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Patrick C. Stines is a partner at Novak Francella LLC, a national leader in providing accounting and auditing services to multiemployer employee benefit funds. He has over 20 years of public accounting experience working exclusively with Taft-Hartley employee benefit plans and labor unions. Stines is involved in all aspects of client audit engagements, including work paper and tax return review, engagement planning and scheduling. His clients include some of the largest local unions in the New York region. More specifically, his breadth of experience includes development of internal control policies, cost-allocation studies, U.S. Department of Labor examinations and compliance payroll audits. Stines is a former member of the International Foundation Professionals Committee. He has written for both the *Trustee Handbook* and *Benefits Magazine* published by the International Foundation. Stines graduated from the State University of New York at Old Westbury with a bachelor of science degree. He is licensed as a certified public accountant in New York.