

DENNIS KESSLER



Dennis Kessler is the President and founder of **Midwest Family Business Advisors**, midwestfamilybusinessadvisors.com, a firm that specializes in helping families to overcome the challenges inherent in mixing business with family. He advises clients on, family and business governance structures, succession planning, conflict resolution, and strategic planning. Dennis is the former Co-President of Fel-Pro Inc., which was in his family for 80 years. He has served on eight Public and Private Company Boards as well as numerous non-profit Boards. Dennis is a founder of the Private Directors Association which trains Directors and helps companies search for Independent Directors. The PDA also holds training programs that help companies improve Board effectiveness. <https://www.privatedirectorsassociation.org/>

Fel-Pro Inc.

Fortune Magazine ranked Fel-Pro fourth in their list of best companies to work for in America, and the company holds a top ten spot in the book, "The 100 Best Companies to Work for in America." Fel-Pro was chosen as one of the ten best employers for women in the country by "Working Mother" magazine for twelve straight years, and was named "Employer of the Year" in Illinois. The Business Enterprise Trust, founded by Norman Lear, awarded Fel-Pro special recognition for its programs enhancing the quality of life for employees.

Dennis Kessler

Dennis currently sits on the Board of Directors of W.E. O'Neil Construction Industries. A founding member of the Private Directors Association, Dennis serves on the Board of Directors of several non-profit organizations, including the Dystonia Medical Research Foundation and the Rolfe Pancreatic Cancer Foundation. He is currently a member of the advisory board of DePaul University's College of Commerce and Washington University in St. Louis's Engineering School Council. Previously, he served as a member of numerous company Board of Directors including Fel-Pro, QuesTek Innovations, SWANK Motion Pictures, MFRI, Loyola Family Business Center, and Ideal Industries, Inc., and as Chairman of the Workforce Development Committee of Lake County Partners, IL. He also held positions on the Board of Directors of the Northern Illinois Business Association and was Chairman of Northwestern University's School of Engineering and Applied Science Advisory Council and others. He currently serves on the Board of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) of Lake County.

Dennis enjoys tennis, biking, hiking and sailing.

Dennis and his wife, Barbara, live in Highland Park, Illinois, and have 3 grown children.