Jonathan Kohl

Staff Attorney

Private Wealth

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Jonathan Kohl assists high-net-worth individuals and families in wealth transfer and estate planning matters with a focus in minimizing gift, estate and generation-skipping transfer (GST) taxes and asset protection. He helps develop estate plans ranging from "basic" plans to more complex trusts and gifting strategies. Jon also assists corporate trustees in providing services to trust beneficiaries and assists individual fiduciaries in administering trusts and estates both during life and after death.

Tailoring estate plans to each client's needs and desires

Jon knows that there is no "one size fits all" strategy for estate plans and the key to implementing a good estate plan is a greater understanding of the client's needs, whether it be prioritizing wealth transfer, asset protection, implementing tax strategies, or some combination. He takes the time to explain to clients what the estate plan means not only from a big picture perspective, but also getting into the details so clients develop comfort and understanding of their personal planning. Jon has extensive experience drafting several kinds of estate planning and wealth transfer documents, including wills, revocable living trusts, powers of attorney, insurance trusts, grantor retained annuity trusts (GRATs) and other complex grantor trusts.

Jon also knows that planning is only one aspect of private wealth, and has extensive experience administering estates and trusts, both simple and more complex. This includes opening probate estates and seeing them through, counseling clients with contested estates, preparing nonjudicial settlement agreements for trusts and decanting trusts that are not accomplishing what the grantor initially set out to do.

Publications

- 2025 – 2026 Planning Priorities (November 19, 2025)
- The One Big Beautiful Bill Act: Key Year-End Tax Changes for Private Wealth Clients (November 19, 2025)

Practices

- Business Succession Planning
- Fiduciary and Private Client Litigation
- Private Wealth

Education

- JD, Washington University in St. Louis School of Law
- BA, University of Michigan

Bar Admissions

- Illinois

Professional & Community Involvement

- Illinois State Bar Association

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- Planning Considerations for the Rest of 2025 and Into 2026 (November 19, 2025)
- Select Updates Impacting Family Business Owners (November 19, 2025)
- Select Federal Caselaw Updates (November 19, 2025)
- Relevant International Updates (November 19, 2025)
- State of the States (November 19, 2025)
- 2024 Year-End Estate Planning Advisory (November 26, 2024)
- 2023 Year-End Estate Planning Advisory (November 20, 2023)
- 2022 Year-End Estate Planning Advisory (November 17, 2022)
- Five Things for Clients to Consider When Moving to a New State (October 19, 2022)
- Greener Pastures: Five Things to Consider When Leaving One Jurisdiction for Another (October 3, 2022)
- Life Insurance Structured Properly Provides Asset Protection | *Illinois State Bar Association Trusts & Estates Newsletter* (October 2019)

Presentations and Events

- 2025 Private Wealth Seminar – Chicago (October 30, 2025) | *Presenter* | *Arc of Estate and Business Planning for Family Business Owners*
- 2024 Private Wealth and Fiduciary Seminar Chicago (October 30, 2024) | *Speaker*