



## William F. Martin

Partner

**Philadelphia, PA**

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Bill represents public and private clients in real estate and business transactions, including zoning and land use matters, particularly in the City of Philadelphia. His portfolio of clients includes private developers and institutional property owners, such as universities and hospitals.

He has helped such clients achieve zoning variances and re-zoning required for the development of major residential and institutional projects.

Bill has also represented both sellers and buyers in RFP and RFO processes for significant projects in the City of Philadelphia, including the disposition of major public-sector holdings.

While a city solicitor for the City of Philadelphia, he negotiated complex, long-term ground leases between the City and its local baseball and football franchises as part of the Sports Complex development project.

Co-chair of the firm's Government Relations Practice, Bill has worked extensively with all facets of Philadelphia city government in connection with real estate development, including City Council, the Planning Commission, the Historical Commission and the several relevant City departments.

### **Before Fox Rothschild**

Bill was a City Solicitor for the City of Philadelphia and served as Corporate Chair of its Law Department. He also served as General Counsel for Bell Atlantic Properties, handling all legal matters pertaining to the development of the one-million-square-foot Bell Atlantic Tower in Philadelphia.

In private practice, Bill represented the City of Philadelphia and its economic development authority, as transaction counsel, in connection with the expansion of the City's Sports Complex. Bill was lead attorney in the land assemblage and lease negotiations, which resulted in the development of Citizens Bank Park and Lincoln Financial Field, and the respective occupancy by the Philadelphia Phillies and the Philadelphia Eagles.

### **Beyond Fox Rothschild**

Bill serves as a member of the executive committee of the Philadelphia Convention and Visitor's Bureau Sports Congress, and as an active member of the Real Estate Advisory Committee of Hope Partnership of Education, an adult

education center and middle school serving the poor in North Philadelphia. He is also a member of the Radnor Township (PA) Zoning Hearing Board.

## **Client Resources**

### **In the Zone Blog**

Success in the real estate industry often hinges on making smart choices – and on being informed. Fox's [In the Zone](#) blog serves as a resource for developers, investors, lenders, design firms, landlords, tenants and more. Focusing on zoning and land use, the blog reports on trends and news in obtaining approvals and permits for new development, project financing, LEED certification and environmental regulation and enforcement.

## **Honors & Awards**

- Recipient of the "Pro Bono Roll of Honor" award from the First Judicial District of Pennsylvania

## **Practice Areas**

- Real Estate
- Zoning & Land Use
- Government Relations
- Entertainment & Sports Law

## **Bar Admissions**

- Pennsylvania

## **Education**

- University of Pennsylvania (J.D., 1983)
- University of Pennsylvania (M.A., B.A., 1979)

## **Memberships**

- American Bar Association
- Pennsylvania Bar Association
- Philadelphia Bar Association