



Jessica J. Birnbaum

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Overview

Jessica helps clients articulate their wealth transfer objectives and implement estate plans that meet their financial, familial, business, and tax goals. She advises clients on all aspects of estate planning, including wills and trusts, lifetime gift planning, estate administration, and charitable planning.

Jessica has experience advising family offices and multi-generational families as well as corporate fiduciaries. Jessica regularly assists clients with trust modifications, including trust decantings and nonjudicial settlement agreements, and prenuptial agreements. Jessica has also worked with clients to create investment entities and charitable foundations.

Jessica formerly advised companies on corporate governance and acquisition matters, which gives her insight into the issues facing clients whose assets include business interests.

Prior to joining Schiff Hardin, Jessica was an associate in the Minneapolis office of an international law firm, where she had also served as a summer associate.

Practices

- Estate Planning
- Private Clients, Trusts and Estates
- Wealth Transfer Strategies

Credentials

Education

- University of Pennsylvania Law School, J.D., 2011, *magna cum laude*
Journal of Constitutional Law, Senior Editor
- Northwestern University, B.A., History and Political Science, 2005

Bar Admissions

- Illinois

Professional Memberships

- American Bar Association, Section on Real Property, Trust and Estate Law
- Chicago Bar Association

Insights

01.29.2021

News Release

Super Lawyers Names 28 Attorneys to 2021 *Illinois Super Lawyers, Rising Stars* Lists

01.02.2019

News Release

Schiff Hardin Elects 10 New Partners

07.05.2017

Alert

Estate Planning: How to Manage Digital Property Assets

Speeches & Presentations

- "Nuts & Bolts of Decanting a Trust," 63rd Annual Estate Planning Short Course, Illinois Institute for Continuing Legal Education (IICLE) (May 5 and 19, 2020)
- "Income Tax Planning Given the Increased Exemption," The Chicago Bar Association Trust Law Committee Meeting (Jan. 14, 2019)
- "How to Utilize Planning Opportunities & Navigate the Challenges of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act," First Midwest Bank 11th Annual Trust and Estate Seminar (May 11, 2018)
- "Basics of Trust Administration," Lorman Education Services Webinar (Jan. 30, 2018)

AWARDS & HONORS

- Illinois Rising Star (2021)
Thomson Reuters' *Illinois Super Lawyers*