



DwightDarby&Company
Certified Public Accountants

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

September 16, 2021

Thank you for being a valued and loyal client and friend of Dwight Darby & Co.

When I reflect back over the past few years, I am honored to have been part of the Dwight Darby family (employees and clients) coming together to support each other after the loss of the firm's partners. It was not easy, but together we made it through difficult times, and I truly appreciate you standing behind our firm and trusting us with your tax and accounting services.

To continue to operate at the highest level possible, we felt like it would be best to team up with another firm that could support our Dwight Darby team and provide an extra layer of service to our clients. After months of meetings with other firms searching for the perfect fit, I am so happy to announce that Dwight Darby & Co will be merging with another outstanding local accounting firm, Spoor Bunch Franz (SBF), effective January 1, 2022.

We are excited about what this move will do for our clients – provide increased flexibility for meetings in Tampa or St. Pete, access to the experienced and knowledgeable **SBF** team, and the ability to take advantage of the **law firm** and **wealth management firm** that operate under the same roof.

You may have questions about the merger and what it means for your business. I am happy to talk to you personally to answer those questions – I encourage you to reach out to me at the office at 813-251-2411 or at **dlopez@dwightdarby.com**. A few things to know right away:

- All Dwight Darby employees will retain their roles and continue to work on their current accounts. You will likely not notice a difference at all as far as who serves your business.
- At SBF I will become a principal, and I will continue to work hands-on with clients.
- You will still be able to meet with your CPA at the Tampa office but may also choose to meet with a member of the accounting team in St. Pete at the SBF office if that would be more convenient for you.

There are many reasons that make SBF an especially good fit for Dwight Darby. First, the partners of both firms have a long history of friendship and

professional respect. SBF was founded in 2016, but the firms that combined at that time were founded in the 1970s, and they have a long history of serving our community, like Dwight Darby. Second, SBF is very similar in approach, office culture, specialties, and philosophy.

The SBF team is growing and thriving in the Tampa Bay area. Currently, SBF has 65 employees, and since the start of the pandemic in 2020, SBF has increased its staff by 10 percent. For the past two years, SBF has been both a **Tampa Bay Times Top Workplace** and a **Tampa Bay Business Journal Best Place to Work**.

I want to thank you for allowing the Dwight Darby team to continue to serve your business. With the losses of our partners these past few years, it has meant so much to us to be able to continue our mission of serving our Tampa Bay area community.

Again, if you have any questions about the merger, do not hesitate to reach out.

*Sincerely,
Dawn Lopez*

