

## PRESS RELEASE | FORMATION OF BOUTIQUE STATE AND LOCAL TAX FIRM

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For Immediate Release

CHICAGO, May 1, 2016 – Two Big Four state and local tax professionals today announce the formation of SimekScott LLP, a boutique state and local tax ("SALT") firm headquartered in Chicago, Illinois. The SimekScott approach to state tax consulting is distinguished by partnering with their clients, listening to their client's concerns, and gaining a deep knowledge of their clients' business before determining state and local tax solutions and opportunities.

SimekScott is founded by Scott Ambrosino and Drew Simek. Scott Ambrosino is an experienced SALT professional with a Big Four pedigree working in SALT practices at both EY and PwC, as well as a partner leading RSM's Minneapolis SALT practice. He has a B.S. in Finance, a Masters in Finance, a J.D., and a LLM in Tax. Drew Simek is also an experienced Big Four state and local tax professional, working with PwC's SALT practice in Chicago, as well as having worked at Ryan & Co., specializing in sales and use tax.

At the larger firms, SimekScott founding partners "found it more and more difficult to service clients from a state and local tax perspective due to audit conflicts and/ or federal tax gatekeepers determining when, if at all, a state and local tax professional should be introduced to the firm's clients" says Scott Ambrosino. Scott also states, "This gatekeeping was not in the best interest of the client and it inhibited sufficient state and local tax advisory to be brought to clients". Further, "Increasingly, clients voiced their frustration with increasing fees, decreased partner involvement, decreased work product quality, ultimately missing the mark on understanding the critical issues and not devising a more cost effective approach," says Drew Simek.

In addition, the founding partners knew there was a better and more appropriate means of providing top notch state and local tax consulting services to all companies, but most especially to middle market companies. "Our unique approach is focused on becoming an integral member of our clients' team," Mr. Ambrosino says. "This will allow SimekScott to learn about our client's business, understand their state tax pain points and truly partner with them to provide a more efficient, cost effective and relevant solution." Mr Simek explains further that "We accomplish this by avoiding the larger firm's approach of once-size fits all both in relations to solutions and pricing. We are providing our clients with various service models and a more tailored solution".

### About SimekScott LLP

SimekScott is a multistate tax consulting firm serving large corporations, small and mid-size companies, privately held companies and foreign companies creating a presence in the United States. They work to simplify the state tax consulting process by gaining a deep understanding of their client's business, operations and priorities to uncover insights and provide value through a reasonable, focused, collaborative and nimble approach.