Nikolaus Schuttauf

Senior Associate

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Overview

Nikolaus "Nik" Schuttauf specializes in helping high-net-worth individuals and families develop sophisticated estate planning strategies to reduce transfer taxes, preserve multigenerational wealth, and ensure seamless asset transfers. He creates tailored estate plans that help clients achieve their unique goals while minimizing tax exposure and avoiding probate.

Nik also has extensive experience guiding clients through domicile changes to Florida, assisting them with residency transitions and navigating the associated legal and tax considerations. Licensed in Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Florida, he provides seamless support to multistate clients, including those balancing residences across multiple jurisdictions.

In estate and trust administration, Nik brings a depth of experience in settling complex estates, including the preparation of federal, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island estate tax returns. He assists clients with the intricacies of probate proceedings, distribution of substantial assets—such as real estate, investments, and retirement accounts—and ensures full compliance with all tax obligations.

As a parent of two young daughters, Nik brings a personal understanding to estate planning for families. He works closely with couples to plan for the unexpected, establishing guardianship provisions and utilizing trusts to protect and conserve their children’s inheritances.

Nik combines technical expertise, attention to detail, and a commitment to delivering results to provide clients with sophisticated, forward-thinking solutions to even the most complex estate planning and administration needs.

Education and Credentials

Education

New England School of Law, J.D., *magna cum laude*, 2012; *New England Law Review*, Comment and Note Editor

Stonehill College, B.A., 2009

Admissions

State of Florida

Practices & Industries

Fiduciary and Probate Litigation

Private Client

Trust & Estates

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

State of Rhode Island

Affiliations

American Bar Association

Rhode Island Bar Association, Probate and Trust Committee

Recognition and Community

No aspect of this advertisement has been approved by the highest court of any state. Prior results do not guarantee a similar outcome. See Awards Methodology.

Recognitions

CALI Award for Excellence in Corporate Finance

CALI Award for Excellence in UCC Negotiable Instruments

CALI Award for Excellence in Massachusetts Practice and Procedure

Community Involvement

Boys & Girls Club of Metro South, Board of Directors

Insights

How to Determine the Governing Law of a Trust
Trusts & Estates Magazine, November 20, 2024

In The Media

Using SLATs & SLANTs for Flexibility in Estate Planning
November 14, 2024

"Onboarding Estate Planning Clients," Massachusetts Continuing Legal Education
May 1, 2024

The Estate Tax Catching Americans by Surprise
The Wall Street Journal, November 18, 2023

"Using SLATs & SLANTs for Flexibility in Estate Planning," MCLE New England
November 9, 2023

"Tax Issues in Choice of Entity and Succession Planning," MCLE New England
October 30, 2023

Death & Taxes: Understanding the Rhode Island Estate Tax & Mechanics of Estate Tax Returns
June 2023

Trusts in Massachusetts from A to Z
February 2023

Pre-Nuptial and Decanting as Tools to Protect inheritance Expectations
September 2022

Careers in Trust and Estates Law
April 2021

Estate Planning During COVID-19: How Parents Can Be Prepared for Incapacity
JD SUPRA Legal News, May 1, 2020

Changes to the Federal Gift and Estate Tax May Be Trap for Unsuspecting Mass Residents
LinkedIn Pulse, July 2, 2018

Estate Planning for Your Four-Legged Family
LinkedIn Pulse, June 4, 2018