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Dennis Grady advises business owners, investors, developers, and high-net-worth individuals on a broad range of transactional matters. His practice focuses on entity structuring, mergers and acquisitions, real estate transactions, business succession, and federal and California tax planning. Dennis brings clients a sharp understanding of tax-efficient deal structuring and entity governance across a variety of industries, including construction, real estate, and professional services.

Clients value Dennis's strategic mindset, responsiveness, and ability to simplify complex legal and tax frameworks. He excels at navigating nuanced transactions such as business reorganizations and real estate financing structures. He also assists clients with choice-of-entity planning, buy-sell agreements, and multigenerational wealth preservation strategies. Dennis's unique ability to fuse deep tax knowledge with practical business sense makes him a trusted advisor for closely held companies and family offices.

Before joining Finch, Thornton & Baird, Dennis worked at both an Am Law 100 firm and a prominent regional firm, where he advised clients on sophisticated corporate transactions. He began his legal career working under seasoned litigation attorneys, giving him a solid foundation in litigation risk assessment that informs his deal work.

PRACTICES

- ☐ Construction Law
 - Real Estate
 - Corporate
 - Wealth Preservation
- ☐ Wealth Preservation
- ☐ Business & Commercial Transactions
- ☐ Real Estate
- ☐ Corporate Formation, Governance & Compliance

ADMISSIONS

- ☐ California: State Courts
- ☐ U.S. District Courts of California: Southern
- ☐ U.S. Tax Court

Finch, Thornton & Baird, LLP
4747 Executive Drive, Suite 700
San Diego, CA 92121

EXPERIENCE

- Estate planning, wills, and trusts
- Trusts and estates administration
- Business and commercial transactions
- Business entity formation and operation
- Works with clients, as well as their families and professional advisors, to determine the clients' estate and business planning objectives, related tax and non-tax issues, and devises and implements planning strategies which are tailored to achieve the clients' individual needs and objectives
- Counsels clients regarding the formation and operation of various business entities, including limited partnerships, limited liability companies, and corporations
- Land-use planning, including conditional use permits, partitions, and lot-line adjustments
- Real estate agreements, including leases, purchase and sale agreements, and tenants-in-common
- Licensing, including CSLB, SDVOSB, SBA 8(a), WOSB, and DBE

EDUCATION

- University of San Diego School of Law, LL.M., Taxation
 - *summa cum laude*
 - *Dean's Tax Scholar*
- University of San Diego School of Law, J.D.
 - *magna cum laude*
 - *Order of the Coif*
- San Diego State University, M.B.A.
- University of California, San Diego B.A., Political Science

MEMBERSHIPS

- State Bar of California

EXPERIENCE (Con't)

- Tax, including income, estate, gift, and property
- Entity selection and formation
- Mergers and acquisitions
- Purchase and sale of businesses
- Wind up and dissolution of businesses
- Shareholder and partner agreements
- Corporate governance
- General business planning and advice
- Ownership succession
- Family owned/closely held businesses
- Buy-sell/shareholder agreements
- Stock option agreements
- Employment agreements
- Executive compensation arrangements
- Nondisclosure agreements
- Employee confidentiality and nondisclosure agreements
- Noncompete/nonsolicitation agreements
- Trademarks and intellectual property license agreements