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ROBERT G. HOLDWAY

VICE PRESIDENT AND TRUST COUNSEL

FIDUCIARY TRUST COMPANY, BOSTON

Several years ago, Robert G. Holdway had a client meeting at the home of a married couple to go over financial and estate planning matters. As he was leaving, the husband — a prominent and successful doctor — pulled Holdway aside and told him, "You should know that what you are doing for us is more valuable than what any doctor does for a patient."

The moment has stuck with him.

"I don't believe for a second that his statement is accurate," Holdway says, laughing. "But it really encapsulates my feelings about the practice of law. I went to law school because of the intellectual attraction, but over the years I've gravitated towards working with individuals and families, and I get a lot of satisfaction from helping them out."

A former CPA, Holdway has spent more than 20 years at Fiduciary Trust Company, advising clients on estate planning, retirement planning, charitable giving and other financial matters. For 18 of those years, he also has served as a member of the company's board of directors. In that role, he provides strategic planning for the company and has assisted as a member of the committees that identified and evaluated candidates and recommended a new president and CEO on two different occasions.

"The best leaders have some fundamental values, such as a focus on clients, are very good listeners, and

don't have to be the most dominant person in the room," Holdway says.

An author and speaker for MCLE, Holdway frequently writes for the company's quarterly Fiduciary Perspective publication and currently chairs the board of the Judge Baker Children's Center. The organization, launched in 1917, focuses on helping children with serious behavioral and mental health challenges, with programs including the Manville School (serving approximately 110 students in grade and middle school), a treatment clinic and a hotline. Affiliated with Harvard Medical School, the JBCC also trains post-doctoral clinicians and sponsors academic research.

For decades, Holdway has been an avid distance runner, completing 12 marathons, including five in Boston.

In 2012, Holdway was selected by Medtronic Corporation as one of 25 "Global Heroes," a program that honors medical device patients from around the world who continue to be active in distance running despite having significant health conditions. Holdway, who has had a pacemaker since 2000, ran a 10-mile race as part of the program, a feat he repeated last October when the company invited all the recipients back to celebrate the program's anniversary.

"The people I've met are amazing, and what they have overcome is truly unbelievable," Holdway says. **MLV**