HUSCH BLACKWELL

Rachel West

ASSOCIATE

NASHVILLE, TN
PHONE: 615.949.2268
EMAIL: RACHEL.WEST@HUSCHBLACKWELL.COM

OVERVIEW

Rachel works directly with individual clients to protect their assets for the future.

After earning an undergraduate degree in accounting, Rachel knew she wanted to practice in an area of law that would let her use her knowledge of the tax system to help clients. Rachel draws on her tax background to help clients minimize tax exposure in their estate and business succession planning.

Rachel drafts customized estate planning documents that include revocable trusts, wills, and powers of attorney for clients. She also assists with irrevocable trust documents and the assembly of trust funding, and she advises on and prepares succession plans for clients' family businesses. In addition, Rachel has a special interest in the drafting of prenuptial agreements for clients: she's passionate about helping clients ahead of such an exciting milestone in their lives and about guiding clients through the sensitive conversation of protecting existing and future wealth.

Alongside her estate planning practice, Rachel also assists with estate administration, advising the estates of deceased individuals and working with their executors. She regularly appears in chancery court and opens and closes estates, and she values the opportunity to ensure that clients' wishes are enacted.

Clients appreciate Rachel's deep attention to detail, as well as her care for their entire families. Rachel often works with multiple generations of the same family and finds great satisfaction in ensuring that they are taken care of.

Industry

Financial Services & Capital Markets

Service

Private Wealth

Experience

- Draft instruments including last wills and testaments, revocable and irrevocable trust agreements, financial powers of attorney, advanced directives for healthcare, articles of organization, LP and LLC operating agreements, purchase and sale agreements, and assignment and transfer documents.
- Develop and implement life insurance plans using irrevocable life insurance trusts to provide a source of liquidity in the event any estate taxes become due.
- Serve as the attorney of record for probate estates and advise personal representatives with estate administration.
- Assist clients in the preparation of prenuptial agreements.

Education

- J.D., University of Tennessee College of Law
  - *magna cum laude*
  - Order of the Coif
  - The Tennessee Journal of Business Law, Editor in Chief
- B.S., Carson–Newman University
  - *magna cum laude*
  - Alpha Chi National Honor Society
  - Outstanding Graduating Senior of Accounting

Admissions

- Tennessee
- Georgia

2024 Pro Bono Contributor

