BLAKINGER THOMAS



Edward L. Miller

Ed is a real estate lawyer and a past Chair of the Real Estate Law group at Blakinger Thomas. He began searching property titles while in high school, and, during his career, has searched thousands of titles and conducted thousands of real estate settlements. He drafts contracts for the sale and purchase of real estate and enjoys assisting clients through the purchase or sale process. Ed enjoys solving intricate title problems and then taking that transaction to settlement, many of which he holds around the kitchen table at the home of a farmer client.

Real estate transactions have tax implications and Ed delves into that aspect of his clients' transactions. Tax deferred exchanges are one part of the tax "side" of real estate. Ed conducted tax deferred real estate exchanges prior to the IRS adoption of regulations and has lectured on Section 1031 tax-deferred exchanges for the Pennsylvania Bar Institute and the Lancaster Bar Association.

Farmer issues and the formation and daily operations of all kinds of small businesses make up a significant portion of his work. He advises clients on the form of entity most suited to their needs, makes sure the legal requirements to form the entity are fulfilled, and prepares the contracts required for the complex operations of their businesses.

Most of Ed's clients are individuals or small businesses. He works with families on issues of asset transfers to the next generation. He plans estates and drafts wills so that assets transfer to the next generation as simply and with as little tax as possible. He is now advising grandchildren of some of his early clients as they acquire farms or businesses that have been in the family for generations.

EDUCATION

- Temple University, J.D.
- Goshen College, B.A.

BAR ADMISSIONS

Pennsylvania, 1973

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- Pennsylvania Bar Association
- Lancaster Bar Association

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Bird-in-Hand Bank Board (Secretary of the Board)

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PRACTICE AREAS Real Estate Agricultural Business Banking and Finance Wills Estates Planned Giving Tax