

Brian J. Lake is retired of counsel in the Corporate Department in the South Bend, Indiana, office of Barnes & Thornburg. His career spanned more than 30 years of experience in counseling and advising businesses to help them deal with a wide spectrum of legal issues and business transactions. He worked closely with business owners to help achieve creative legal solutions that enabled businesses to take advantage of opportunities in the marketplace and be successful from one generation to the next.

Brian worked closely with a wide range of closely held businesses. He provided advice concerning business succession planning, purchases and sales of businesses (including ESOP transactions), successful negotiations to achieve long term business relationships, as well as other legal and business related planning for such companies.

Brian has worked with a number of companies in the media industry including cable TV, television and radio stations, newspapers and outdoor advertising companies. He has handled a wide number of business transactions with media industry clients including numerous transactions involving the purchase or sale of media businesses.

Brian has provided legal representation to a large number of physician groups. Such representation has included a wide range of business/health care related transactions and contracts including the purchase and sale of numerous physician practices.

Brian advised clients on executive compensation matters, deferred compensation plans, retirement plans and related matters. He also made numerous presentations at legal seminars on these topics.

Brian has been listed in the Closely Held Business category in the *Indiana Super Lawyers Magazine* from 2004 until his retirement. Brian has also been listed in the *Best Lawyers in America (Employee Benefits)* from 1987 until his retirement.

Brian graduated *cum laude* from the University of Notre Dame and *cum laude* from the University of Michigan Law School. Prior to his retirement, Brian was admitted to practice in the states of Indiana, Florida and Michigan and he was a member of the Indiana, Florida, Michigan and St. Joseph County bar associations.

Brian has been active in the local community, having served as president of the board and chairman of the Nominating Committee of Michiana Public Broadcasting Corporation (Public TV) and as chairman of the Family and Children's Foundation Board, as well as Chairman of the Nominating Committee of the South Bend Symphony Board. He has also served on the boards of Family & Children's Center, St. Joseph's High School, South Bend Entertainment, Inc., and the Studebaker Museum and has been active in other civic and fund-raising activities and events for various charitable and civic organizations.

Brian J. Lake

Of Counsel (Retired)

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EDUCATION

University of Notre Dame, (B.S.), cum laude

University of Michigan Law School, (J.D.), cum laude

BAR ADMISSIONS

Florida (Inactive)

Indiana (Retired)

Michigan (Emeritus)

PRACTICES

Product Liability and Mass Torts