Described by American Journalism Review as one of the most accomplished press lawyers in the nation, Bruce Sanford maintains a media and First Amendment law practice focused on representing high-profile clients in cutting edge and complex litigation. Noted for his knowledge of media law and its environment, he also serves as a counselor to families owning media conglomerates, advising on the evolution of their businesses in a digital world.

During a distinguished career spanning four decades, he has been at the forefront of shaping modern American libel and media law and has represented major media outlets from television networks to major newspapers, magazine and book publishers. His clients have included authors Bill Clinton, Barbara Bush and John Grisham.

Sanford, among The National Law Journal’s list of the 100 most influential lawyers in America, has been described in a Washingtonian article on “The 50 Best Lawyers in Washington” as “without peer” in First Amendment law. He is the author of Libel and Privacy, which is relied upon by media lawyers and courts throughout the country, and of the best-selling Don’t Shoot the Messenger: How Our Growing Hatred of the Media Threatens Free Speech for All of Us.

Sanford is chairman and a charter trustee of The Thomas Jefferson Center in Charlottesville and serves on the board of the International Center for Journalists.

Active in civic life in Washington, Palm Beach and Nantucket, he has served on the boards of the National Symphony Orchestra, WETA, the Washington National Cathedral, National Cathedral School for Girls and the National Presbyterian School.

He and his wife, Marilou, have three children and two grandchildren.