

PORTLAND BUSINESS JOURNAL

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BUSINESS NEWS FROM THE FOUR-COUNTY REGION

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STRATEGIES: Executive Profile



‘Have no fear to accept new challenges and **tackle new areas of law.**’

Tim DeJong
Attorney/ shareholder, Stoll Berne

Tim DeJong

Like least about the job: Document discovery

Pet peeves: Not getting a straight answer. Making mountains out of molehills.

Most important lesson learned: Never lose your temper with your staff.

Person most interested in meeting: The late Joe Strummer

Greatest passions: Punk rock music from the early 1980s.

First choice for a new career: Chef or winemaker. I’m still trying to figure out which I like better, food or wine.

RESUME

Name: Tim DeJong

Title: Attorney/Shareholder

Organization: Stoll Berne

Background: Patent infringement and securities litigation attorney

Education: J.D., University of Oregon 1991 with honors; B.A., Western Washington University 1988 with honors

Residence: Portland

BUSINESS PHILOSOPHY

Essential business philosophy: Always do the best work you are capable of doing.

Best way to keep competitive: Have no fear to accept new challenges and tackle new areas of law.

Guiding principle: Business success is far less rewarding than a happy marriage. Give both 100%, but understand what is truly important in life.

Yardstick of success: Happy clients and referrals from peers.

Goal yet to be achieved: Obtain jury verdict in excess of \$100 million.

JUDGMENT CALLS

Best business decision: Leaving a high-paying job in Seattle to move to Portland to clerk for Judge Robert E. Jones.

Worst business decision: A short-lived paper route in middle school. Mowing lawns was far more lucrative and less work.

Toughest business decision: Taking a risk on a major patent infringement case for a contingent fee, despite no prior experience in patent law.

Biggest missed opportunity: A business major would have been far more useful than political science.

Mentors: My law partners, Gary Berne, Keith Ketterling and Rob Shlachter. Honorable mention to my high school English teacher, Ms. Nordlund, who gave me the tools to be a good writer.

Words that best describe you: No nonsense.

TRUE CONFESSIONS

Like best about the job: Victory. Solving complex problems. Working with people I admire and respect.

PREDILECTIONS

Favorite quote: “A nation that is afraid to let its people judge the truth and falsehood in an open market is a nation that is afraid of its people.” — John F. Kennedy.

Most influential book: “Why We Can’t Wait” by Martin Luther King, Jr.

Favorite Web sites: www.tripadvisor.com; www.kbdrecords.com

Favorite cause: The Lawyers’ Campaign for Equal Justice.

Favorite movie: Reservoir Dogs, Pulp Fiction, Blue Velvet.

Most treasured possession: The Panerai watch my wife, Laurie, gave me for my 40th birthday.

Favorite restaurant: El Olivo, Majorca, Spain

Favorite vacation spot: Laurie takes me to great places. South Africa is my favorite so far. I am looking forward to a trip to Egypt.

Favorite way to spend free time: Sharing a great bottle of wine with Laurie. Watching Oregon football. Go Ducks!