



NEWS

For release: Friday, November 18, 2011

For more information, please contact: Terry J. Bush, SPHR, Director
574.289.4011, ext. 231; tbush@klcpas.com
(graphs included)

Quarterly Michiana-area Benchmark Business Index Continues to Slide

(South Bend, IN). Kruggel, Lawton & Company, LLC, today released results from its quarterly survey of Michiana Chief Financial Officers (CFOs). Four distinct business metrics contribute to the benchmark index: revenue; profitability; employment; and CFO outlook.

CFOs from nearly forty for-profit companies in the Michiana area reported changes in their companies' 3rd quarter (July, August and September) 2011 revenue, profitability and employment compared to the 3rd quarter in 2010, along with their perception of the economic and business outlook for their companies. The overall benchmark index for Q3 2011 was 55.92 out of a maximum possible of 100. This was a decline of 4.42% from the benchmark index of 58.50 reported for the 2nd quarter of 2011.

The largest contributing factor to the decline in the benchmark index from Q2 2011 was a 12.34% decrease in the revenue metric. The survey results also revealed decreases of 2.02% and 4.83% in CFO outlook and employment respectively. The 2.74% increase in the profitability metric was a modest bright spot in the 3rd quarter results.

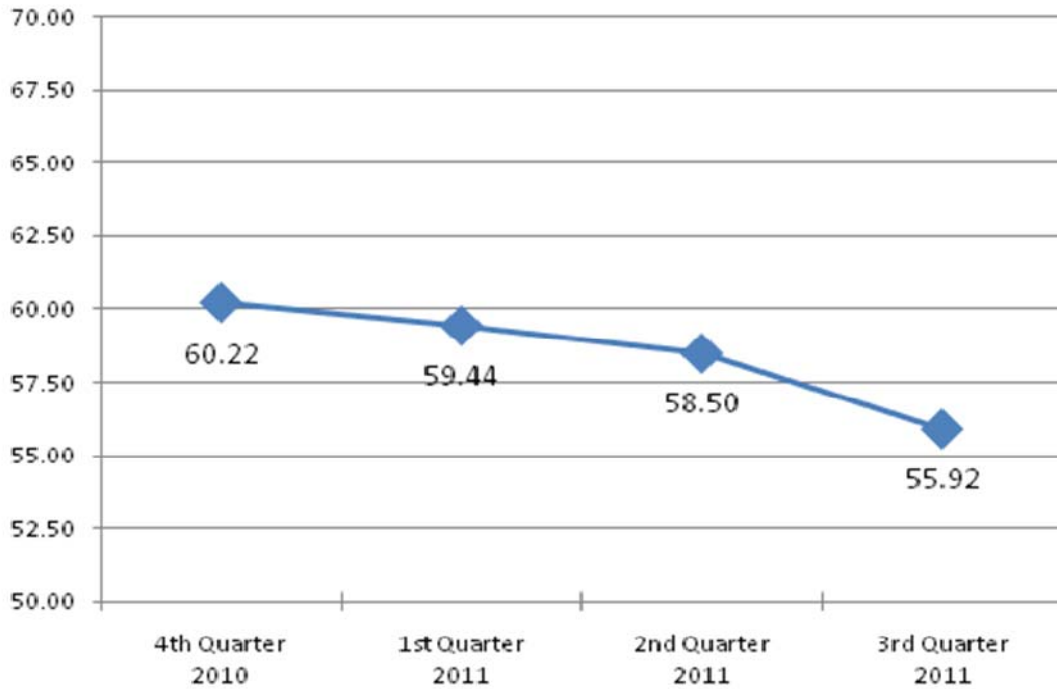
"This quarter's overall survey results reflect an ongoing downward drift in for-profit business results and CFO outlook in the Michiana area. Since we began this survey of local CFOs in the 4th quarter of 2010, the overall results have declined 7.14%, from an overall score of 60.22 to 55.92 in the most recent quarter," said Terry J. Bush, SPHR, a Director at Kruggel Lawton.

Summary results of the survey are illustrated in the graphs on the following page.

With offices in South Bend and Elkhart, Kruggel, Lawton & Company, LLC is a full-service accounting and business consultation firm offering audit and accounting services, tax consulting, estate planning, business valuation, small business accounting services, and executive searches. Kruggel Lawton also offers national and international resources as an independent member of the BDO Seidman Alliance.

END

Kruggel, Lawton & Company, LLC
Quarterly Michiana-area Benchmark Business Index:
Through 3rd Quarter 2011
 (Maximum Rating of 100)



Kruggel, Lawton & Company, LLC
Quarterly Michiana-area Benchmark Business Index: 3rd Quarter
2011 (Maximum Rating of 100)

