

FRED WEIL

PARTNER

Fred has practiced law for more than 40 years in the areas of taxation and corporate law, and often combines his skills in both areas. His practice also includes ownership dispute resolution in privately held companies.

CHILDHOOD:

Fred grew up in the Southside of Chicago. He went to college in Chicago as well as law school and lived at home throughout his schooling. After graduating from law school and passing the Illinois State Bar, he accepted a one year teaching fellow at Boalt Hall at UC Berkeley. He had a job lined up at a big law firm in Chicago but loved the Bay Area and decided to stay.

FIRST JOB:

Delivering newspapers when he was twelve years old.

FAVORITE THING ABOUT BEING AN ATTORNEY:

Fred enjoys the intellectual challenge in finding ways to help people accomplish what it is that they want to do.

LEAST FAVORITE PART OF THE JOB:

Time-keeping and billing are the biggest draw-backs of being an attorney.

GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT:

Fred's most notable achievement in his public service was that he and the rest of the Board of the Acalanes Union High School District opened up the Advanced Placement classes to every student who wanted to take them, despite resistance from the teachers' union. At that time, the District schools had strict criteria to qualify to be in these classes, but he and the rest of the Board decided that as long as the students agreed to stay in the class they selected (they signed a contract promising to stick with it, regardless of how challenging) they could enroll.



Despite the dire predictions of opponents, pass rates went up – not down – when the program was opened to more students. Fred attributes the higher pass rate to the motivation of the students to prove their opponents wrong. Personally, Fred's greatest achievement – though he will only take a little bit of credit for it – is having a good family.

IF YOU WEREN'T A LAWYER YOU WOULD BE...

Fred would have liked to be an astronaut, but in all reality he thinks that he would most likely have been a history teacher.

FAVORITE BOOK:

When Fred was 8 or 9 years old, his father gave him the book *When Worlds Collide*, co-written by Philip Wylie and Edwin Balmer. It prompted a love of science fiction novels.

FAVORITE CAUSE:

The University of Chicago Law School. When Fred was a student there he couldn't afford tuition, and because of generous benefactors was able to continue with his education. He contributes money to help to provide the same opportunity to other deserving students.

FAVORITE MOVIE:

Independence Day.

FAVORITE WAY TO SPEND FREE TIME:

Fred loves international travel and has been to some really interesting places. He also likes to spend time in his vegetable garden, enjoys watching a little TV, and has served on elected local government boards for more than 30 years. He spent 8 years on the Moraga Elementary School District Board, 13 years on the Acalanes Union High School District Board, and is currently in his 10th year serving on the Board of the Moraga-Orinda Fire Protection District.

WHAT'S ON YOUR IPOD?

History lectures.

WHAT BOOK ARE YOU READING RIGHT NOW?

Why the West Rules – For Now, by Ian Morris.

WHAT IS SOMETHING MOST PEOPLE DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU?

Fred says that he is an open book, but also that he is not as scary as he looks. Also, while most people may already know this about him, Fred didn't have a name for the first few weeks of his life and his birth certificate read "Baby Boy".

FAVORITE BAY AREA DESTINATION:

Home!

LAST PLACE YOU VACATIONED:

In May he went on a trip to Turkey and loved the thick, creamy Turkish ice cream, as well as the sites of Istanbul, the hot air balloon ride in Cappadocia and the Roman ruins at Ephesus.