

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND: Michael G. Wagner

Michael G. Wagner is a co-founder and principal of The W Group, Inc., an investigative consultancy founded in the Bay Area in January 2000. Wagner, and co-founder, Scott Wilcox, were co-practice leaders for the investigations practice of PricewaterhouseCoopers in San Francisco, before starting the firm.

The W Group provides business intelligence and risk mitigation services to corporations, financial concerns and law firms, as well as high net worth investors. Key clients include Microsoft, Adobe and several of the largest venture capital and financial consulting firms in New York, San Francisco and London.

The W Group specializes in conducting:

- Internal and external fraud investigations;
- Transactional and cyber due diligence;
- International supply chain assessments.

In his previous career, Wagner was a national award-winning investigative journalist and editor for several publications including the *Los Angeles Times*, *Knight Ridder Newspapers*, the *Sacramento Bee*.

In his career as a journalist, Wagner was honored with the Polk Award as part of Knight Ridder's Iran-Contra special investigations team; the Worth Bingham Prize for Investigative Reporting presented at the annual White House Correspondents' Association dinner; The American Bar Association's Silver Gavel; and the Society of Professional Journalists/Sigma Delta Chi Public Service Award. During his career, Wagner was nominated six times by publishers for the Pulitzer Prize.