ArentFox Schiff LLP
Attorneys

Christopher M. Floss

Counsel

Chris focuses his practice in the following areas: estate planning; estate and trust administration; income, gift, and estate tax planning; and business succession planning.

- Industries
  Nonprofits & Associations
  Private Foundations & Public Charities
  Family Office Services
  Family Office University
- Practices
  Private Clients, Trusts & Estates
  Business Succession Planning
  Charitable Planning
  Estate Planning
  Wealth Transfer Strategies
  Tax
- Education
  University of Illinois Chicago School of Law, LLM, Taxation, with honors, 2015
  University of Illinois Chicago School of Law, JD, 2013
  University of St. Thomas Aquinas in Rome, MA, STB, Theology, magna cum laude, 2004
  Conception Seminary College, BA, Liberal Arts/Philosophy, magna cum laude, 1999

- Offices
  Lake Forest
- Phone
  847.295.4320
- Email
  christopher.floss@afslaw.com

Chris helps clients discern their wealth transfer objectives and implement structures that fit those objectives.

Chris also advises clients in the post-death administration of estates and trusts, and enjoys forming long-term relationships with his clients as a trusted advisor who is available for counsel during life's transitions.

In addition to his career in private practice, Chris gained experience in the administration of high-net-worth trusts while serving as a senior trust officer of a major national corporate fiduciary.

A prolific writer, Chris founded and manages "Planning Your Future," a blog that covers tax and estate planning news and trends. As a graduate student in Rome, he served in the United States Air Force Reserve's Chaplain Candidate Program.

Boards, Memberships & Certifications

Chris is a member of the American Bar Association, Chicago Bar Association, Chicago Estate Planning Council, and University Club of Chicago.

Professional Associations

Chris is a former associate board member of Goodcity Chicago. He has presented to several religious and civic organizations regarding estate planning, including the Archdiocese of Chicago.

Publications, Presentations & Recognitions

Publications

- “Glancing Back to Look Ahead: 2022 Estate Planning Trends and Their Impact on 2023 Planning,” *Estates, Gifts & Trusts Journal* (Nov. 10, 2022)
- “The Current Landscape of GRAT Planning,” 47 Tax Mgmt. Ests., Gifts & Trs. J. No. 3 (May 12, 2022)
- “Top Ten Tax Topics of 2021,” *Planning Your Future* blog (Apr. 15, 2021)
- “Does 3.8% Change Anything? The Intersection of the Net Investment Income Tax and Fiduciary Income Tax,” *The Tax Lawyer* (Winter 2016)

Presentations

- “FWA Talks: Between Now and Sunset: Tax Planning and the Expiring Provisions under the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act,” 2024 Alliance Fall Forum: Standing Out, Chicago, IL (October 25, 2024)
- “Family Office University and You: Thought Leadership Relevant to Family Office Professionals and Service Providers.” Alliance Talk recording interview with Tom Livergood, President of The Family Wealth Alliance (May 21, 2024)
- “The Good, the Bad and the Unknown: Exploring the Corporate Transparency Act,” IICLE Estate Planning Short Course 2024 (May 16 and Jun. 4, 2024)
- “Purpose-*ful* Estate Planning: Meaningful Stewardship and Thoughtful Planned Giving,” St. James Cathedral, Chicago, Illinois (May 5, 2024)
- “The ‘Ful-ness’ of Communal Legacy: Meaningful Stewardship and Thoughtful Planned Giving,” The Westminster Society of The Church of the Holy Spirit, Lake Forest, Illinois (Feb. 21, 2024)
- “Religious Implications in Estate Planning,” Chicago Bar Association Trust Law Committee Meeting (Dec. 11, 2023)
- “Entity Disclosure and You: The Purpose, Scope and Effect of the Corporate Transparency Act,” Greater North Shore Estate & Financial Planning Council (GNSE&FPC), Conference (Sep. 20, 2023)
- “Real Property, Closely Held Business Interests and Special Assets,” Illinois Institute for Continuing Education (IICLE), Post-Death Administration of Trusts & Estates, Conference (Sep. 11, 2023)
- “Elevating Women in Family Wealth,” Family Wealth Alliance 2023 Summer Event (Jul. 20, 2023)
- “Incapacity?!? How Do You Plan for That?” Financial Executive Circle Conference (Mar. 30, 2023)
- “Keeping the Faith in Estate Planning – What Your Jewish, Christian, and Muslim Clients May Want Included in Their Plans,” Chicago Estate Planning Council (CEPC) Virtual Workshop (Oct. 27, 2022)
- “Federal Income Taxation of Trusts and Estates,” YLS Estate Planning Committee of the Chicago Bar Association, Chicago, Illinois (Oct. 8, 2019)

Recognitions

- Illinois Rising Star, *Illinois Super Lawyers*, 2023
- CALI Excellence for the Future Award in Bankruptcy Law, The Center for Computer-Assisted Legal Instruction (2012)
- Who’s Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges (2000)

Celebrating ArentFox Schiff’s Veterans: Christopher Floss on Going From Military Service to Client Service

While attending graduate school in Rome, Italy, Chris joined the US Air Force Reserve as a Chaplain Candidate, serving as a second lieutenant for the duration of his four-year program.

Read more

Bar Admissions
Illinois
Court Admissions
US Tax Court