a one-size-fits-all type of law firm, which is rare for a divorce law firm in New York City.

BREAKUP BREAKDOWN: Jacqueline Newman and her team were working with two people that could barely sit in a room together, and no one thought collaborative law was the best route for them. But by bringing in coaches and using a team approach, they settled the case at the end of the day. In the end, the clients believed they could get to a point of understanding and respect for one another, which didn't seem attainable at all in the beginning of the process.

WINNER



WHITE HARRIS PLLC

**JOSEPH H. HARRIS
PARTNER**

Location: New York, NY

LABOR OF LAW: White Harris represents businesses in employment disputes involving the misclassification of employees as independent contractors, failure to pay overtime, discrimination, sexual harassment and hostile work environments. The firm practices in New York State and federal courts, as well as before administrative agencies.

PROACTIVE ADVISOR: White Harris acts as an advisor to businesses on how to proactively reduce their risk of employment lawsuits and government investigations. The firm audits its clients' compensation and payroll practices for compliance with state and federal wage laws, counsels businesses on how to engage independent contractors and advises businesses on how to develop and implement employment policies, among other things.

CELEBRITY SAVER: When a New York business, two supervisors and the CEO were threatened with a lawsuit for sexual harassment, White Harris was put to the test. To make matters worse, one of the defendants was a celebrity, sensitizing the situation. If the lawsuit was filed it could have seriously damaged the business, destroyed the reputations of the individual defendants and potentially jeopardized the career of the celebrity defendant. By interviewing former co-workers of the plaintiff and through 14 hours of confidential mediation, they settled the case for less than 20 percent of the original demand.



**WITHERS BERGMAN
LLP**

**DAVID A. STEIN
PARTNER**

Location: New York, NY

IN A NUTSHELL: Formed following a merger in 2002, Withers Bergman LLP represents a significant number of the wealthiest individuals and families in the U.S., Europe and Asia. About half of the firm is dedicated to wealth planning around the world.

INTERNATIONAL WATERS: The international component of the firm is what sets Withers Bergman apart. While it does a lot of work in the U.S. its attorneys are also very good with international cases and have the knowledge and the capability to handle all types of cases, wherever that may be.

WELL-ROUNDED FIRM: Withers Bergman features an in-house training program which all of their associates go through. They spend a lot of time learning from one another in areas that they aren't as familiar with, so they can better identify issues for clients and can bring in the right resources when they are needed. They can serve the client more efficiently and work together more effectively because their knowledge of law is so well rounded.



Farrell Fritz

proudly salutes the honorees for the SmartCEO awards.

Congratulations to our partner and friend, Lou Vlahos, on being a finalist for the Attorney of the Year award.



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