



Lori Lea Shelley

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ST. LOUIS

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Assistant

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PRACTICE AREAS

Financial Services
Bond Financing
Corporate & Business
Corporate Finance
Private Client Services
Real Estate & Development
Tax Credit Finance

COURT MEMBERSHIPS

- Missouri
- Texas (inactive)
- U.S. Tax Court

EDUCATION

St. Mary's University School of Law, J.D., 1996

University of Missouri - St. Louis, B.S.B.A., 1993

"Lori Lea has a wealth of knowledge with a practical and business-oriented approach," according to one corporate attorney. "Most importantly, she is client-focused, taking the time to understand objectives, explain alternatives, draft conscientiously and follow-up to ensure objectives are met."

Lori Lea Shelley serves as bond counsel for many municipal bonds, advising clients on estates and trusts, probate, corporate and transactional matters. As a partner at Lathrop GPM, she has been recognized as one of Missouri's top five bond counsel for seven years by Refinitiv, now known as LSEG.

Lori Lea represents government entities (cities, counties, municipalities and school districts) in public finance matters, including general obligations, refundings, lease purchases and district tax levy issues. In addition, she represents a wide range of industries and clients, including individuals and corporations in:

- Consumer goods
- Manufacturing
- Real estate and development
- Technology

Regularly representing individuals, privately held businesses and limited liability companies, Lori Lea counsels clients regarding:

- Bond financing
- Business formation

- Corporate finance - equity and debt financing
- General business needs
- Insurance financing
- Leveraged buyouts
- Partnerships
- Private placement securities offerings
- Reorganizations
- Restructuring
- Shareholder buy-sell agreements
- Succession planning
- Tax planning and tax credit finance
- Trusts, estates and legacy planning

WHEN ASKED ...

Why did you become a lawyer?

I became a lawyer to avoid becoming a CPA. While working for an ex-CPA turned lawyer, I became intrigued by his work in corporate, tax and estates and trusts, and he became my mentor. On a whim, I took the LSAT, did well, and went to law school. Coming from a modest background, I saw law as a way to build a better life for my family and create something meaningful for myself.

What do you do outside of work?

Outside of work, I am dedicated to raising my three daughters. I enjoy gardening and entertaining, and I love going for long walks and hikes. I also enjoy horseback riding, skiing, cooking and traveling whenever possible. I am passionate about dance, which I continue to study, and I practice yoga regularly. Volunteering is also important to me. I am an Associate Board Member at the Center of Creative Arts (COCA) and a Board Member and Treasurer at the St. Louis Artists' Guild (SLAG).

News Releases

- Lathrop GPM Named to Top 5 Bond Counsel in Missouri
April 2024

- Lathrop GPM Named to Top 5 Bond Counsel in Missouri
March 28, 2023
- Partner Lori Lea Shelley Joins Lathrop GPM's St. Louis Office
August 28, 2020

Professional Affiliations

- National Association of Bond Lawyers (NABL)
- Women in Public Finance (WPF)

Community Involvement

- Center of Creative Arts (COCA), Volunteer and Associate Board Member
- St. Louis Artists' Guild (SLAG), Volunteer, Board Member, Treasurer and Member of the Board of Governors

Honors

- *The Bond Buyer*, "Top Five Bond Counsel in Missouri," 2022-2023