

BizFair 2016
Business Law Essentials
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Stacey L. Romberg has practiced law for over 25 years, focusing her practice on business law, estate planning and probate. She earned her B.A. in 1985 from Idaho State University, graduating with High Honors; a J.D. from the University of Idaho College of Law in 1987, graduating *cum laude*; and an LL.M from Georgetown University Law Center in 1991, graduating with distinction. Prior to opening her own law firm in 1999, Ms. Romberg drafted legislation for the U.S. Senate's Office of Legislative Counsel and worked in private practice both in Washington, D.C. and Seattle. Ms. Romberg enjoys writing, and has published many articles in a variety of publications including GPSolo eReport (a publication of the American Bar Association's Solo, Small Firm and General Practice Division), the Puget Sound Business Journal, and the King County Bar Bulletin. She frequently speaks at a variety of venues including radio programs, continuing legal education courses, events sponsored by business organizations, and programs sponsored by the U.S. Small Business Administration. A former college tennis player, Ms. Romberg proudly serves on the Board of Directors of the non-profit Tennis Outreach Programs ("TOPs").

Business owners continually face a myriad of legal issues. What entity structure should be used for your business? How do you protect yourself from individual liability for business activities? How should the relationship between fellow business owners be documented, so as to meet legal requirements and avoid problems down the road? And, what about contracts? Business owners constantly engage with customers, vendors, and key strategic partners. Unfortunately, entrepreneurs often spend needless time, energy and legal fees in resolving disputes as to the exact terms of engagement, because they either lack a contract or the contract was insufficient. Also, undoubtedly, any business that rents space will run across a lengthy commercial lease, written by the landlord's attorney to ensure the landlord is fully protected. Shouldn't you also make sure you're protected before entering into such an important financial relationship? In this hour, we will discuss:

- Legal Structure
- Trade Names
- Contracts
- Commercial Leases
- Other Legal Issues
- Selecting an Attorney