

As Seen In

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SMALL-SIZED COMPANIES

H O N O R A B L E M E N T I O N

Armao, Costa & Ricciardi

By **CLAUDE SOLNIK**

Accounting firm **Armao, Costa & Ricciardi**, whose services include advising on employee benefit plans, practices what it preaches.

The Valley Stream company, which specializes in construction contractors and labor unions, pays 100 percent of health insurance for its employees (although workers must contribute for family coverage). It also pays for full dental coverage, long-term disability and life insurance, and contributes 3 percent of employee salaries to a 401(k) program.

Through a profit-sharing plan, the firm for each of the last three years has put \$40,000 to \$50,000 aside for

employees. New hires start with 10 paid holidays and two weeks' vacation, which ramps up nicely to three weeks after five years. The firm even pays AICPA and NYSCCPA membership fees.

Sounds like a pretty nice setup, and according to grateful and satisfied employees, it is.

"Armao, Costa & Ricciardi is like working for family only better," wrote one employee. "We all care about each other in our professional life and personal life. The environment is relaxed yet professional."

Armao Costa goes the extra yard when it comes to team-building, too: The firm fields an employee-only volleyball team in a Jones Beach league.

