Nikolaus Schuttauf

Senior Associate

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Overview

Nikolaus "Nik" Schuttauf advises families and individuals on all aspects of estate planning, probate and trust administration, and estate tax returns. He works with clients to develop customized estate plans that carry out their wishes, minimize estate taxes and avoid probate.

Having two young daughters himself, Nik understands the important estate planning decisions facing couples with minor children and helps these couples plan for the unexpected by creating estate plans addressing issues, such as guardians for minors and utilizing trusts to manage and conserve children's inheritances.

Nik is licensed in Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Florida, which allows him to provide seamless service and guidance to the many "snowbird" clients who spend a portion of the year in the Sunshine State and are changing their residency.

For estate and trust administration matters, Nik assists clients and their families in addressing the many difficult issues that can arise upon the passing of loved ones. Such issues include navigating the often complex probate court process; assisting clients with distributing assets, such as real estate, investments, and retirement accounts to the intended beneficiaries: and preparing the required federal and state estate tax returns.

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

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

State of Rhode Island

Practices & Industries

Fiduciary and Probate Litigation

Private Client

Trust & Estates

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, Emerging Leaders Group

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