Knox McLaughlin Gornall & Sennett, P.C.
Erie • Pittsburgh • Jamestown, NY
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William B. Helbling

Shareholder

Bill concentrates his practice in the areas of business, tax and securities law, banking and commercial lending, and intellectual property & technology. He has a special emphasis on mergers and acquisitions, which includes coordinating, negotiating, and overseeing multimillion dollar M&A deals for clients in the insurance, manufacturing, and technology sectors. Bill's practical and reasoned approach to complex transactions effectively guides clients to successful closings on both the buy and sell side of a deal.



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Practice Areas

- Business & Tax
- Intellectual Property & Technology
- Mergers & Acquisitions

Education

- University of Pittsburgh School of Law, J.D.; *The Pittsburgh Tax Review, Associate Editor; JURIST, Paper Chase Anchor*
- The Ohio State University, B.A.; *cum laude, Dean's List*

Admissions

- Pennsylvania

Representative Experience

- Successfully closed several transactions with aggregate purchase consideration in excess of $1 Billion
- Represented issuers in private securities offerings conducted under Regulation D, Regulation A, and Regulation CF
- Guided fund managers, startup businesses, and developers through the federal Opportunity Zone tax program
- Details on Insurance Brokerage Acquisitions & Divestitures

Honors

- Included in Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch (Corporate Law, and Mergers and Acquisitions Law, 2023-2026 and Business Organizations including LLCs and Partnerships, 2024-2026)



- Included in Pennsylvania Super Lawyers® Rising Stars, 2023-2026



- CALI Excellence for the Future Award in Mergers and Acquisitions, University of Pittsburgh School of Law

Community and Professional Service

Community and Professional Service

- Community Blood Bank of Northwest Pennsylvania and Western New York, *Board Member*
- Crime Victim Center of Erie County, *Former Board Member*

Professional Affiliations

- Erie County Bar Association, *Past Board Member*
- Pennsylvania Bar Association

Presentations

Speaking Engagements

- Marquette Small Business Toolbox Seminar, October 2025: *Structure of a Small Business from a Legal Standpoint*
- Firm's Professional Advisor Symposium, November 2024: *What to Expect When Expecting a Private Equity Exit, Co-Presenter*
- Pennsylvania Economic Development Association (PEDA) Fall Conference, "Activating Opportunity Zones for Community Advancement," October 2024
- Strategic Exits: Succession Planning, Valuation, and M&A for Independent Agencies, May 2024: *Legal Perspectives on Succession Planning, Perpetuation, and Mergers and Acquisitions*
- Firm's Professional Advisor Symposium, October 2023: *25 Legal Tips in 50 Minutes, Panelist*
- Firm's Professional Advisor Symposium, October 2021: *The Real Shark Tank: Overview of Private Securities Offerings and Crowdfunding*
- Webinar: COVID-19 Loan Opportunities, hosted by Erie Regional Chamber & Growth Partnership, April 2020
- Firm's Professional Advisor Symposium, October 2019: *Don't Get Lost in the Weeds: The Legality of Cannabis-Based Products*

- Firm's Professional Advisor Symposium, October 2018: *Exciting (No Really!) Tax Updates: Opportunity Zones, Tax Act Update and the Wayfair Decision*

Articles and Publications

- Agent and Broker Mergers & Acquisitions - First Half 2025
- Agent and Broker M&A in 2024
- What to Expect When You Are Expecting A Private Equity Exit
- Mergers & Acquisitions Process Overview: Part 1
- Mergers & Acquisitions Process Overview: Part 2
- Mergers & Acquisitions Process Overview: Part 3
- Mergers & Acquisitions Process Overview: Part 4
- Mergers & Acquisitions Process Overview: Part 5
- Agent and Broker Mergers & Acquisitions - 3rd Quarter 2024
- Agent and Broker Mergers & Acquisitions - First Half 2024
- Agent and Broker Mergers & Acquisitions: 3rd Quarter 2023
- 2022 Agent and Broker Mergers and Acquisitions: 17% Decline
- The Real Shark Tank: Overview of Private Securities Offerings and Crowdfunding
- Potential Federal Tax Changes: What May Be Coming
- The Legality of Cannabis-Based Products
- Non-Disclosure Agreements (NDAs): Tips
- The Wayfair Decision – A Possible Domino Effect?

About Knox Law

Knox McLaughlin Gornall & Sennett, P.C. is a full service law firm that has provided practical solutions to businesses, families, public entities, and nonprofits for over 65 years. Our practice areas include ADR Services, Bankruptcy & Creditors' Rights, Business & Tax, Business Succession, Construction Law, Elder Law, Employee Benefits, Environmental Law, Estate Planning & Administration, Governmental Practice, Health Law, Intellectual Property & Technology, Labor & Employment, Litigation, Mergers & Acquisitions, Public Finance & Bonds, Real Estate, and Workers' Compensation.