

PERSONAL & PRACTICE:

Faegre Baker Daniels Attorney Profiles

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PERSONAL:

WHAT IS YOUR IDEA OF PERFECT HAPPINESS?

- ▶ I love being in the mountains and hiking. I typically go with my wife and kids who only like to hike for a couple days at a time. Perfect happiness would be being able to extend those trips.

WHICH LIVING PERSON DO YOU MOST ADMIRE?

- ▶ My father-in-law because he is a down-to-earth, engaging and kind man. And, he's a sailor and a skier, all at the age of 80.

WHAT IS YOUR GREATEST EXTRAVAGANCE?

- ▶ My family's multiyear national park tour. Every two years we visit a different national park somewhere in the U.S.

WHO OR WHAT IS THE GREATEST LOVE OF YOUR LIFE?

- ▶ Easy – my wife and kids. My wife and I met at a bar in Chicago on a Sunday afternoon. We had attended the same college but didn't know each other there, but we recognized each other that day. We've now been married for 20 years. It was meant to be.

WHICH TALENT WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO HAVE?

- ▶ I'd like to be able to fly. I also wish I could remember an applicable joke for every situation.

IF YOU COULD CHANGE ONE THING ABOUT YOURSELF, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

- ▶ I would like to have a full head of hair.

WHAT IS YOUR MOST TREASURED POSSESSION?

- ▶ The replica of a sailfish I caught and released that's hanging on my wall. It was a baby at four feet long from tail to snout, but it is the largest fish I've ever caught.

WHAT DO YOU MOST VALUE IN YOUR FRIENDS?

- ▶ Loyalty and honesty.

WHO IS YOUR FAVORITE HERO OR HEROINE OF FICTION?

- ▶ Michael Scott in *The Office*.

WHAT IS IT THAT YOU MOST DISLIKE?

- ▶ The thin windows in my office. There's a street performer here in Chicago who plays the saxophone outside our building. He plays about eight bars of the same five songs every day from 1:30-6:30 p.m.

PRACTICE:

WHAT MADE YOU WANT TO PRACTICE LAW?

- When I was an electrical engineer at Motorola, I met a patent attorney while working on a project that required us to work around some patents. His job was a nice blend of technology know-how and legal strategy that intrigued me, and that got me interested in law. At the same time, I was also going to business school and had really enjoyed my business law class. The combination of those two events pushed me in this direction and led me to my legal career.

WHAT IS YOUR GREATEST CLIENT ACHIEVEMENT?

- I participated in a mediation involving the defense against a patent infringement claim for a client that was facing a bet-the-company lawsuit. It was one of the few times that mediation actually worked as a way of avoiding trial. The client settled without paying any money, and we negotiated a business settlement that resulted in continued product sales. The client took us out to the best dinner I think I have ever had.

IN WHAT AREA WOULD YOU LIKE TO LEARN MORE OR IMPROVE?

- Information security requirements at the federal and state levels.

WHAT DO YOU ENJOY ABOUT WORKING AT FAEGRE BAKER DANIELS?

- How helpful and friendly everybody is here.

WHAT DO YOU WISH YOU COULD CHANGE ABOUT THE LEGAL INDUSTRY?

- I wish there was less pressure on billing rates.

WHAT DO YOU FIND MOST CHALLENGING ABOUT YOUR AREA OF FOCUS?

- The number of matters that I need to juggle.

WHAT DO YOU FIND MOST REWARDING ABOUT YOUR AREA OF FOCUS?

- I get to interface with high levels of management and be exposed to cutting-edge technologies, which is exciting.

WHAT IS THE BIGGEST LESSON YOU'VE LEARNED?

- I've learned that you're usually remembered as being only as good as the last piece of work you've done.

IF YOU COULD CHANGE YOUR AREA OF FOCUS, WHAT WOULD YOU SWITCH TO AND WHY?

- I would like to try commercial real estate legal work, like Steve Paul in our Indianapolis office. It looks very fun and lucrative.

WHAT IS THE NEXT BIG PROJECT YOU'D LIKE TO TACKLE?

- I would like to get the 2014 strategic plan for FaegreBD's patent practice area fully executed.