



## Melissa A. Rodriguez

*Partner*

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### OVERVIEW

Melissa Rodriguez specializes in providing legal counsel to ultra-high-net-worth individuals and families. Her expertise lies in guiding clients through complex legal matters about their wealth and assets. Melissa offers personalized and comprehensive counseling to her clients in advance of preparing legal documents such as wills, revocable and irrevocable trusts, marital agreements, and sophisticated estate planning documents that include dynasty trusts, intentionally defective grantor trusts (IDGTs), irrevocable life insurance trusts (ILITs), grantor retained annuity trusts (GRATs), lifetime spousal access trusts (SLATs), inter vivos qualified terminable interest trusts (QTIPs), and domestic and offshore asset protection trusts.

Melissa's practice also involves helping clients navigate the intricacies of probate and trust administration. She is empathetic to the fact that these matters can be emotionally charged and legally intricate, and is dedicated to providing thoughtful guidance. Her practice includes personal representative, trustee, and beneficiary representation. Melissa works with clients to assess the merits of potential disputes, identify viable solutions, and explore alternative dispute resolution methods. She also assists clients in modifying, decanting, reforming, and terminating trusts.

In addition to trusts and estates, Melissa has experience in preparing and negotiating comprehensive prenuptial and postnuptial agreements. She specializes in marital agreements for couples with complex marital histories, including second marriages and blended families, and for clients with substantial assets, including real estate holdings, investment accounts, business interests, and significant inheritances or trusts.

Melissa is a state of Florida Fellow of the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel (ACTEC).

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

## SERVICES

PRIVATE CLIENT

TRUSTS AND ESTATES

INTERNATIONAL TRUSTS AND ESTATES

MATRIMONIAL AND FAMILY LAW

TAX

## INSIGHTS

**INSIGHTS INTO FLORIDA TRUST AND ESTATE LITIGATION TRENDS**

Co-author, April 3, 2024, *Daily Business Review*

**"MAVEN RISING," MAVEN LEADERSHIP COLLECTIVE**

Speaker, November 4, 2022, Maven Leadership Collective

**"TAX-EXEMPT ORGANIZATIONS," MAVEN LEADERSHIP COLLECTIVE**

Speaker, 2019-2020, Maven Leadership Collective

**"DOMESTIC ASSET PROTECTION TRUSTS: KEY INCOME AND TRANSFER TAX IMPLICATIONS," STRAFFORD**

Speaker, July 15, 2020, *Strafford*

**AN UNWAVERING RESULT, THIRD DCA ANALYZES WAIVERS IN THE CONTEXT OF THE FORMER WAGE EXEMPTION STATUTE IN CASTRO V. MERCANTIL COMMERCEBANK, N.A**

Co-author, June 17, 2020, *LISI Asset Protection Planning Newsletter, #407*

## NEWS

**ON THE MOVE**

Featured, February 1, 2024, *Florida Bar News*

**PRIVATE CLIENT ATTY FROM AKERMAN JOINS DAY PITNEY IN MIAMI**

Featured, December 22, 2023, *Law360 Pulse*

**DAY PITNEY CONTINUES TO GROW PRIVATE CLIENT DEPARTMENT**

Featured, December 19, 2023, *Attorney at Law Magazine*

**THE DAILY DOCKET INDUSTRY MOVES**

Featured, December 19, 2023, *Thomson Reuters*

**DAY PITNEY CONTINUES TO GROW PRIVATE CLIENT DEPARTMENT WITH ADDITION OF**

## **MIAMI-BASED PARTNER MELISSA RODRIGUEZ**

Featured, December 18, 2023, *Day Pitney Press Release*

## **EDUCATION AND CREDENTIALS**

### **EDUCATION**

University of Florida, Levin College of Law, L.L.M in Taxation

University of Florida, Levin College of Law, J.D.

Florida International University, B.A. Accounting

### **ADMISSIONS**

State of Florida

### **AFFILIATIONS**

American College of Trusts and Estate Counsel

American Bar Association

The Florida Bar, Real Property, Probate and Trust Law Section

Miami Dade Bar

Cuban American Bar Association

## **RECOGNITION AND COMMUNITY**

### **RECOGNITION**

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

Selected to the list of Ones to Watch for Trusts and Estates in Florida by *The Best Lawyers in America* (Woodward/White, Inc.), 2024

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