Merle F. Wilberding

COOLIDGE WALL
A Legal Professional Association

Merle F. Wilberding has more than fifty years' experience advising and representing clients in the areas of business planning, non-profit organizations, real estate law, taxation, and zoning. This experience affords his clients a unique, skillful, and practical management of matters ranging from general corporate legal and strategic business management issues to complex reorganizations involving asset sales, public and private financing, and spin-offs.
He has represented a wide range of corporations (both for-profit and not-for-profit corporations), developers, and religious organizations located both within and outside of the United States. He has served as chairman and general counsel for the Greater Dayton Foreign Trade Zone, Inc. He has a broad range of legal and business experience and is an active adviser and board member to a variety of businesses and community non-profit organizations.

Wilberding served as chairman of the firm's Tax Department for ten years. He has briefed and argued a number of tax cases in the Ohio Supreme Court, including Dupps Company v. Lindley, 62 Ohio St. 2d 305 (1980), and Dayton Supply & Tool vs. Montgomery County Board of Revision, 111 Ohio St. 3d 367 (2006).

Merle's professional publications include articles in national law reviews and other legal and business media. In addition, he is a free-lance writer with a number of articles, books, and Op Ed Columns as listed in his attached Curriculum Vitae. He has testified before the United States Congress and before the Ohio legislature as well as giving a number of speeches and presentations as listed in his attached Curriculum Vitae.

Prior to his association with Coolidge Wall, Merle practiced with the Arent Fox law firm in Washington, D.C. During the Vietnam War, Merle served as a U.S. Army Captain, Judge Advocate General's Corps, Government Appellate Division, Washington, D.C., where he briefed and argued appeals in the Presidio Mutiny case and the Lt. William L. Calley – My Lai Massacre case.

Community Involvement

- Secretary, Wright Memorial Library Board of Trustees
- Member, Wright State University Foundation Advisory Council
- Board Member, Dayton Children's Hospital Women's Board

Practice Areas

Commercial Real Estate
Corporate and Business Law

Education

- George Washington University National Law Center, Washington, District of Columbia
- LL.M. Tax, Master of Law(s) in Taxation – 00/1972
- Notre Dame Law School, Notre Dame, Indiana
- J.D., Doctor of Jurisprudence – 00/1969
- University of Dayton, Dayton, Ohio
- M.B.A., Master of Business Administration – 00/1975
- St Mary's University, Winona, Minnesota
- B.A., Bachelor of Arts – 1966
- University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
- Master of Library & Information Science – 2006
- Oxford University
- Additional Study in Library Science – 2001

Bar Admissions

- Ohio
- Iowa
- District of Columbia
- U.S. Tax Court

Contact Info

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