

Cindy A. McClannahan

Shareholder

As a top Kansas City estate planning and tax attorney, Cindy helps families of all estate sizes and businesses of all types plan for the future and accomplish their goals. With a Master of Laws in Taxation from New York University School of Law, Cindy has the technical tax expertise to handle a wide range of estate planning and tax issues from the simple to the most complex. She is known for listening to her clients and providing solutions tailored to their particular needs. She helps clients understand complex legal issues and participates in decision-making by providing explanations and recommendations without using legal terminology.



A practice built on estate planning. As the Chair of the Estate Planning Section of Seigfreid Bingham, Cindy helps individuals with small and large estates, including a number of individuals whose net worth exceeds \$20 million. She helps clients accomplish their estate planning goals in ways that address family planning needs, minimize taxes, and avoid probate. These methods often include developing personalized revocable and irrevocable trusts, establishing living wills and durable powers of attorney for health and financial decisions, planning charitable giving, forming grantor-retained annuity trusts, and structuring family partnerships. After death, Cindy helps families oversee estate and trust administration, advising them on ways to minimize estate, gift, and income taxes.

Helping business owners plan for the future of their business. Since a family's estate often includes ownership of a business, Cindy also helps owners of closely held businesses with business planning, tax planning, buy-sell agreements and shareholder agreements. Often, the owners wish to involve the next generation in the family business while also treating all of their children equally, even when only some of their children work in the business. She helps them work through those family issues, reduce their estate taxes and plan for liquidity to pay their remaining estate taxes. If a client decides to buy an additional business or sell a business, she works with the client to minimize liability issues and reduce income taxes.

Simplifying the process and helping you along the way. Cindy serves business owners and individuals who wear a variety of hats. She enjoys looking at the big picture and making sure everything is properly structured and documented and personalized to address your needs. If you need estate planning or have tax planning questions, Cindy would enjoy talking with you.

Awards

- Best Lawyers in America® for Trusts and Estates (2020-present) and Tax Law (2023-present)
- Five Star Wealth Manager in Estate Planning
- Marquis' Who's Who in American Law
- Cambridge Who's Who Registry Among Executive and Professional Women
- AV Rated by Martindale Hubbell

Representatives Clients

- Wenger Manufacturing, Inc.

Professional Affiliations

- American Bar Association (Member, Taxation – Corporate & Business Section and Member, Trust, Probate, and Estate Planning Section)
- Missouri Bar Association
- Kansas Bar Association (Member, Real Estate, Probate and Trust Section and Member, Tax Law Section)
- Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association (Member, Tax Law Committee and Probate and Estate Planning Committee)
- Lawyers Association of Kansas City
- Estate Planning Society of Kansas City
- Donald H. Chisholm Planned Giving Council of Children's Mercy Hospital

Published Works

- "Family Owned Businesses: Planning for Their Survival" in Kansas City's Business Magazine *Ingram's*, March, 2015
- "How to Keep the Family Business Alive for Generations" in Kansas City's Business Magazine *Ingram's*, August 2018

Speaking Engagements

- "Estate and Family Business Succession Planning" for Mid America Planned Giving Council on October 10, 2014
- "Estate Planning and Charitable Giving" for Kingswood Foundation on November 22, 2014
- Part of a panel to respond to questions concerning "Your Nest Egg: Is it Secure?" UBS seminar at Indian Hills Country Club, December 3, 2014

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Education

New York University, School of Law, LL.M. in Taxation, 1983
University of Kansas, School of Law, J.D., 1981
University of Kansas, B.A. in Political Science, 1978

Admissions

Kansas, 1981
Missouri, 1982
United States Tax Court, 1993
10th Judicial District, Johnson County, KS
United States District Court District of Kansas
The Supreme Court of the State of Kansas
The State of Missouri Supreme Court

Services

Corporate Law
Estate Planning, Business Succession Planning, Probate, and Trust
Nonprofit and Tax-Exempt Organizations
Tax Law