PRADO & RENTERIA
Certified Public Accountants

Maria de J. Prado, CPA

President, Managing Partner

Maria de J. Prado emigrated from Mexico to the United States at the age of twelve, along with her seven siblings. She obtained a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting from the University of Illinois Chicago (UIC) in 1986, and holds a Certified Public Accountant license. She began her professional career as an Auditor at First National Bank of Chicago (now JP Morgan Chase).

At 26 years old, she enrolled Hilda S. Renteria and co-founded Prado & Renteria CPAs. Since the beginning, the firm has achieved organic growth while maintaining business stability during the last three decades. The firm now counts itself as the largest Hispanic-women owned CPA firm in Illinois.

Maria is the managing partner and responsible for the firm's strategic planning process, and overall client relationships. She oversees the firm's client engagements in the areas of accounting, consulting and tax services, promoting transparency in financial reporting and building the public trust. Maria is proud to represent a diverse public accounting firm and of the legacy the firm has built in contributing to 'coloring' the public accounting industry in the United States.

At Prado & Renteria, aligned with the firm's vision: "Being a catalyst for organizations and individuals to fulfill their purpose", Maria has developed a leadership program which allows her team members to exercise leadership effectively as their natural self-expression. Through weekly conversations and explorations, this program allows the team to create their own possibilities and realities.

In August of 2020, Maria was appointed by Gov. J.B. Pritzker to the Illinois Board of Examiners, which certifies completion of educational and examination requirements for CPA candidates.

In addition to her civic duties, Maria supports her local communities. She serves on the Public Accounting Advisory Board at the University of Illinois Chicago and on the board of The Resurrection Project. Ten years ago, Maria co-founded the Prado & Renteria Foundation which supports indigenous communities across different countries, first generation college students in pursuit of professional opportunities, and people of all ages looking to exercise their leadership skills and transform their approach to life experiences.