

Business Valuation For Dummies®

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Holton has 26 years of experience writing about business, workplace, education, and investment topics and has written or co-written 14 books. Her titles include *For Members Only: A History and Guide to Chicago's Oldest Private Clubs* (Lake Claremont Press), *The Everything Guide to Mortgages* (Adams Media), *How to Be a Value Investor* (McGraw-Hill), *The Essential Dictionary of Real Estate* (Barnes & Noble Books), and *The Encyclopedia of Financial Planning* (FPA Press). She also ghostwrites books for corporate professionals.

In 2005, she became a contributing writer for the Financial Planning Association on consumer finance and retirement planning issues. She also writes on corporate governance and business planning issues for a variety of publications, including *Corporate Board Member* magazine.

Since starting her company, Holton has written for national magazines and newspapers including the American Bar Association's *ABA Journal*, *Parents*, *American Demographics*, *Latina*, *Working Mother*, *The Boston Globe*, and the *Chicago Tribune*.

She is a graduate of Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism and a former national board member of the Society of American Business Editors and Writers (SABEW). She is a current member of the Authors Guild, the International Association of Business Communicators, and the Society of Midland Authors.

Jim Bates, MBA: Jim Bates is vice president, Transaction Support, for the Christman Group, a middle-market investment banking firm based in Palatine, Illinois. He ran his own business valuation company after managing the business valuation division of a national consulting firm.

Bates's responsibilities include providing the managing directors of Christman's regional offices with complete transaction support, including but not limited to preparing business valuations, writing offering memoranda, doing industry research, identifying and contacting buyers, and helping with virtually every other aspect of serving clients. He has been involved in more than 30 sell-side engagements and has prepared more than 500 business valuations.

In his spare time, Bates is a competitive tennis player at the national level and serves the Professional Tennis Registry as its representative for Illinois. Currently, he is five-time defending champion of the Midwest Hardcourt, 35 and over, doubles championship. He has been playing and/or coaching tennis competitively for more than 25 years and is certified by the Professional Tennis Registry at the highest of its three levels.

He holds a bachelor of business/economics degree and an MBA with concentrations in finance and marketing from Western Illinois University.

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