



Bernard L. Karr
Senior of Counsel
Cleveland
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Practice Focus

- Estate planning and probate
- Probate and estate administration
- Transfer tax planning and audit representation
- Trust administration
- Business counseling

Bernie focuses his practice on estate planning for business owners, executives, and professionals; family business succession planning; taxation; and charitable planning. He is the author of numerous tax and estate planning articles. Bernie is accredited as a Certified Specialist in Estate Planning, Trust and Probate Law by the Ohio State Bar Association.

Bernie earned a J.D., cum laude, from The Ohio State University College of Law in 1973. He received a LL.M. in Taxation from New York University School of Law in 1978 and a B.S. from Bowling Green State University in 1969.

Representative Cases/Matters

- Defense of estate tax audits where IRS asserts substantial tax deficiencies.
- Sale of assets to intentionally defective grantor trusts to reduce estate taxes.
- Use of Graegin Note to reduce estate tax by seven figures.
- Corporate reorganization creating multiple classes of common stock to effect transfer of stock to next generation without losing control in senior generation.

Admissions - Court

- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio
- U.S. Tax Court

Admissions - State

- Ohio

Education

- The Ohio State University College of Law
- New York University School of Law
- Bowling Green State University

Honors and Awards

- *Ohio Super Lawyers* (2004-2019)
 - Top 100 *Ohio Super Lawyer* distinction and Top 50 Cleveland/Akron *Ohio Super Lawyer* distinction
- *The Best Lawyers in America* for trusts and estates for 28 consecutive years
- American College of Trust and Estate, Fellow
- *Northern Ohio Live* 300 Best Lawyers
- *Strathmore's Who's Who*

Professional Membership

- Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association

Public Service and Volunteerism

- Cleveland Zoological Society, Board
- Fred E. Scholl Charitable Foundation, Chairman, Board of Trustees
- Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, Board of Directors
- Boys and Girls Clubs of Cleveland, Director

Blog Posts

- Considering tax reduction planning? Take action now
- Estate planning update - Important tax changes ahead

News

- 50 McDonald Hopkins attorneys recognized in The Best Lawyers
- Lawyer of the Year honorees Riley and Welin among 42 McDonald Hopkins attorneys recognized as 2021 Best Lawyers
- 41 attorneys from McDonald Hopkins recognized as 2020 Best Lawyers®
- Seventeen attorneys at McDonald Hopkins named 2019 Ohio Super Lawyers and Rising Stars
- 22 attorneys at McDonald Hopkins named 2018 Ohio Super Lawyers and Rising Stars
- 35 attorneys at McDonald Hopkins selected for inclusion in Best Lawyers® 2018
- 39 attorneys at McDonald Hopkins selected for inclusion in Best Lawyers 2017
- 24 attorneys at McDonald Hopkins named Ohio Super Lawyers and Rising Stars
- 41 attorneys at McDonald Hopkins selected for inclusion in Best Lawyers® 2016

