goulston&storrs

Kelly Aylward

Counsel

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Kelly Aylward is a trusts and estates attorney advising high-net-worth individuals, families, and businesses to protect and transfer wealth for the benefit of future generations. Kelly designs and implements customized estate, asset protection, business, and charitable plans that meet the unique needs of each individual and organization. Using tax-efficient techniques, Kelly helps clients manage the accumulation, preservation and transfer of wealth. Her work includes administering trusts and estates, including preparing and filing probate papers, federal and state estate and inheritance tax returns, gift tax returns, and charitable foundation filings.

Kelly's deep knowledge surrounding tax law informs her selection of sophisticated techniques for managing income tax exposure and Kelly has particular experience in implementing tax efficient gift and generation-skipping strategies, among other tax-efficient vehicles. Kelly also advises clients in connection with tax reporting requirements for foreign financial assets. When working with businesses, Kelly prepares important documents and filings for LLCs, FLP, and corporations. She also prepares ILITs, asset protection trusts (both U.S. situs and offshore), minors trusts, charitable foundations, QPRTs, revocable grantor trusts, nominee trusts, lifetime QTIP trusts, wills and ancillary documents.

Prior to joining the firm, Kelly was a partner in a Boston boutique law firm handling domestic and international estate and tax planning for high-net-worth clients, trust and estate administration, charitable planning and business planning.

Accolades

- Boston Magazine, Top Lawyers, Trusts & Estates, 2023
- *Best Lawyers in America*® (2020-2022, 2025): Trust and Estates
- Massachusetts Super Lawyers (2016-2024)
- Top Women Attorney in Massachusetts (2012-2022)
- Massachusetts Super Lawyers Rising Star (2009-2015)

Affiliations

- American College of Trust and Estate Counsel (ACTEC),
    - Fellow
    - Asset Protection Committee, member
        - Sub-Committee on Attorney Liability Exposure, Chair
- Boston Estate Planning Council
    - Officer, former President, President-Elect, and Secretary
    - Board of Directors, former member
    - Excellence Award Nominations Committee, former Chair
    - BEPC Sponsorship Committee, former Co-Chair
    - Advisors Panel, former Chair
    - Membership Committee, former Chair
    - Member Roundtables Committee, former Chair and Vice-Chair
    - Board Nominations Committee, former Chair
    - Officer Nominations Committee, former Chair
    - Programs Committee, former Chair
    - Young Professional Alliance Committee, former Chair
    - NAEPC Committee, former Vice-Chair
    - EPY Dinner Committee, former Vice-Chair
    - Leadership Development Committee
    - Legislative Committee
    - Budget Committee
    - Membership Involvement Committee
- Greater Boston Fiduciary Law American Inn of Court
    - Officer, former President
    - Board of Directors, former member
    - Membership Committee, former Chair
    - Founding member
- Boston Bar Association, Trusts & Estates Section
    - CLE Committee, former Co-Chair
    - Estate Planning Committee, former Co-Chair
    - Public Policy Committee, former Co-Chair

  - Estate Planning Fundamentals Committee, former Co-Chair
- Cambridge Forum on Private Wealth Law, member
- Society of Trusts and Estates (STEP), member
- Boston Probate and Estate Planning Forum, member
- The Boston Foundation,
  - Professional Advisors Council (PAC)
  - Professional Advisors Network (PAN), former Chair
- Professional Women's Collaborative, former Treasurer
- Trusts and Estates Consortium
  - Website Committee, former Chair
- Young Professionals Alliance,
  - Board of Directors, former member
- Brockton Conservation Commission (2012-2014)

Admissions

- Massachusetts
- U.S. Tax Court

Education

- Boston University School of Law (LL.M., Taxation)
- Suffolk University Law School (J.D.)
- University of Missouri-Columbia (B.F.A.)

Representative Matters

Private Foundations

Establishes and represents private foundations in connection with obtaining charitable status and federal and state reporting matters.

Asset Protection Planning

Advises clients with respect to protecting their assets from the reach of unknown creditors.

Business Succession Planning
Advises clients with closely-held businesses with respect to design and implementation of business succession planning to ensure the success of the business is passed on to future generations.

Cross-Border Planning Matters
Represents US domiciliaries with foreign assets, foreign domiciliaries with US assets, estates of non-US-citizen decedents with US assets, and estates of US citizen decedents with foreign assets.

Estate Planning
Design and implementation of sophisticated and tax-efficient estate plans, including trusts, wills, and incapacity documents, that reflect clients' wishes.

Fiduciary Services
Serves as trustee and personal representative.

Implementation of Tax-Efficient Gifting Strategies
Advises clients with respect to gifting with complex assets, often using irrevocable trusts and closely held businesses.

IRS Audits of Gift and Estate Tax Returns
Represents clients in audits of gift and estate tax returns by the Internal Revenue Service and state Departments of Revenue.

Trust and Estate Administration
Advises trustees, personal representatives and beneficiaries with respect to all trust and estate administration matters, including marshalling and distribution of assets, trust funding, preparation and filing of estate and fiduciary tax returns, complex valuation issues, and complex transfer issues.

Trust Modification, Termination and Decanting
Represents trustee and beneficiaries in connection with the modification, termination and decanting of trusts.