

Laura Halferty

She/Her

PARTNER

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Office: Minneapolis



By listening to and understanding her clients' goals, Laura crafts their estate plans in a manner that implements their wishes in a tax efficient manner.

Laura counsels clients in all aspects of estate planning, including structuring lifetime gifts, business succession plans and prenuptial agreements. Laura works with family business owners and their advisers to transition business interests to future generations in a tax efficient manner that aligns with the client's goals while minimizing disruption to the business. She represents corporate and individual fiduciaries in probate and trust administration matters, gift and estate tax filings and audits, and in disputed probate and trust matters. She works collaboratively with financial advisors, accountants, corporate and individual trustees, and beneficiaries to administer estates and trusts efficiently and professionally.

Laura's patience and experience with large, and sometimes contentious, trusts and estates combine to make her a trusted advisor for clients, especially in stressful times. Her ability to understand disputes from each individual stakeholder's position helps her craft creative solutions and minimize pain and worry. She is especially gifted at helping business owners craft and implement realistic, tax-savvy succession plans and administering complex, disputed trusts and estates.

PRACTICES & INDUSTRIES

Tax, Trusts & Estates

Nonprofit Organizations, Charitable Planning & Foundations

Estate & Trust Litigation

Private Business

ADMISSIONS

Minnesota

Arizona

Wisconsin

U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Wisconsin

U.S. Tax Court

EDUCATION

University of Wisconsin Law School, J.D., *cum laude*

University of Wisconsin-Madison, B.B.A., Finance and Management, *with distinction*

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Laura Halferty

Laura chairs the firm's Tax, Trusts and Estates Division and is a member of the firm's Board of Directors.

EXPERIENCE

Laura served as lead counsel for the special administrator of the estate of Minneapolis recording artist Prince Rogers Nelson, one of the most notable estates in Minnesota history.

Assisted in reforming a client's trust to reduce multimillion dollar estate tax liability.

Successfully resolved multiple multimillion dollar trust administration disputes outside of court, saving all parties significant associated legal fees.

Negotiated multimillion dollar estate tax audits with state and federal taxing authorities.

Laura routinely assists clients with directed trusts, trust reformations, non-judicial settlement agreements and decanting trusts.

Laura helps ultra-high net worth business owners and families meet a variety of business and personal objectives while minimizing gift and estate taxes.

RECOGNITIONS

Recognized among 2023's "Top Women in Finance" by *Finance & Commerce*

Recognized by *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business* in the area of Private Wealth Law in Minnesota, 2020-2021

Named among *The Best Lawyers in America*®

Selected for inclusion in *Super Lawyers*®-Rising Stars and *Super Lawyers*®

Honored with the North Star Lawyer award from the Minnesota State Bar Association for volunteering more than 50 hours to pro bono service, 2014-2018

PROFESSIONAL & CIVIC ACTIVITIES

Ordway, Board Member, Advancement Planning Committee

Friends School of Minnesota, Executive Committee, School Committee, Recording Clerk and Former Co-Chair of Development Committee

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Laura Halferty

Volunteer mediator for Hennepin County Probate Court

American Bar Association

Minnesota State Bar Association

- Former Chair, Probate & Trust Law Section Ethics and Professional Responsibility Committee

Hennepin County Bar Association

Arizona Bar Association

Wisconsin Bar Association

William Mitchell College of Law, Former Adjunct Professor

University of Wisconsin Women in Philanthropy-Twin Cities Chapter, Charter Member

University of Wisconsin Law School Employment at Graduation Task Force, Former Member

NEWS

Halferty Selected to *Finance & Commerce's* Top Women in Finance Award

11.22.2023

175 Stinson Attorneys Selected to the 2024 *Best Lawyers in America* List

08.17.2023

Stinson Attorneys Recognized in *Chambers'* 2023 High Net Worth Guide

07.24.2023

Stinson Attorneys Selected for Inclusion on 2023 Minnesota *Super Lawyers* and Rising Stars Lists

07.17.2023

152 Stinson Attorneys Selected to the 2023 *Best Lawyers in America* List

08.18.2022

Stinson Attorneys Named to 2022 Minnesota *Super Lawyers* and Rising Stars

08.04.2022

Stinson Attorneys Named to 2021 Minnesota *Super Lawyers* and Rising Stars

09.02.2021

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103 Stinson Attorneys Selected to the 2022 *Best Lawyers in America* List
08.19.2021

112 Stinson Attorneys Selected to the 2021 *Best Lawyers in America* List
08.20.2020

Stinson Attorneys Named to 2020 Minnesota *Super Lawyers* and Rising Stars
07.20.2020

Chambers USA Recognizes Stinson Attorneys and Practice Groups Nationwide
04.29.2020

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

Speaker, "Estate Planning & Fiduciary Litigation Seminar," Kansas City, Minneapolis, September 2022

Panelist, "Developing an Estate Plan That Includes Charitable Giving and Trusts: A Scenario-Based Discussion," November 16, 2021

Speaker, Last Steps: The Final Account Will Closing and Distributing the Estate, January 12, 2021

Panelist, "Large Estates Panel: What to do in Anticipation of the 2020 Election – Act or Wait?" October 16, 2020

Speaker, Drafting for Retired Couples with Adult Children and Grandchildren Seminar, December 10, 2019

Panelist, "Planning to Avoid Litigation: Lessons Learned Panel," Stinson LLP Estate Planning & Fiduciary Litigation Seminar, October 3, 2019

Panelist, "Planning Strategies Under the 2017 Tax Act: What to Do With All That Exemption," 2019 Minnesota Probate & Trust Law Section Conference, June 10, 2019

Panelist, "Minnesota Trust Code Update," Stinson LLP Estate Planning & Fiduciary Litigation Seminar, October 5, 2017

Speaker, "That's Not My Duty! Conflicts of Interest in Estate Planning," Probate & Trust Law Section, Minnesota State Bar Association, March 17, 2016

Speaker, "Cross-Country Estate Planning: Keeping the Nest Feathered for Snowbirds," Probate & Trust Law Section, Hennepin County Bar Association, April 27, 2009

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Speaker, “Estate Planning for Non-Traditional Families,” Probate & Trust Law Section, Hennepin County Bar Association, April 23, 2007

2023 Estate Planning & Fiduciary Litigation- Minneapolis

Stinson LLP - 50 South Sixth Street, Suite 2600 Minneapolis, MN 55402, 09.14.2023

2023 Estate Planning & Fiduciary Litigation- St. Louis

The Ritz - Carlton 100 Carondelet Plaza St. Louis, MO 63105, 09.07.2023

Estate Planning and Fiduciary Litigation Seminar - Minneapolis

Stinson, LLP, 09.21.2022

Estate Planning & Fiduciary Litigation Seminar - Kansas City

Stinson LLP, 09.13.2022

PUBLICATIONS

Corporate Transparency Act: Trusts Don't Have to Report

12.27.2023

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