



Michael F. Buckley

Of Counsel

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Profile

Mike has extensive experience in all aspects of estate planning and administration. His practice focuses on complex estate planning, business succession and estate and trust administration. Within this practice area, Mike concentrates on insurance trust and estate and tax planning for professionals and owners of closely held businesses.

His experience includes:

- Representing charities and others in estate litigation, including representing St. John Fisher University in the Matter of Pioch, which decided favorably in the New York Court of Appeals.
- Advising clients and drafting documents to pass family property to the next generation while avoiding or reducing estate and gift taxes on that property.
- Tax and succession planning for physicians and other professionals, as well as closely held business owners.
- Preparing and implementing life insurance trusts to avoid transfer tax on the insurance proceeds and provide liquidity for estate needs.
- Analyzing various corporate planning techniques and their impact on the owner's estate plan.
- Of counsel to several attorneys in the community with respect to complex estate planning and administration issues.

Prior to joining Bond, Michael was an attorney at the Rochester area law firm, Boylan Code LLP as well as a partner at another Rochester area law firm.

Honors & Affiliations

- The Best Lawyers in America® - Trusts and Estates (1989-2026)
- Best Lawyers In America®, Lawyer of the Year – Trusts and Estates, (2014)
- Current Listing, Who's Who In America
- Current Listing, Who's Who In The World
- Daystar Kids, President, 2012- present
- Albert Nelson Marquis Lifetime Achievement Award as a leader in the legal industry
- Achieved highest AV Rating by Martindale Hubbell

Education

- Cornell Law School (J.D. 1968)
- Dartmouth College (B.A. 1965)

Bar/Court Admissions

- New York

Practices

- Trust and Estate

- Super Lawyers® 2024-2025 - Estate Planning & Probate
- Recipient of the Joe U. Posner Award by the Rochester Area Community Foundation
- Recipient of Leadership Award from Highland Hospital, Rochester, New York
- Recipient of the John N. Wilder Award by the University of Rochester, Rochester, New York
- Past Board Member & Chair, Highland Hospital, Member of Capital Campaign Committee
- Past Board Member & Chair, Highland Hospital Foundation
- Past Board Member & Chair, Strong Partners Health System, Inc.
- Past Board Member, Legal Counsel, Rochester Area Community Foundation
- Past Board Member, YMCA of Greater Rochester
- Past Board Member, Wilmot Cancer Institute