



**ArentFox**  
**Schiff**

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](mailto: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](#)