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Houston accounting firms **MaloneBailey LLP** and **John M. Thomas PC** on Thursday said they have merged.

The surviving entity is MaloneBailey.

John Thomas, managing partner of John M. Thomas PC joined MaloneBailey as a partner in charge of client relations, new business development and growing the construction practice. Six additional staff members will join MaloneBailey as part of the merger, according to the companies.

MaloneBailey currently has 55 employees in Houston, according to the Houston Business Journal's Book of Lists.

The merger is part of the company's strategic plan to strengthen its private company practice in Houston as well its construction industry niche.

John Thomas' practice focuses on audits and reviews as well as tax services and offers a critical mass of private companies to the client roster.

MaloneBailey **expanded to New York City** last December.

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