

William Benjamin Gould IV
Biographical Data
(Born in Boston, Massachusetts, July 16, 1936)

William B. Gould IV is the Charles A. Beardsley Professor of Law, Emeritus at Stanford Law School. He has been Professor of Law at Stanford since July 1972. A 1961 graduate of Cornell Law School, he studied comparative labor law at the London School of Economics (1962-1963) with Professor Otto Kahn Freund.

Mr. Gould was Chairman of the National Labor Relations Board from 1994-1998. About Chairman Gould, the Rutgers University President, in awarding him his fifth honorary doctorate, said: “perhaps more than any other living American . . . [you have] contributed to the analysis, the practice, and the transformation of labor law and labor relations.”

Prior to Stanford, he was Assistant General Counsel of the United Auto Workers in Detroit (1961-1962); Attorney for the National Labor Relations Board in Washington, D.C. (1963-1965); represented management in labor law matters with Battle, Fowler, Stokes & Kheel in New York, New York (1965-1968); Professor of Law at Wayne State Law School in Detroit (1968-1971); and Visiting Professor of Law at Harvard Law School, Cambridge, Massachusetts (1971-1972). Since Stanford, he was Visiting Professor of Law at Howard Law School in Washington, D.C. (1989). Since Stanford, he was Visiting Professor of Law at Howard Law School in Washington, D.C. (1989), Visiting Fellow and Lecturer: Churchill College, Cambridge (1975); University of Tokyo Law Faculty (1975, 1978); East-West Center, Honolulu (1982-1983); Australian National University, Canberra, Australia (1985); European University Institute, Florence, Italy (1988); University of Witwatersrand, South Africa (1991). Professor Gould was Visiting Professor of Law at the University of Hawaii Law School in 2005. He has served as Professor of Law at the 2005 University of San Diego Summer Law Study Abroad Program: Institute of International and Comparative Law in London.

Author of more than 60 law journal articles and numerous newspaper contributions to the New York Times (author of 9 op-ed articles for that paper), Los Angeles Times, London Economist, Boston Globe, San Francisco Chronicle, San Jose Mercury-News and other papers and journals. Gould is also the author of 10 books: Black Workers in White Unions: Job Discrimination in the United States (Cornell University Press 1977); A Primer on American Labor Law, (MIT Press 1982, 2nd edit. 1986, 3rd edit. 1993, 4th edit. 2004, 5th edit. 2013); Japan’s Reshaping of American Labor Law (MIT Press 1984); Strikes, Disputes Procedures, and Arbitration Essays on Labor Law (Greenwood Press 1985); Labor Relations in Professional Sports (Auburn House 1986); Agenda for Reform: The Future of Employment Relationships and the Law (MIT Press 1993); Labored Relations: Law, Politics and the NLRB—A Memoir (MIT Press 2000); Diary of a Contraband: The Civil War Passage of a Black Sailor, (Stanford University Press, 2002); International Labor Standards: Globalization, Trade and Public Policy (Stanford University Press, 2003); Bargaining with Baseball: Labor Relations in an Age of Prosperous Turmoil (McFarland 2011). Recipient of the Certificate of Merit from American Bar Association Gavel Award Committee, 1983 for A Primer on American Labor Law, a book which has been translated into Spanish, German, Japanese, and Chinese and Korean.

Honorary degrees include: LL.D.: 1998, Rutgers University; LL.D.: 1997, Capital University; LL.D.: 1996, Stetson University; LL.D.: 1996, The District of Columbia School of Law; and LL.D.: 1986, University of Rhode Island.

A member of the National Academy of Arbitrators since 1970, Gould arbitrated the 1989 wage and economic dispute between the Detroit Board of Education and the Detroit Federation of Teachers and in 1992 and 1993 arbitrated salary disputes between Major League Baseball Players Association and the Major League Baseball Player Relations Committee. Gould's public service and appointments include Consultant to the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (1966-67); Member of First Fact-Finding Board established under New York Taylor Law in 1967; Co-Chairman of the California State Bar Ad Hoc Committee on Wrongful Dismissal (1983-84); Secretary, Labor and Employment, Law Section, ABA, (1980-81); Chair of Mayor of San Francisco's Task Force on Collective Bargaining (1990-91); Member of On the Future of Worker/Management Relations Commission, U.S. Department of Labor and U.S. Department of Commerce (1993-94); Impartial Investigator and Consultant for Writers Guild of America, West, in Election Protest Dispute (2003-04); Expert Witness for National Hockey League in proceedings before the British Columbia Labor Relations Board involving the extraterritoriality of American labor law (2005 and 2012); Expert Witness for County of Santa Clara (2006-07). He served as Independent Monitor for First Group America for Freedom of Association complaints, (2008-2010). Gould served as Consultant and Special Advisor to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) on project labor agreements (2011-2012). In the 1970s he was lead counsel for black and Latino plaintiffs in employment discrimination cases, including Stamps v. Detroit Edison in which his clients received the largest per capita employment discrimination judgment at that time.