



## PATRICK J. BRUKS

Partner

T: 312.840.7090

pbruks@burkelaw.com

Patrick Bruks is a partner at Burke, Warren, MacKay & Serritella, P. C. Mr. Bruks is the past-chair of the firm's Corporate Group and has been practicing transactional law for more than twenty-five years. He represents entrepreneurs, closely held and family owned businesses, publicly traded companies, and governmental entities on a wide variety of transactions, such as mergers and acquisitions, debt and equity financings, licensing and intellectual property matters, software development and technology agreements, legislative issues, customer and supplier contracts, employment and non-compete agreements, as well as an international music festival and the renovation and operation of an NFL stadium. Many of Mr. Bruks' clients utilize him as their outside general counsel.

### Experience

The following is a representative list of Mr. Bruks' transactions:

- Represented the maker of Aerobeds® in connection with the sale of its business to a private equity firm.
- Represented the shareholders of Insight Beverages, Inc. in connection with their sale to Kerry Foods.
- Represented Deluxe Packaging Corp. in connection with its purchase of General Packaging Products, Inc.
- Represented Pinnacle Banc Group in connection with its \$250 million merger with and into Old Kent Financial Corporation.
- Represented the City of Chicago and the Chicago Park District in connection with the \$600 million Renovation of Soldier Field and Redevelopment of Burnham Park.

### PRACTICES & INDUSTRIES

Closely Held and Family Businesses

Corporate

### ADMISSIONS

Illinois

### EDUCATION

University of Notre Dame (B.A., with honors, 1990)

University of Illinois College of Law (J.D., *magna cum laude*, 1994)



- Represented the Chicago Park District in connection with the Lollapalooza Music Festival in Grant Park.
- Represented a multinational tier 1 automotive technology company in connection with some of the first development and joint venture agreements for "connected cars."
- Represented clients on software development and licensing agreements from both the licensor and licensee perspective.
- Represented local manufacturer in connection with its financing of a new production facility utilizing industrial revenue bonds.
- Represented several multinational manufacturers in licensing and development deals, acquisitions and joint ventures, and customer and supplier agreements.
- Represented start-up businesses on all types of formation issues ranging from determining the appropriate equity and compensation structures to addressing and resolving issues among owners.
- Represented executives on their employment agreements as well as their severance packages.
- Represented a number of closely held and family owned business as their outside general counsel.

### Professional/Community

During the course of his practice, Mr. Bruks has created and developed a universal process for analyzing any contract using "Ten and Only Ten Basic Questions." This process has been successfully applied to all types of contracts ranging from simple handshake deals to hundred-page agreements drafted by a team of lawyers. For over a decade, Mr. Bruks has been teaching and giving seminars to both attorneys and business people on how these "Ten Basic Questions" and his process can provide a significant competitive advantage in analyzing and negotiating any contract. The following is a representative list of parties for whom Pat has given speeches and seminars: Chicago Bar Association, Illinois Institute of Continuing Legal Education, Wintrust Bank, The Duchossois Group, Continental Automotive Systems, The Chamberlain Group, and 1871.

Mr. Bruks is an adjunct professor at DePaul University College of Law, where he teaches a course on Mergers and Acquisitions. He was also an adjunct professor at the University of Illinois College of Law where he taught a Transactional Law Practicum.

Mr. Bruks has also written three books:

- Analyzing Contracts – A Universal Process for Analyzing any Contract using Ten and Only Ten Basic Questions
- Drafting Contracts – Twenty Drafting Techniques to Maximize Rights and Minimize Obligations
- Mergers and Acquisitions – A Universal Process for Analyzing any M&A Contract using Ten and Only Ten Basic Questions



## Insights

### NEWS

Firm Hosts University of Illinois Law School Dean  
News, [September 15, 2016](#)

Pat Bruks Presents to 1871 Entrepreneurs  
News, [October 1, 2015](#)

Critical Acclaim for The Way Way Back  
News, [August 7, 2013](#)

### ALERTS

Bruks' Contract Circle: A Universal Process for Analyzing Any Contract Using Ten and Only Ten Basic Questions  
Alert, [August 1, 2013](#)