Phillip (Phil) K. Johnson

Partner

Kansas City

D 816.460.5854

phil.johnson@lathropgpm.com

Phillip Johnson concentrates his practice on trust, estate, tax and general business law. His practice involves:

- Preparation of basic estate planning instruments including wills, revocable trusts, durable powers of attorney for financial matters, durable powers of attorney for health care and living wills.
- Estate tax planning for use of the marital deduction and estate tax exemption.
- Sophisticated estate planning for high net worth individuals including structure and documentation of family limited partnerships, discount planning, gifting programs, generation-skipping tax planning, private annuities, installment sales, grantor retained annuity trusts, qualified personal residence trusts and grantor trusts.
- Succession planning for owners of closely-held businesses including structure and documentation for corporate reorganizations, recapitalizations, voting trusts, stock sales, asset sales and non-qualified deferred compensation plans.
- Life insurance planning including preparation of irrevocable life insurance trusts.
- Charitable planning and formation of charitable entities, including structure and documentation of charitable remainder trusts, charitable lead trusts, supporting organizations, private foundations, tax-exempt organizations and public charities.
- Estate planning with retirement assets including planning for minimum required distributions, generation-skipping tax planning and conduit trusts, spousal rollovers, inherited IRAs, preparation of beneficiary designations and structuring charitable gifts.
- Trust and estate administration and litigation, including trust terminations and modifications, will and trust contests, claims against trusts and estates, charitable gift reformation, guardianships and conservatorships.

Areas of Focus

Services

Closely Held & Family Businesses

Trust & Estate Litigation

Private Client Services

- Preparation of estate tax returns, gift tax returns and income tax returns for trusts and estates.
- Resolution of tax controversies with the Internal Revenue Service and Missouri and Kansas taxing authorities.
- Negotiation and preparation of premarital agreements and related instruments.
- Formation of basic C corporations, S corporations, limited liability companies, limited partnerships and partnerships.
- Perfection of security interests through security agreements and uniform commercial code filings.

Credentials

Education

- Cornell University Law School, J.D., 1999
- University of Missouri - Columbia, B.A., 1994

Bar Admissions

- Kansas
- Missouri

Presentations

- Panelist, "Key Points to Consider When Selling Your Business," U.S. Bank Private Wealth Management, March 28, 2023

Professional Activities

- The Missouri Bar
- American Bar Association