



Bill Mandel

Retired Partner

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Bill is an experienced business lawyer and CPA who assists architecture, engineering, environmental consulting and construction contracting firms and other entities with ownership transition programs, strategic planning and transactions such as management buyouts, mergers and acquisitions and Employee Stock Ownership Plans (ESOPs).

A practicing attorney for more than 30 years, Bill has developed more than 100 ownership transition programs for leading professional services firms, some of which have gone through multi-generational ownership changes. He understands that owners and founders consider their firms their life's work, and appreciates that preserving their culture, legacy, staff and reputation are important goals alongside their financial value.

This detailed understanding of the issues faced by architecture, engineering and other professional services firms enables him to design plans that are effective, sustainable and appeal to potential ownership candidates. He has co-authored the leading guide on the subject *Architect's Essentials of Starting, Assessing and Transitioning a Design Firm*, and is a sought-after speaker on the topic.

Bill also advises professional services firms in areas such as architecture law, engineering law, construction law, contract negotiation, risk prevention and dispute resolution.

Bill has extensive knowledge of Mergers and Acquisitions and Employee Stock Ownership Plans. He has handled transactions ranging in enterprise value from \$1 million to \$250 million. For clients without in-house counsel, Bill serves as a trusted business adviser, guiding them on their day-to-day legal issues and providing strategic long-term solutions to help them meet their goals.

Bill also serves as co-chair of the firm's Architecture, Engineering and Design Professional Firms practice, as well as the Business Succession Planning practice.

Services

- Architecture, Engineering & Design Professional Firms
- Business Succession Planning
- Mergers & Acquisitions
- Corporate
- Private Companies
- Construction

Before Fox Rothschild

Prior to joining Fox Rothschild, Bill was the founding partner of MBV Law LLP, a full-service boutique law firm in San Francisco. In his prior career as a Certified Public Accountant, Bill was a member of the audit staff of Ernst & Young and worked in the tax department of Deloitte.

Beyond Fox Rothschild

For more than 25 years, Bill has presented at the American Institute of Architects National Conventions, engineering conferences and other professional gatherings concerning ownership transition and merger-acquisitions programs for service firms.

Bill is a member of the Board of Directors of The Bank of San Francisco, a community bank serving the Greater Bay Area. He was a member of the Board of Trustees of The Head Royce School, an independent school located in San Francisco Bay Area, for nine years and also served as chairman of its Finance Committee.

A resident of Sausalito, California, Bill is an avid cyclist, workout junkie and movie buff. He and his wife Bergit are the proud parents of a total of seven children and twelve grandchildren.

Bar Admissions

- California

Education

- University of California, Berkeley School of Law (J.D.)
- University of Southern California (B.S., *cum laude*)

Honors & Awards

- Rated AV Preeminent™ by Martindale-Hubbell®
- Named a "Super Lawyer" by SuperLawyers