

William J. Schlinkert

In Memoriam - Partner

wschlinkert@fbm.com

Education

- Georgetown University (LL.M.)
 - . Taxation
- University of California, Berkeley, School of Law (J.D.)
 - . Editor, *Industrial Relations Law Journal*
- University of Dallas (B.A.)
 - . *summa cum laude*
 - . Mathematics

It is with heavy hearts we share with you that Bill Schlinkert passed away in January 2025. Bill was an integral part of Farella's success, serving as chairman of the firm from 1997-2005, as well as previously chairing the Commercial Department and Tax Practice Group. He was formerly an attorney-advisor with the Office of Chief Counsel, Internal Revenue Service in Washington, D.C.

Bill spent more than 40 years at the firm, where his work encompassed a broad-based business and tax practice emphasizing corporate, partnership, real estate, and foreign investment matters. He also had a special focus on federal and state tax controversy matters and an extensive practice in California income, property, and sales tax matters.

Bill was known for bringing a unique and strikingly effective business perspective to the counsel he provided clients—combining technical expertise, creativity, and practicality during each engagement.

Clients, and the many accountants and other advisors Bill worked with, trusted Bill not simply to determine the answer to a question, but to determine the risks and benefits of a particular course of intended action and help them find creative alternatives. We will remember “the grandfather of the Farella Tax Group” for his astute legal mind, steadfast leadership, and warm laugh.

Not only was Bill an amazing tax lawyer, he leaves behind a noble legacy at Farella Braun + Martel among the many colleagues who grew their practices under his skilled and steady leadership. He was a wonderful friend to many, a great partner, and a devoted husband, father, and grandfather. He will be greatly missed across our firm.