

Donna L. Otis – Attorney Profile

Professional Experience

Donna L. Otis practices in the area of estate planning. Her recent experience includes:

- Preparing wills, trusts, financial powers of attorney, and health care powers of attorney.
- Traditional bypass trust and marital deduction planning.
- Generation-skipping transfer tax planning.
- Probate of decedents' and disabled adults estate and trust administration of non- probate assets.
- Guardian Ad Litem for minors' and adult estates.
- Former Intern for City of Chicago, United States Attorney's Office.
Judicial Externship to the Honorable Judge Marvin Asten (Former Chief Judge of the U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois).

Education and Honors

- John Marshall Law School, Juris Doctorate
- University of Phoenix, Masters of Business Administration
- Roosevelt University, Bachelors in General Studies

Bar Admissions

Illinois and Wisconsin

Court Admissions

Supreme Court of Illinois
Supreme Court of Wisconsin
U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois

Professional Recognition

Selected for inclusion in *Illinois Super Lawyers*®—Rising Stars Editions 2009, 2010 and 2011 (Trusts & Estates).

2010 Distinguished Service Award from the Chicago Volunteer Legal Services Foundation.

2009 Christian Business and Professional Group Professional Rising Star.

Professional and Civic Activities

- Illinois State Bar Association (Member; Trusts and Estates Section Council - Former CLE and Ethics Committee Chair).
- Illinois Attorney Registration & Disciplinary Committee (Hearing Board Member; Member of Oversight Committee).
- Black Women's Lawyers Association of Greater Chicago, Inc. (Former Board Member).
- Cook County Bar Association (Member, Alliance for Judicial Screening).
- Chicago Bar Association (Member).
- SISTAS mentoring program for minority teenage girls 13- 19 years old (Director, 2008-2010).
- Chicago Estate Planning Council (Member).
- Cook County Circuit Court (Arbitrator).
- Street Justice Inc, (Co-Founder and Board Member).

Selected Presentations/Publications

- Ms. Otis is a frequent speaker on areas of law affecting African Americans, including estate planning.
- Author/Presenter, "Overview of the Probate Process," Chicago Bar Association, November 2010.
- Participant, "What the New Illinois Rules of Professional Conduct Will Mean for Your Practice," Illinois Attorney Registration Disciplinary Commission, October 14, 2009.
- Moderator, Illinois State Bar Association Business Succession Planning CLE, October 1, 2009.
- Instructor, "Ethics in Estate Planning" (CLE Course), June 21, 2009.
- Author, Ethics presentation, Joint Representation of Spouses, Illinois State Bar Association, May 2008.
- Author, "Closing the Probate Estate" (CLE course), Illinois State Bar Association, September 2008.
- Instructor, "Estate Planning Fundamentals" (CLE Course), June 7, 2007 and November 2, 2007.
- Instructor, "Decedent's Probate Estate Start to Finish" (CLE Course), September 19, 2008.
- "Another Health Care Power of Attorney: Mental Health Treatment Preference Designation", Illinois State Bar Association Trust & Estates Newsletter, June 2007.
- Donna L. Moore, Comment, Implementing a National Putative Father Registry by Utilizing Existing Federal/State Collaborative Databases, 36 J. MARSHALL L. REV. 1033, Summer 2003.