



Mark Williamson

Senior Counsel

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Related Services

Wealth Planning ■ Exempt Organizations ■ Federal & International Tax ■ German Business Team ■ Tax ■ Family Office ■ Transactional Tax Insurance

As a Fellow of the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel and a part-time law professor, Mark has extensive experience and knowledge in estate planning and federal taxation. Mark is a professional musician and author of a BNA Tax Management Portfolio on tax treaties.

Mark Williamson is senior counsel and co-led of Alston & Bird's Wealth Planning and Exempt Organizations Teams. He is a Fellow of the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel and practices in the areas of estate planning and federal taxation.

Mark practiced with a Milwaukee law firm before joining Alston & Bird and has been an adjunct professor of law at the University of Wisconsin in Madison and Georgia State University in Atlanta. He has been a recurring faculty member of the annual Estate Planning Institute and Fiduciary Law Institute presented by the State Bar of Georgia Fiduciary Law Section.

In 1997, Mark received the *Trusts & Estates* magazine "Best Young Author Award" for a series of articles he co-authored with Professor Jeffrey Pennell of Emory University and is the author of a BNA Tax Management Portfolio on tax treaties for individuals. *The Best Lawyers in America*[®] recognized Mark as "Lawyer of the Year" in Trust and Estates in 2019 and in Tax Law in 2020. Mark has been named to the Georgia *Super Lawyers* list since 2004 and *Chambers* recognizes him as a Band 1 lawyer in Private Wealth Law – Georgia.

Mark also studied music at the doctorate level at Louisiana State University and the Catholic University of America, and continues to perform professionally, including a three-week tour of China in 2011–2012.

Representative Experience

- Working on a wide variety of tax and non-tax controversies, including fiduciary litigation, tax audits and litigation, divorce tax and estate planning issues, non-profit workouts and restructurings, and offshore voluntary disclosure matters.

Publications & Presentations

Publications

- "CLTs and CRTs: Benevolence that Is Good for the Bloodline," *Estate Planning*, Thomson Reuters, Vol. 49, No. 1, January 2022.
- "Family Limited Partnership Regs Target Valuation Discounts," *Tax Notes*, Vol. 152, No. 11, September 12, 2016.
- "Family Limited Partnership Regs Target Valuation Discounts," *Tax Notes*, Vol. 152, No. 11, September 12, 2016.

Presentations

- “Exempt Organizations,” Fiduciary Law Institute 2023, Miramar Beach, FL, July 13-15, 2023.

Professional & Community Engagement

- Georgia Lawyers for the Arts and Jazz Orchestra Atlanta, Board Chair
- The Charles Loridans Foundation, trustee
- Founder and music director of the brass chamber music group *Il Brasso Magnifico*
- Order of the Coif
- Florida State University Law School, Board of Visitors
- United States Air Force Band, 1984 – 1988
- State Bar of Georgia, Fiduciary Law Section, former chair
- Atlanta Bar Association, Estate Planning and Probate Section, former chair
- Atlanta Estate Planning Council, former chair
- Georgia Federal Tax Conference, former chair
- Florida State University, *Law Review*, former executive editor
- Fiduciary Law Institute, St. Simons, Georgia, faculty – 1997, 2000, 2007, 2008 (chair)
- Estate Planning Institute, Athens, Georgia, faculty – 1997, 1999, 2007 (chair), 2011, 2018
- State Bar of Georgia Basic Fiduciary Seminar, faculty – all years since 2000
- New York State Bar Association International Law Section, faculty – 2002 (Rome), 2003 (Amsterdam); 2004 (London)
- Various seminars for lawyer and professional colleagues and private clients, 1999 to present: Bonn, Frankfurt, Stuttgart, Hamburg, Munich, Berlin, Cologne, Düsseldorf.

Education

- Florida State University (J.D., 1991)
- University of North Texas (M.M., 1983)
- Louisiana State University (B.M., 1981)

Admitted to Practice

- Georgia
- Wisconsin