



## Charles C. Berquist **Attorney**

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Charlie Berquist is a partner in the firm's Business Law practice area. His clients include individuals, for-profit businesses of all sizes and types, nonprofit organizations and public pension plans. He has represented clients in a wide variety of transactions and projects including start-ups, transition and succession planning, debt and equity financing, franchising, mergers and acquisitions, technology agreements and executive employment and separation agreements.

Charlie has extensive experience and expertise in executive compensation, including incentive and equity compensation plans, qualified and non-qualified retirement plans, and other employee benefits. He regularly advises clients on benefit plan design, drafting and administration, and compliance with ERISA, the Internal Revenue Code and other applicable laws. [Click here](#) to read his most recent article.

## Experience

Charlie's recent projects include:

- › In June 2020, represented two banks in connection with loans totaling \$22 million made by the banks to a company that finances home builders.
- › Represented a Minnesota company with an iconic brand of luxury leather goods in its sale in November 2019 to a public company for a combination of cash and stock of the buyer.
- › In June 2019, represented a group of oral surgeons in the sale of their practice and negotiation of long-term employment and compensation agreements with a national practice management company.
- › In June 2018, represented the owners of a regional product distribution company in a sale to a strategic buyer for \$43 million.
- › In January 2017, represented the owners of a multi-state staffing company in a sale to a private equity firm in a \$6.1 million transaction.
- › Represented the buyers of a prototyping and machining company in April 2016 for \$8.6 million. Previously represented the same buyers in the purchase and sale of their prior company.
- › Represented a private equity firm with one of his partners in the sale of a medical insurance company for \$32 million in March 2016.

## Areas of Practice

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Business & Corporate Law  
Emerging Companies  
Employee Benefits & Executive Compensation  
Employment Law

Family & Closely-Held Business Planning

Mergers & Acquisitions

Securities Law

## Education

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J.D., Notre Dame University, *magna cum laude*

B.A., Macalester College

## Admissions

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Minnesota

U.S. District Court, District of Minnesota

U.S. Claims Court

## Firm News/Articles

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- > The CARES Act Expands Retirement and Health Plan Benefits for COVID-19
- > SECURE Act Promotes Retirement Savings
- > Tax Advantages of Qualified Small Business Stock Issued to Employees
- > Audits and Corrections of 457(b) Plans for Tax-Exempt Employers
- > Compensation and Benefits Changes in New Tax Act
- > House Tax Bill Makes Major Changes to Employee Benefits and Executive Compensation
- > DOL Fiduciary Rule becomes effective June 9, 2017, but no enforcement prior to January 1, 2018

## Professional Associations

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- > American Bar Association
- > Minnesota State Bar Association (Business Law Section)
- > Hennepin County Bar Association