



Karen A. Schlotthauer

Senior Counsel | karen.schlotthauer@fmjlaw.com

As an estate planning attorney, Karen Schlotthauer is well-versed in what her clients need: high-quality legal representation, creative solutions, and great customer service. Karen counsels clients on all aspects of estate planning, including wills, trusts, charitable planning, retirement plan distribution planning, prenuptial agreements, and estate, gift, and generation-skipping transfer tax strategies. In addition, she represents fiduciary clients on estate and trust administration matters, including the preparation and filing of estate tax returns and fiduciary income tax returns.

Prior to joining FMJ, Karen was a shareholder at a firm in downtown Minneapolis and a principal in a Wayzata firm. She has frequently been a guest speaker and writer on the topic of estate planning for various organizations around the Twin Cities.

Practice Areas:

Trusts & Estates

- Estate Planning
- Charitable Planning
- Estate & Trust Administration
- Estate & Trust Controversies
- Pet Trusts

Estate, Gift, and Fiduciary Income Tax Returns
Prenuptial and Postnuptial Agreements

Education:

University of Minnesota (B.S. Business, Carlson School of Management)
William Mitchell College of Law (J.D.)

State Bar Admissions:

Minnesota

Professional Memberships and Associations:

Hennepin County Bar Association
Minnesota State Bar Association
Minnesota Camp Fire Foundation, Former Board of Trustees and Treasurer
Wayzata Chamber of Commerce

Publications:

"Let's Get Charitable!" *FMJ Trusts & Estates Blog* (May 2017).

"So You Want Your Child to Have the Family Home..." *FMJ Trusts & Estates Blog* (April 2017).

"Spring: Let's Plant & Cultivate Our Legacy," *FMJ Trusts & Estates Blog* (March 2017).

“Grandma’s ‘Simple’ Will,” *FMJ Trusts & Estates Blog* (March 2017).

“Yours, Mine & Ours – Tips on Successful Estate Planning with Blended Families,” *FMJ Trusts & Estates Blog* (March 2017).

“Ladies – Estate Planning Can Be Good For Your Health,” *FMJ Trusts & Estates Blog* (March 2017).

“Good Boy Fido, You’re a Trust Beneficiary!” *FMJ Trusts & Estates Blog* (March 2017).

“Love is in the February Air,” *FMJ Trusts & Estates Blog* (Feb. 2017).

Professional Philosophy:

“I love learning about my clients’ unique situations and individual stories because everyone has differing estate planning needs. To be effective, it’s important that I listen carefully, evaluate strategies and come up with a creative approach to make sure my clients implement an estate plan that meets their goals into the future. No matter what level of sophistication is required, I pride myself on explaining complex topics in plain English. I’ve even been told that I make the process fun!

The Rest of the Story:

Karen is not only fluent in legalese, but she’s pretty good at carrying on conversations with her two teenage sons, who keep her busy at various sporting events and activities. She lives in the west metro and is a noted outdoor enthusiast who only puts away her inline skates when the ski season starts. She feels lucky that her book club hasn’t enforced a reading requirement to maintain her membership.

