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New York's Go-To Real Estate Tax Law Firm Podell, Schwartz, Schechter & Banfield



Standing, from left: Thomas Zampino, Gary Schuller, Lawrence Marco and Paul V. Greco
Seated: William E. Banfield, Herbert S. Podell and Allan C. Schwartz

Not everyone is cut out for a career in the review and reduction of real property tax assessments. In fact, to the casual observer, it may seem to be an indecipherably complex and convoluted discipline. Fortunately for those who need legal representation in property taxation, Podell, Schwartz, Schechter & Banfield has an enduring interest and expertise in this area. While prior results do not guarantee a similar outcome, the firm's determination to seek out and solve new challenges enables it to consistently achieve the best results for its clients.

As the largest, one of the oldest, and indisputably the most comprehensive real estate tax law firm in New York City, Podell, Schwartz, Schechter & Banfield represents thousands of property taxpayers. It has a steadfast commitment to delivering unsurpassed, client-centered legal services in the most efficient and cost-effective manner.

"We have developed extraordinary expertise in this specialized field."

— William E. Banfield, Partner

"Because our practice concentrates solely on real estate tax assessment reductions, tax abatements and tax exemptions throughout New York State, we have developed extraordinary expertise in this specialized field over the past six decades," says William E. Banfield, partner. "Collectively, our lawyers and professional staff have hundreds of years of experience. Because we are staffed with

appraisers, former assessors and former Tax Commission and court personnel, our firm knows how the other side of the property tax system thinks and works. That's insight we employ daily in the service of our clients."

Many of the firm's lawyers serve or have served on national, state and local bar association committees that deal with property taxes, as well as lecture and write on property taxes. The firm also includes the current and a past president of New York City's Real Estate Tax Review Bar Association.

Single Source Solution for Real Property Tax

With 14 knowledgeable, experienced and highly skilled attorneys, and a full staff of appraisers, auditors and paralegals, the firm vigorously prosecutes all proceedings entrusted to it, through all levels of the administrative and legal system. Podell, Schwartz, Schechter & Banfield is large and experienced enough to handle real estate tax matters of great complexity while giving all of its clients the individual attention they deserve.

"We have dealt with many interesting and complex property tax valuation issues," says Banfield, "from skyscrapers to land underwater, from air rights to contaminated property, from huge commercial and residential complexes to museum valuation. The simple fact is that every property is unique. It is our job to make certain that individual assessments are fair and equitable. An item of expense that can be controlled is an item that can augment a property's value. We are always aware that a reduction in a property's taxes is an increase in its bottom line."

Podell, Schwartz, Schechter & Banfield, LLP

605 Third Avenue | 18th Floor | New York, NY 10158

212-883-6500 | www.pssb-law.com