

David L. Silvian

Partner

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Overview

David Silvian advises clients on all aspects of estate planning and estate and trust administration. His clients include business owners, executives and wealthy families, both in the U.S. and abroad. David works with his clients to simplify and explain the sometimes complicated choices they face. The result is clear steps that they can take to reduce estate and gift taxes and provide for management of their property for future generations. He has considerable experience with advanced estate planning techniques designed to reduce or eliminate gift or estate tax costs in the transfer of assets. David also acts as a trustee for family trusts, working with multiple generations to administer their trusts in a manner that suits their needs and goals. David has extensive experience using complex estate planning techniques, such as:

- Use of GRATs (Grantor Retained Annuity Trusts) to transfer assets, including diversified investment portfolios, interests in family businesses, concentrated stock positions and speculative investments to children or trusts for children at no gift tax cost
- Use of installment sales to grantor trusts to accomplish transfers of a variety of assets
- Use of LLCs (Limited Liability Companies) and family limited partnerships to reduce estate and gift tax values of investment real estate, closely held businesses and diversified investment portfolios
- Providing for ongoing management and enjoyment of family vacation homes
- Use of qualified personal residence trusts to transfer primary and vacation homes to children and to trusts for children
- Use of trusts, LLCs and other entities to facilitate investment management and participation in decision making by second and third generation family members
- Review and improvement of existing irrevocable trusts

** No aspect of these advertisements has been approved by the highest court of any state. See Awards Methodology.*

Practices & Industries

Family Office

Fiduciary and Probate Litigation

International Trust & Estates

Private Client

Trust & Estates

Trust Services and Fiduciary Compliance

Education and Credentials

Education

DAY PITNEY LLP

Cornell Law School, J.D., 1994, *Cornell Journal of Law and Public Policy*, Note Editor

The University of Chicago, A.B., 1990

Admissions

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

State of Connecticut

Affiliations

Accredited Estate Planner, National Association of Estate Planners & Councils

American Bar Association, Real Property, Trust and Estate Law Section

American College of Trust and Estate Counsel (ACTEC), Fellow

Boston Estate Planning Council

Boston Bar Association, Estate Planning Committee

Massachusetts Bar Association

Connecticut Bar Association, Estate and Probate Section

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

Chosen for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America* (Woodward/White, Inc.) for Trusts and Estates, 2023-2027

Chosen for inclusion in list of Top Lawyers for Trusts and Estates by *Boston Magazine* (Metro Corp.), 2021-2022

Chosen for inclusion in *Chambers HNW Guide* (Chambers & Partners) of recognized practitioners for Private Wealth in Massachusetts, 2016-2026

Insights

One Big Beautiful Bill: Key Provisions That May Affect You
Day Pitney Alert, July 21, 2025

Generations Spring 2024 - Informal Family Offices: Hiding in Plain Sight
April 25, 2024

UPDATED: Massachusetts Legislature Passes Wide-Ranging Tax Bill Impacting Estate and Income Taxes
September 29, 2023

Massachusetts Appeals Court Rules That Interest in an Irrevocable Trust Is a Marital Asset
September 14, 2023

Day Pitney Continues Support of GLAD
October 30, 2020

COVID-19: Massachusetts Approves Temporary Remote Notarization
May 7, 2020

Estate Planning Update January 2020 - Retirement Account Planning May Need to Be Reviewed Because of New Law
January 21, 2020

Do Trustees Have a Duty to Consider Decanting?
April 25, 2017

Massachusetts Court Ruling Reveals Estate Tax Constitutional Issue
September 6, 2016

News

Day Pitney Continues Strong Performance in Chambers High Net Worth 2026 with 23 Attorney Rankings
Day Pitney Press Release, July 23, 2026

Day Pitney's Chambers High Net Worth Recognition Climbs to 22 Attorneys in 2025 Edition
July 24, 2025

Chambers High Net Worth Recognizes 18 Day Pitney Attorneys for Private Wealth Law
July 18, 2024

Chambers High Net Worth Recognizes 20 Day Pitney Attorneys for Private Wealth Law
July 20, 2023

Chambers High Net Worth Recognizes 20 Day Pitney Attorneys for Private Wealth Law
July 22, 2022

Chambers High Net Worth Recognizes 20 Attorneys for Private Wealth Law
July 26, 2021

Chambers High Net Worth Recognizes Day Pitney and 16 Attorneys for Private Wealth Law
July 10, 2020

Chambers High Net Worth Recognizes Day Pitney and 16 Attorneys for Private Wealth Law
July 18, 2019

Chambers High Net Worth Guide 2018 Recognizes Fifteen Day Pitney Attorneys
July 24, 2018

Chambers High Net Worth Guide 2017 Recognizes Eleven Day Pitney Attorneys
September 20, 2017

Chambers High Net Worth Guide 2016 Recognizes Nine Day Pitney Attorneys
June 28, 2016

In The Media

Boston Magazine's Top Lawyers of 2023
Boston Magazine, November 21, 2023

Boston Magazine's Top Lawyers of 2022
Boston magazine , November 29, 2022

Boston Magazine's Top Lawyers of 2021
Boston Magazine, November 23, 2021

Domicile and Residency Series: Breaking Up Can be Hard
October 24, 2019

You, Taxes and 2018: What to Expect from the Tax Bill
Private Asset Management, January 16, 2018

Will Provisions Pertaining to the Noncitizen Spouse and Will Provisions Pertaining to the Multinational Estate
Drafting Wills and Trusts in Massachusetts, 2017 Edition, MCLE, April 21, 2017

Awash With Uncertainty, Advisers Scramble to Prepare for Potential Tax Overhaul
Private Asset Management, March 3, 2017

Day Pitney Widely Represented at the Federal Tax Institute of New England
October 30, 2015