



Mélyse Mpiranya

ASSOCIATE

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OVERVIEW

Mélyse helps clients create sophisticated, customized estate plans to meet their individual needs.

Mélyse focuses her practice on trusts and estates—a field of law she absolutely loves—and regularly drafts revocable trusts, irrevocable trusts, GRATs, CLATs, QPRTs, wills, powers of attorney and gifting documents. She has experience working with middle income clients all the way up to individuals with net worth in the hundreds of millions, and she has also assisted clients who own family businesses that they seek to preserve for future generations. Mélyse develops tax-driven strategies that protect family legacies, and she ensures that every plan she creates fits the unique situation of the family in question.

Clients and their families are at the very center of Mélyse’s practice: she values sitting down with individuals and getting a full picture of their needs, and she enjoys hearing their personal stories and goals. Mélyse understands that client communication is the backbone of trusts and estates work and prioritizes helping clients feel comfortable sharing deeply personal details. She loves making sure that clients fully understand their estate plans and the legal reasoning behind them, and she has built a strong reputation as a knowledgeable professional who excels at breaking down complex concepts.

Mélyse was first drawn to a legal career as an opportunity to right the injustices she witnessed growing up in underserved communities. Observing how often minority populations were unaware of the legal tools available to them to build and protect legacies for their families, she chose to focus on private wealth.

Industry

Financial Services & Capital Markets

Service

Private Wealth

HUSCH BLACKWELL

Mélyse believes deeply in furthering equal access to justice and to the legal system, and she also believes deeply in the importance of law firms reflecting the racial diversity of the population. She is especially passionate about working for a firm that values diversity and about taking opportunities to serve diverse clients.

Experience

- Developed tax-driven estate planning strategies for high-net-worth individuals to implement wealth transfers.
- Drafted estate planning documents including revocable trusts, irrevocable trusts, GRATs, CLATs, QPRTs, wills, powers of attorney and gifting documents.
- Analyzed and researched tax regulations and compliance protocols for implementation of unique planning strategies.
- Administered high-net-worth estates and coordinated with families to ensure smooth transitions of family legacies.
- Prepared and reviewed fiduciary income tax returns and federal gift and estate tax returns.
- Advised clients with respect to formation, administration and compliance of charitable organizations (operating and non-operating foundations) and donor advised funds.
- Represented clients in trust administration matters and probate, including decedent and guardianship estates.
- Instructed clients on complex wealth transfer strategies and advised on federal and state tax planning strategies.

Education

- J.D., Loyola University Chicago School of Law
 - *International Law Review*, Associate Editor
 - Black Law Students Association
- B.A., Concordia University

Admissions

- Illinois
- Texas

Community Leadership

Mélyse volunteers with the Wills for Heroes Foundation, which provides pro bono wills and powers of attorney for first responders through the Chicago Bar Association. The service is completely free to clients, and with her passion for ensuring equal access to the estate planning world, Mélyse absolutely loves the work.



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