



Promotion

# Portland Legal Profiles

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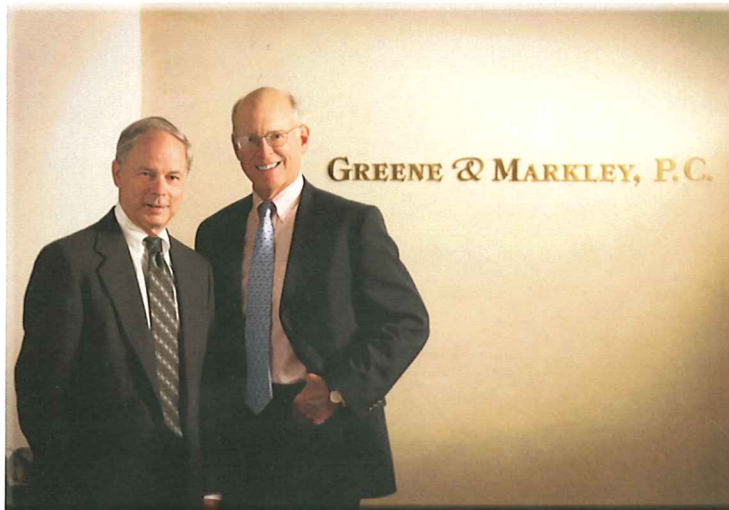
## Greene & Markley, P.C. Attorneys Helping Businesses in Financial Trouble

**S**ome businesses are too big to fail. For everyone else, there's Greene & Markley. One of the few firms in the region that can address both complex financial problems and the tax issues that often result from them, Greene & Markley represents businesses of all sizes, including collection and foreclosure work for major banks and *Fortune* 500 companies.

Founded in 1983, Portland-based Greene & Markley focuses exclusively on commercial law, with the goal of being "better, faster and cheaper" than other firms, says Founding Partner Ward Greene. It represents clients in both Oregon and Washington and is one of the Pacific Northwest's most respected commercial law firms. With 14 attorneys, Greene & Markley is large enough to handle a wide range of commercial matters, yet small enough to provide consistent personal service.

"We treat every client as if they're our most important client," says Founding Partner Charles R. Markley. "We try to get the work out the same day whenever we can. And we return phone calls. You'd be amazed at how many firms don't return calls."

Areas of emphasis include bankruptcy and business reorganization, creditors' rights, commercial litigation, real estate, construction, tax, appellate and corporate law. "Or, as we tell our children, we make people keep their promises," Greene says.



Founding Partners Charles R. Markley and Ward Greene

A recent case, for example, pitted the firm's client, a bank, against a large real estate developer. The firm's creditor rights group brought suit for the bank in state court on secured and unsecured notes, and the developer asserted counterclaims in excess of \$30 million. "Following depositions," Markley says, "our motion for summary judgment was granted. The court dismissed the counterclaims with prejudice and entered judgment for the bank for an amount in excess of \$10 million."

"We have intentionally limited our practice to business litigation, including real estate and debtor-creditor law, and such unique areas as fraudulent transfers, preferences, construction defects and lien litigation," Markley says. "This necessarily involves interpretation of contracts and a thorough knowledge of

practice and procedure in all state and federal courts. We are equally at home in bankruptcy court, where we have represented a wide range of creditors, trustees and debtors through complex proceedings." The firm also offers unique expertise in the field of taxation, with an emphasis on disputes with the federal and Oregon taxing authorities.

Consider a recent case involving a couple nearing retirement who risked losing their home as a result of erroneous tax assessments they had ignored for 10 years. According to the IRS, the firm's clients owed

more than \$520,000 in income taxes, penalties and interest. After persuading the IRS to reexamine the claimed tax liability, the firm's tax dispute department convinced the IRS the couple did not owe the tax. "We settled the case for \$25,000," Markley says. "The clients were able to keep their home and clean up their tax problems."

**"We treat every client as if they're our most important client."**

■ Charles R. Markley, Founding Partner

"At Greene & Markley," Greene says, "we don't handle personal injury cases, divorces or criminal cases. Nor do we handle consumer bankruptcies. What we do is help businesses and business owners in financial trouble. And we do that extraordinarily well."

### Practice Emphasis

- Bankruptcy
- Creditors' Rights
- Commercial Litigation
- Real Estate
- Construction
- Tax
- Appellate
- Corporate



## GREENE & MARKLEY, P.C.

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