

M3 Companies has lost its third partner, attorney Greg Huber.

Huber, who specializes in real estate and finance law, joined the Prescott-based development firm as a partner in January 1999 after working as its attorney for seven years.

Remaining M3 partners Bill Brownlee and Jeff Davis, who founded the company 16 years ago, bought out Huber's interest in the company and will continue running it as they did before Huber joined them.

Among other local projects, M3 is developing the Prescott Lakes golf community, the City Centre downtown parking garage complex and the American Ranch equestrian community.

Huber explained in an interview with The Daily Courier this past week that he decided to leave the firm based on his desire to return to private practice.

He has joined local attorney Alex Vakula at the historic Octagon Building at 212 E. Gurley St., where Wild Sage Herbals used to sit. Their new firm, Vakula & Huber, focuses on business and real estate matters, as well as commercial litigation.

Before he joined M3, Huber worked for the Phoenix offices of law firm Deconcini, McDonald, Yetwin & Lacy. After working there for 13 years, he said "I was frankly tired of practicing law ... I wanted to be a businessman." But after two years as a businessman, he decided he was better suited for law and a fee-based salary versus a businessman's salary. Furthermore, he said, he missed the lower stress level and "insulation" that comes with practicing law. As an attorney, he explained, "you're dealing with other people's problems instead of your own."

He said, "I feel very good about the move," adding that he will continue to perform many of the same functions for M3, but as a lawyer rather than a partner.

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