Weinstock Manion
A Law Corporation

Preserving Your Legacy

Robert E. Strauss

Shareholder / Director

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Robert Strauss skillfully guides high net worth families, business owners, real estate developers and investors through the complex process of estate and wealth transfer planning. Rob approaches each client with a fresh perspective, conducting extensive discovery to discern their unique objectives, challenges and concerns. By considering a client's full array of needs, assets and goals, Rob develops creative and customized solutions that reduce estate taxes, achieve liability and creditor protection and, if desired, incorporate charitable giving and life insurance planning. Rob's clients appreciate his interactive style, responsiveness, and ability to communicate complex structures in plain English, enabling them to make informed decisions.

Rob applies experience as a transactional attorney to advise owners of businesses and real estate regarding business succession plans and pre-liquidity event wealth transfer plans. Conversant in current business and real estate trends, Rob effectively considers external variables along with the client's business goals and personal needs to provide sound guidance.

A teacher of Advanced Estate Planning at UCLA Extension and a frequent speaker, Rob is well-versed at communicating sophisticated estate planning concepts to a diverse audience. He enjoys the challenge of ensuring that everyone in the room, regardless of background, gains a visceral understanding of the topic. As a by-product of his teaching and speaking engagements, Rob remains ahead of trends in estate planning and tax law.

- Estate Planning
- Wealth Transfer Planning
- Business Succession Planning
- Charitable Planning and Family Foundations

Education

- J.D., UCLA School of Law, 1990
- A.B., Economics, Harvard University, 1986
  - Honors: *magna cum laude*

Bar Admissions

- State Bar of California, 1990
- U.S. District Court Central District of California, 1991
- U.S. Tax Court, 1991

Professional Associations & Memberships

- Beverly Hills Bar Association: 1994 - present
- Los Angeles County Bar Association: 1991 - present
- Los Angeles Estate Counselors Forum, Past President
- ProVisors, Beverly Hills I, group leader

Honors & Awards

- U.S. News - Best Lawyers' "Best Law Firms"-Tier 1 Ranking, 2014-2015
- "The Best Lawyers in America," **Best Lawyers,** 2013-2015
- "AV® Preeminent™ 5.0 / 5.0" Peer Review Rated and Client Rating, **Martindale-Hubbell**
- "Southern California Super Lawyers," **Super Lawyers®**, 2004–2014

Notable Teaching & Speaking Engagements

- *Advanced Estate Planning*, **UCLA Extension**, 2003 – Present
- "GRATs: Unconventional Uses for the Common GRAT," Beverly Hills Bar Association, August 2013
- "Current State of Estate Planning," 2013 IRS Valuation Summit, August 2013
- "Estate Planning Prior to Your Deal," YPO MAST Seminar, May 2013
- "Creating the Legal Structure Including the Tax Considerations," *Certificate in Financial Management for the Family Office: Managing and Building Wealth through Effective Financial Management, Oversight, and Making Informed Investment Decisions*, **Pepperdine University**, 2011 - 2013
- "Opportunities for $5M Exemptions," **The Financial Planning Association of Los Angeles**, March 2012
- "No Regrets: Smart Advance Planning for the Eventual Sale of Your Company," **California CEO Forum**, March 2012
- *Estate Planning Update*, **Business Managers Discussion Group**, July 2011
- *The Basics of Grantor Retained Annuity Trusts ("GRATS") and Case Studies*, **South Bay Estate Planning Council**, March 2011
- "Estate Planning in a Low Interest Environment," Critical Issues Affecting Estate and Charitable Planning, **The Jewish Community Foundation**, Los Angeles, April 2009