



SpencerFane®

Steven Chill

Partner

Contact

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Overview

Steven Chill concentrates his practice in the areas of estate planning and administration, as well as the representation of charitable organizations, counseling high-net-worth individuals, professionals, business owners, fiduciaries, and nonprofit entities on strategies designed to preserve wealth, minimize tax exposure, and achieve philanthropic goals.

Steven develops comprehensive estate plans tailored to each client's specific needs with a focus on reducing estate, gift, and generation-skipping transfer taxes while facilitating the orderly and efficient transfer of wealth across generations. He advises clients on the structuring and succession planning for closely held businesses and has extensive experience handling all aspects of estate and trust administration, including postmortem tax planning and Surrogate's Court proceedings. Steven also regularly represents clients before the Internal Revenue Service and the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance in audits, appeals, and ruling requests. His counsel often includes guidance on the appropriate use of insurance products and charitable giving vehicles within an estate plan, and he provides fiduciaries with practical advice on the execution of their duties.

In his work with charitable organizations, Steven assists with the formation and governance of nonprofit entities, including obtaining and maintaining Section 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status. He advises both public charities and private foundations on operational and compliance matters, fundraising strategies, and regulatory requirements. In addition to his legal practice, Steven serves as an officer and director for several nonprofit organizations, bringing a deep understanding of both the legal and practical considerations involved in charitable operations.

Education

- New York University School of Law (LLM)
- Boston University School of Law (J.D.)
- Northeastern University (B.S.), *magna cum laude*

Bar Admissions

- New York

Court Admissions

- U.S. Tax Court

Community Involvement

- Fordham Institute for Family & Private Enterprise, Operating Board

Distinctions

- *New York Metro Super Lawyers*, 2013–2024

Memberships

- New York City Bar Association
- New York State Bar Association, Trusts and Estates Law Section

Presentations and Publications

- “New York’s Failure to Amend Its Estate Tax Law Can Be Very Costly to Non-Residents,” *Tax Bulletin*, May 2003