



Elizabeth W. Abel

Shareholder

Bar admissions: Alabama, 1984
U.S. Tax Court, 1987

Practice Areas

- Tax law
- Estate planning
- Probate, estates, and trusts
- Nonprofit and charitable organizations
- Corporate law
- Business organizations
- Employee-benefit and retirement plans

Profile

The primary focus of Ms. Abel's practice is estate and business planning. Ms Abel regularly consults with individual clients on ways to reduce or eliminate estate taxes and prepares complex wills, trusts, family limited partnerships, revocable living trusts, life-insurance trusts, charitable gifts and trusts, and other agreements to enable these clients to meet their estate-planning goals. In addition, she prepares durable powers of attorney, advance directives for health care, and documents for the appointment of guardians and conservators; and assists clients in probating estates and administering trusts.

Ms. Abel's business planning practice involves advising a variety of clients on the formation and operation of corporations, partnerships, limited liability companies and other business organizations. She prepares organizational documents, shareholder agreements, leases, non-compete agreements, employment agreements, asset-purchase and stock-purchase agreements, loan and security agreements, and office-sharing agreements.

On behalf of business clients, Ms. Abel structures and prepares a variety of employee-benefit plans, including cafeteria plans, nonqualified deferred-compensation plans, qualified and nonqualified stock-option plans, employee stock-purchase plans, medical reimbursement plans, phantom stock plans, 401(k) plans, and profit-sharing and money-purchase retirement plans. She also advises nonprofit and governmental clients on the operation and administration of their 403(b) retirement plans, tax-sheltered annuities, 457(f) plans, and other employee-benefit programs.

Ms. Abel advises and assists clients in organizing charitable trusts, endowments and non-profit corporations, and obtaining tax-exempt status for those organizations.

Professional Associations

American Bar Association
Probate and Trusts, Business, and Tax Sections

No representation is made that the quality of legal services to be performed is greater than the quality of legal services performed by other lawyers.

Professional Associations (continued)

Alabama Bar Association

Huntsville-Madison County Bar Association

Estate and Financial Planning Council of Huntsville, Alabama

Education

LL.M., Taxation, 1985, New York University, New York, NY

J.D., *magna cum laude*, 1984, Cumberland School of Law, Birmingham, AL

B.A., *summa cum laude*, 1981, University of Alabama in Huntsville, Huntsville, AL

Other Experience

Ms. Abel frequently lectures on estate planning issues, including the effect of estate and gift taxes on an estate plan and the uses of wills, powers of attorney, advance directives for health care, and living and testamentary trusts to achieve estate-planning goals.

Ms. Abel serves as the president of the Huntsville Symphony Orchestra Foundation.

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