

In Profile: Alex B. Vakula



TCBN/Nathaniel Kastelic --- Alex B. Vakula

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Name: Alex B. Vakula

Occupation(s): Business attorney with emphasis in real estate, investment matters

and partnership disputes.

Age: 46

Family: Maureen Vakula, married 17 years, and three sons.

Education: [Arizona State University](#), BS Economics (1984), summa cum laude; Arizona State University Law School, Juris Doctor (1987).

Community activities: Friends of Save our Courthouse, [Prescott Chamber of Commerce](#), Professionalism Committee - State Bar of Arizona, Association of Trial Lawyer's of America, Prescott Area Leadership, Yavapai County Bar Association, National Association of Securities Dealers - Board of Arbitrators, AARP Legal Services Network.

Career highlights: "1. \$4,200,000 award collected for client in dispute over a family business; 2. Obtained a six-figure, triple-damage award based on investment fraud for an elderly client against a major New York wire house."

Most memorable moments: "Pro bono legal work to save a client's ... trailer home from foreclosure."

On his mind lately: "The future of historic downtown Prescott."

Book on his shelf: "Freakonomics."

What does he do during his off time? "Mountain biking and spending time with my family and friends."

How many hours does he work in a typical week? "Whatever is required."

Morning or night person? "Morning."

Investment advice? "Diversify. Do not ever put all of your savings or investments with any one person, firm or investment."

What's his power breakfast? "Oatmeal and raspberries."

First job? "Working at my family's dragstrip in Michigan at age 9."

Who would he invite to dinner given the choice of anyone? "Great Grandfather from Russia, Nicholas Vakula."

In his CD player right now? "Joss Stone."

What's his favorite vacation spot? "San Diego."

If you could have a free ticket to fly anywhere in the world, where would you go?
"Lapeer, Michigan."

Pet peeve? "Spectator complainers."

Quality you admire in others: "The ability to forgive."

Favorite thing about the tri-city area? "The integrity and generosity of Prescott's old-timers."

Worst business gaffe? "Not spending more time with Barry Bonds around the college swimming pool."

Something most people don't

know about him: "Male Scholar of the Year at Arizona State University (1984)."

Lingering unfinished task: "Completing a family history/ genealogy of my family."

Best advice received? "Listen carefully to your elders, they have a lot of insight."

Best advice given? "Do not harbor grudges."

Business outlook? "The tri-city area will continue to prosper. The real estate market remains underpriced given the exceptional quality of life and climate."

What three words would you use to describe yourself? "Hardworking, creative and blessed."

What's the best thing about being you? "Having a close-knit family."

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