

Bracewell Recruits Tax Atty From Baker Botts In Dallas

By Jaqueline McCool

Law360 (April 19, 2023, 4:29 PM EDT) -- Bracewell LLP announced that a former Baker Botts LLP counsel who is experienced in advising businesses on state and local tax issues has joined the firm's tax practice as a partner in its Dallas office.

Bucky Brannen, whose hiring Bracewell announced Monday, helps his clients navigate emerging state and local tax issues, including negotiating pre-investment economic incentives, structuring operations to minimize tax and assisting with property tax disputes, the firm said. He also advises on multistate operations and has worked on cases involving state and local sales, property, income and gross receipts taxes, the firm said.



Bucky Brannen

"The tax practice at Bracewell is nationally recognized for its experience involving tax matters related to energy, infrastructure and public finance," Brannen told Law360. "These companies frequently face important state and local tax issues, making it a natural fit."

Brannen said he was excited to join Bracewell as a partner and that the firm was the "ideal platform to launch the next stage" of his practice.

Because the importance of state and local tax continues to rise as states and localities move to increase their tax bases, the importance of expertise in the field has grown as well, Brannen said. He said he believed he could bring valuable experience to the firm's state and local tax practice.

Brannen told Law360 that he's worked on many of Texas' largest economic development and tax incentive packages, adding that his clients have included semiconductor facilities, wind and solar development businesses, and manufacturing facilities of all types.

Brannen said he was excited for his clients to be able to leverage Bracewell's strong existing relationships and the expertise of the practice, especially when it comes to energy transitions. "Any client considering that kind of project is going to be able to immediately benefit from Bracewell's expertise," he said.

The chair of Bracewell's tax department, Elizabeth L. McGinley, said in a statement that the firm's addition of Brannen would provide clients with better state and local tax advice. "Bucky will also work closely with project development lawyers in helping clients with proactive state and local tax planning, including the negotiation of state tax incentives," McGinley said.

Brannen earned his undergraduate degree from Austin College, a law degree from Southern Methodist University Dedman School of Law and a Master of Laws in taxation from New York University School of Law, the firm said.

Bracewell has approximately 350 lawyers in 10 offices, according to the firm.

--Editing by Khalid Adad.