

Firm History

The origins of Manning Fulton can be traced back to 1950 and a hallway in the Wake County Courthouse, where Howard Manning shook hands with a young lawyer recommended by the dean of the University of North Carolina School of Law. Manning was so impressed by 23-year-old Charlie Fulton that he offered him a job on the spot, starting at \$40 a week.

Thus began one of the longest-lasting law partnerships in North Carolina.

Manning & Fulton was officially born on January 1, 1955. When Bill Skinner joined a year later, the name became Manning, Fulton & Skinner. In the half-century that followed, all three became influential leaders in the state's legal community.

A Legacy That Endures

Manning Fulton has roots in North Carolina law that don't grow any deeper.

- Howard Manning's grandfather was a founder of the UNC School of Law, and the building that once housed the law school bears his name. After graduating from Harvard Law School, Howard served four years in the Army before beginning a long and distinguished law career. His clients believed in him. His peers looked up to him. "He's a first-class lawyer," it was said of Manning. "You can't scare him and you can't buy him." He died in 2002 at the age of 88, leaving a reputation of professionalism and matchless integrity.
- Charlie Fulton came from humble circumstances in the mountains of Appalachia. After a stint in the Navy, he made his way to Raleigh and quickly established himself as one of the state's leading authorities on real estate law. He retired in 2007.
- Bill Skinner was a native of Elizabeth City. He served in the Navy during the Korean War, and while deployed in Italy he developed a lifelong love of opera, particularly soprano Renata Tebaldi. As an attorney, he was widely regarded for his expertise in tax law and estate planning up until his death in 2013.

The legacy of our founders lives on. You see it in the enthusiasm and skill of the lawyers here now. You sense it in the loyalty of their clients – some of whom have been with the firm since the early days. And you feel it in the commitment to excellence by the entire Manning Fulton family.

Our Home is the Heart of North Carolina

The firm's first home was in the historic Capital Club Building in downtown Raleigh, where large overhead fans helped ease the summer heat. In 1986, the firm moved to its current location in the Glenwood Plaza office building, just inside Raleigh's Beltline.

More recently, Manning Fulton opened a second office in Durham – an area like Raleigh that is exploding with growth and opportunity.

Let us put our deep North Carolina roots and decades of experience to work for you today.