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Business

Bold Types

Mintz gets a new leader, and this time he's a Bostonian

By Jon Chesto

After 18 years with a New Yorker leading one of the city's biggest law firms, the managing member's role at Mintz soon will be held again by a Bostonian.

The law firm announced on Tuesday that its partners voted to make Mike Fantozzi their next managing member, the equivalent of a CEO for the firm, to take over when longtime boss Bob Bodian wraps up his tenure in mid-2027. Bodian, the New Yorker in question, will become the firm's chair, a title left open since the death of Bob Popeo in 2023.

Bodian jokes about how he got a Boston office, after he was named managing member 17 years ago, the first to come from another city. He hung a New York Yankees cap on the door of his new office, and it was shredded within a week. Now he says he packs his Boston office with Red Sox memorabilia.

The 600-attorney firm's revenue has grown each year for the past 11, and it came close to $770 million in the fiscal year that ended in March — or nearly three times what it was when Bodian started. Bodian attributes some of the success to changing the way attorneys get credit for bringing in new business, ensuring the financial reward is shared beyond just the person who landed the client.

Some of the firm's specialties include intellectual property, private equity, and healthcare. It has eight offices, including its largest, in the One Financial Center tower across from South Station.

One year into his current three-year term, Bodian told his colleagues that this term would be his last. Bodian eventually recommended Fantozzi to the partners as his successor, and they approved him for that role on Monday.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MINTZ

Mike Fantozzi and Bob Bodian at the Mintz law firm.

"He's selfless, which I think is a really important character in a leader," Bodian said. "He has great judgment. He has a lot of respect across the firm. He knows the firm inside and out. And he's shown the ability to make hard decisions and to communicate them well."

Fantozzi, a corporate lawyer, has led the local office for more than a decade and has been at Mintz for three decades, working with some of the city's biggest companies.

"There's something really gratifying about working at a firm ... on sophisticated work for clients that are really important to our local and our national economies," Fantozzi said. "I'm looking forward to continuing the terrific run Bob has had."

This is an installment of our weekly Bold Types column about the movers and shakers on Boston's business scene.

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