

Leiha Macauley

Partner

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Overview

Leiha Macauley, a partner in the Private Client Department, advises on all aspects of estate, gift and charitable planning, closely held businesses, administration of estates and trusts, and fiduciary litigation. Leiha regularly counsels entrepreneurs, private equity firm partners, closely held and public company shareholders in connection wealth preservation, including asset protection and succession planning. Leiha also prepares premarital agreements, and serves as an expert witness with respect to inherited wealth and trusts in divorce proceedings. Leiha serves as a trustee for family trusts and personal representative for estates. Leiha is a Fellow of the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel, and is a co-founder and vice president of the Greater Boston Fiduciary American Inn of Court. She is also Chair-Elect of the Boston Bar Association 2014-2015 Trusts & Estates Section, and Chair of the Boston Bar Foundation Investment Committee. Leiha developed and co-directed the Child Health Advocacy Partnership, a venture of the East Boston Community Health Center, the Medical-Legal Partnership for Children, and Day Pitney which teamed doctors with attorneys to provide legal information and advocacy to underprivileged families.

Her other civic contributions include:

- Trustee, Boston Bar Foundation, 2007 to 2013
- Member, Board of Directors, Big Sister Association of Greater Boston, 2006 to 2009
- Member, Executive Committee of the Boston University Law Alumni Association, 2002 to 2013
- Chair, Junior Fellows Society of the Boston Bar Foundation, 2006 to 2011
- Member, Boston Bar Association's Public Interest Committee, 2006 to 2010
- Co-Chair, Boston Bar Association Trusts & Estates New Developments Committee 2008 2010, Estate planning Committee 2010 to 2012, Continuing Legal Education 2012 to 2014
- Founding member and Director, Child Health Advocacy Partnership, 2006 to 2010
- Member, Executive Committee of the Trustees of the Boston Bar Foundation 2008 to 2013

Practices & Industries

Family Office

Fiduciary and Probate Litigation

Private Client

Trust & Estates

Trust Services and Fiduciary Compliance

- President, Boston University Law National Young Alumni Council, 2005 to 2007
- Chairman, American Liver Foundation Run for Research Marathon Team, 2004
- Vice Chairman, American Liver Foundation Run for Research Marathon Team, 2003
- Big Sister to Lauren, of Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts, 1999 to present

According to the 2022 edition of *Chambers HNW* (Woodward/White, Inc.)*, an interviewee noted that “She's tireless, she's dedicated, she's thoughtful and passionate. She has unbelievable patience and she has a great manner with clients that puts them at ease.”

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

Education and Credentials

Education

Boston University School of Law, J.D.

Cornell University, B.A.

Admissions

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Affiliations

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

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 *Chambers HNW Guide* (Chambers & Partners) of recognized practitioners for Private Wealth, Nationwide, 2017-2025; USA Eastern Region, 2016, 2019-2023, 2026; Massachusetts, 2016-2026

Chosen for inclusion in the *Chambers USA Legal Directory* (Chambers & Partners)of recognized practitioners for Private Wealth in Massachusetts, 2008-2016

Chosen for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America* (Woodward/White, Inc.), Trusts and Estates, 2013-2027

Selected to the list of Massachusetts Women's Edition *Super Lawyers*®, Estate Planning and Probate, 2017

Selected to the list of Massachusetts *Super Lawyers*®, Estate Planning and Probate, 2015-2020, 2024-2026

Selected to the list of Massachusetts *Super Lawyers*® Rising Stars, Estate Planning and Probate, 2005-2014

Named a Five Star Wealth Manager in the Boston area, 2010, 2011, 2012, and 2013

Received the 2011 Lelia Josephine Robinson Award from the Boston University School of Law Women's Law Association. The award, named for the first woman admitted to practice law in Massachusetts, honors exemplary leadership in one's community.

Recognized by the *Boston Globe* as one of six Boston-area "unsung heroes" who is doing her part to make Boston a better place, 2008

Recipient of the *Boston Business Journal's* "40 under 40" award, which recognizes business professionals who have demonstrated talent, leadership, and promise and whose community contributions and professional abilities have brought them measurable success in their chosen field, 2006

Recognized by *Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly* as an "Up and Coming Lawyer," an annual selection of 15 Massachusetts lawyers who have been members of the bar for 10 years or less and who have distinguished themselves in their careers and in their communities, 2006

Honored as one of 10 lawyers selected to participate in the Boston Bar Association's Public Interest Leadership Program, 2003

Insights

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

Interest in Irrevocable Trust is Marital Asset
September 9, 2015

Massachusetts Appeals Court Rules That Interest in Irrevocable Trust With Ascertainable Standard Is a Marital Asset Subject to Division Upon Divorce
September 1, 2015

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

Massachusetts Legislature's Joint Committee on the Judiciary
November 16, 2021

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

87 Day Pitney Lawyers Named to 2016 Super Lawyers List
November 10, 2016

71 Day Pitney Lawyers Named to 2017 Best Lawyers List
August 15, 2016

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

Chambers USA 2016 Ranks 47 Day Pitney Attorneys
May 27, 2016

Leiha Macauley Selected as a 2015 Boston Rising Star by The National Law Journal
November 11, 2015

91 Day Pitney Lawyers Named to 2015 Super Lawyers List
October 30, 2015

68 Day Pitney Lawyers Named to 2016 Best Lawyers List
August 24, 2015

Chambers USA 2015 Ranks 51 Day Pitney Attorneys
May 21, 2015

Eighty-Four Day Pitney Attorneys Recognized by Super Lawyers for 2014
November 3, 2014

Seventy Day Pitney Lawyers Named to 2015 Best Lawyers List
August 22, 2014

Chambers USA 2014 Ranks 46 Day Pitney Attorneys
May 23, 2014

Eighty-eight Day Pitney Attorneys Recognized by *Super Lawyers* for 2013
October 22, 2013

Seventy Day Pitney Lawyers Named to 2014 Best Lawyers List
August 15, 2013

Chambers USA 2013 Ranks 39 Day Pitney Attorneys
May 24, 2013

Ninety-eight Day Pitney Attorneys Recognized by *Super Lawyers*
October 22, 2012

Seventy-Five Day Pitney Lawyers Named to Best Lawyers List for 2013
August 23, 2012

In The Media

"Trusts Interests in Divorce," New England Fellows Institute
February 7, 2022

Estate Planning in the Trump Era
The Current, July 1, 2017

4 Things You Should Know Before You Make Your Own Will
Money, August 17, 2016

As Women Gain Earning Power, A New Focus on Finances
Banker & Tradesman, July 17, 2016

Private Clients Legal & Tax Planning Answer Book 2016
PLI, April 1, 2016

Estate Planning for the Non-Specialist
February 24, 2016

The National Law Journal, Connecticut Law Tribune Announce Boston Rising Stars
Connecticut Law Tribune and National Law Journal, September 24, 2015

The 'entail' entails all
The Boston Globe, May 7, 2012

Author, Managing Trusts in Uncertain Times, ALI-ABA Representing Trust and Estate Beneficiaries Course Materials Journal, July 2010
July 1, 2010

Co-author, "Deconflicting in Representing Multiple Generations, Entities, and Interests," ALI-ABA Representing Trust and Estate Beneficiaries Course Materials Journal, July 2010
July 1, 2010

Quoted, "How to be a Good Executor," *The Faster Times*, April 26, 2010
The Faster Times, April 26, 2010

Trust, Estate & Fiduciary Litigation under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code
January 5, 2010