

A message from OMNI's new President & CEO

I have had the pleasure of meeting many of you on the road at conferences and on-site visits. I am honored to lead OMNI as we continue to provide your organizations with the best 403(b) and 457(b) administration service in our industry.

We stand by our nearly two decades of experience and superior customer service and are proud of our retention rate of over 99%. In 2016, The OMNI Group plans to add new features and services to lighten the burden of administration on your staff, and will continue to innovate and progress in the ever changing, 403(b) environment. My team and I are excited to continue working together in our ultimate mission to help your employees achieve their retirement goals!



Robert McLean
President & CEO

Universal Availability - How important is it?

One of the most important factors in maintaining code compliance in a 403(b) plan is taking steps to satisfy the IRS "Universal Availability" requirement.

Universal Availability regulations impose a duty upon plan sponsors to provide "meaningful notice" to all eligible employees of the opportunity to utilize their voluntary retirement plan.

Criteria for meeting this obligation include: providing notice of the plans availability, the period of time during which an election may be made, and any other conditions on elections. OMNI advises that any communication geared toward satisfying Universal Availability illustrate the potential benefits of participation, and recommends that employers undertake efforts to provide notice as frequently as possible through a variety of media, such as:

- Messages on pay stubs
- Flyers in payroll envelopes
- OMNI website link on organization's website

In recent years compliance with the Universal Availability requirement has been closely monitored by the IRS. Universal Availability failures can result in significant financial penalties, and potential disqualification of your plan. OMNI encourages you to contact your dedicated Compliance Specialist to discuss a Universal Availability campaign that will help protect you and your plan.

OMNI provides a number of ways to satisfy Universal Availability requirements including:

Posters

Newsletters

Videos

Live Presentations



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Meet our long time Compliance Specialist, Erik Hyde

How many years have you been an employee of OMNI?

I have been with The OMNI Group for eight years.

What activities do you enjoy outside of work?

In addition to spending time with family and friends, I enjoy volunteering and participating in various charities and organizations. For several years I have assisted the Special Olympics in raising charitable donations by participating in the Polar Plunge. I also participate in the annual Color Run 5K and serve as a Head Coach for my daughter's soccer team.

What are your retirement dreams?

As a child, I spent every summer with my family in New York's Thousand Islands region. One day my wife and I would like to purchase a retirement cottage of our own.

What is your proudest moment at OMNI?

The OMNI Group is a family, the camaraderie here is strong. I am proud to come to work each day, and call my co-workers friends.

Favorite part about your job with OMNI?

Building relationships with people inside and outside of the office.



What is something every employer should know about OMNI's services?

We have a fantastic website (www.OMNI403B.com) which offers numerous online tools for all employers. The "Employer Resources" section has proved to be an invaluable resource. Once there, you can access Salary Reduction Agreement forms, the 2016 New Hire Packet, Universal Availability templates, and much more.

Testimonial

"I have dealt with many people at OMNI, most on a daily basis, and I just wanted to name a person who has gone above and beyond: I talk to Erik Hyde frequently to help expedite or resolve an issue, it is always a pleasure."

Call us first!

The following are examples of instances where you may wonder what best to do...

- Service Provider/Vendor sends funds back directly to you.
- Any type of transaction paperwork is received in your office.
- You receive notice from the IRS notifying you that your 403(b) plan will be audited.
- You receive any type of communication from the Service Provider/Vendor with regard to your 403(b) plan offerings.



Putnam-N. Westchester BOCES
Dedicated Specialists



Zachary Gibbs
Compliance Specialist
Ext 179



Amanda Murray
Remittance Specialist
Ext 186

OMNI to attend the following conferences in first quarter of 2016:

- NTSA - Jan. 21-23
- Virginia ASBO - Feb. 4,5
- N. Carolina ASBO - Feb. 16,17
- Texas ASBO - March 1-3
- S. Carolina - March 8-10

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our
booth!**