



Nicole M. Flaherty Cropper

Associate | nicole.flaherty@fmjlaw.com

Nicole Flaherty is an Associate in FMJ's Trusts & Estates practice group. She handles a variety of estate planning, business succession planning, real estate, and estate and trust administration matters. She has experience working with a diverse array of clients including nontraditional and blended families, multigenerational families, young couples, single individuals, and athletes.

Nicole understands that trust and communication are critical in a client relationship, particularly in the intricate areas of estate planning. She has the resources to solve complex problems, the passion to design an effective plan, and the youthfulness to participate in the execution of the plan to successfully transition assets and financial values from one generation to another.

Prior to joining FMJ, Nicole was an attorney at an estate planning firm in downtown St. Paul. She received her juris doctor from the University of St. Thomas School of Law and, while pursuing her degree, gained legal experience in Dakota county as a student attorney juvenile public defender and in Minneapolis as a clerk at the U. S. Attorney offices and as a judicial extern in Hennepin County Probate Court.

Practice Areas:

Trusts & Estates
Real Estate
Litigation

Education:

DePaul University, *cum laude* (BA)
University of St. Thomas School of Law (JD)

Bar Admissions:

Minnesota

Professional Associations and Memberships:

Minnesota State Bar Association, Member
Federal Bar Association, Member

Published Articles and Interviews:

"Is It Legal? Creating a Health Care Directive for Worst-Case Scenario Amid Pandemic" FOX 9 KMSP (April 2020)

"A Time to Plan: Estate Planning and the COVID-19 Crisis," *FMJ's Trusts & Estates Blog* (April 2020)

"Is It Legal? Can You Handwrite Your Will?" FOX 9 KMSP (February 2020)

"Celebrity Spotlight: Will the Court R-E-S-P-E-C-T Aretha Franklin's Handwritten Wishes?" *FMJ's Trusts & Estates Blog* (June 2019)

"Celebrity Spotlight: Aretha Franklin Dies Without an Estate Plan," *FMJ's Trusts & Estates Blog* (September 2018)

Pro Bono Activities:

Sanneh Foundation Associate Board, Board Member
Minnesota Literacy Council, Board Member
Minnesota Literacy Council, Development Committee Member
Rein in Sarcoma (RIS), Volunteer
Dress for Success, Volunteer

Practice Philosophy:

"People do not care how much you know until they know how much you care' – this is especially true for estate planning, administration, and estate controversies. I enjoy taking the time to get to show people how much I care about their plan or case as many of my clients are going through a foreign or difficult process."

The Rest of the Story:

Nicole likes to spend time with her family in Lakeville or at their cabin in Northern Minnesota. In addition, she enjoys playing golf, traveling, and participating in various workout classes. When she isn't being active, she enjoys cheering on her husband at his professional soccer (football) games and her niece and nephews at various youth sporting events.