John C. Hook

Chair, Trust, Estates & Personal Planning

Philadelphia, PA

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John Hook provides estate and tax planning advice to high-net-worth individuals, executives, entrepreneurs and owners of closely held businesses. Having started his career at Stradley Ronon in the Tax Practice Group and obtaining his Master of Laws degree (LL.M.) from New York University School of Law, a major emphasis of John's practice focuses on the tax implications of estate planning.

John advises charitable organizations on the establishment and operation of a planned charitable giving program. Such advice includes forming the program, establishing policies and procedures, addressing corporate governance issues, describing the types of planned giving documents available to donors, providing organizations with sample documents, and providing specific advice to the organization when a donor expresses an interest in making a planned charitable gift.

In addition, John counsels clients in the area of asset protection and the creation of offshore asset-protection vehicles – vital components of estate planning for high-net-worth individuals, executives and entrepreneurs.

John is a past chair of the taxation committee of the Philadelphia Bar Association's Probate Section. In addition, he lectures frequently in the areas of wills, trusts and estate planning, with a focus on reducing or eliminating federal estate taxes.

Notably, John represented a client in a record-setting auction sale of a rare pre-revolutionary pie-crust table attributed to the Garvan carver, which dates back to the early 1760s. Auctioned by Christie's, the antique table sold for more than $6.7 million.

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- Panelist, "Avoiding the Many Pitfalls in Preparing Gift Tax Returns," Philadelphia Estate Planning Council
- Speaker, "Planned Charitable Giving: The Do's and Don'ts from the Donor, the Donee, and the AG," Philadelphia Bar Association seminar
- Panelist, "Taxes, Taxes: What Can We Do About Taxes," CFA Society of Philadelphia High-Net-Worth and Family Wealth Conference

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FOCUS

Estate & Tax Planning

Administration of Trusts and Estates

Asset Protection & Wealth Preservation

Business Succession Planning

Planned Charitable Giving

Private Foundations

Trusts, Estates & Personal Planning

BAR ADMISSIONS

Pennsylvania

COURTS

Pennsylvania Supreme Court

U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania

U.S. Tax Court

EDUCATION

J.D., *cum laude,* Temple University Beasley School of Law

LL.M. in Taxation, New York University School of Law

B.B.A, *summa cum laude,* Temple University

MEMBERSHIPS

Board of Directors and Co-Chair of Social Committee, Philadelphia Estate Planning Council

Board of Directors and Development Committee Member, Catholic Partnership Schools

American Bar Association, Taxation and Real Property, Probate and Trust Law Sections

Philadelphia Bar Association

President, Slocum Land Conservancy, Inc.

STRADLEY RONON

- Presenter, "Donation of Real Estate," The Partnership for Philanthropic Planning of Greater Philadelphia Planned Giving Day Conference
- Speaker, "Legacy Gift Giving: The Ins and Outs," Stradley Ronon seminar
- Presenter, "Legacy Gift Giving II: Beyond the Simple Gift," Stradley Ronon seminar

RECOGNITIONS

- *The Best Lawyers in America*
- *The Best Lawyers in America*, Philadelphia Nonprofit/Charities Law "Lawyer of the Year" 2016
- *Martindale-Hubbell*, AV Preeminent rating