HUSCH BLACKWELL



Justin M. Hilton

SENIOR ASSOCIATE

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OVERVIEW

Justin advises families, business owners, and investors on wealth transfer strategies designed to preserve assets, minimize tax exposure, and support long-term objectives. His practice focuses on family-owned enterprises, closely held businesses, and private equity owners seeking sophisticated planning solutions.

He counsels clients on complex estate and gift planning matters, including estate and gift tax reporting and related compliance requirements. His work centers on designing and implementing structures that facilitate efficient multigenerational wealth transfer while aligning with each client's personal, financial, and business goals. He prepares customized planning documents that implement clients' goals and values.

Before focusing his practice on private wealth planning, Justin advised clients on mergers and acquisitions and other corporate transactions, building a strong foundation in tax-driven deal work. He now leverages that experience to advise business owners on succession planning, ownership transitions, and liquidity events, including entity formation, restructurings, buy-sell arrangements, acquisitions, and sales.

Justin also advises family offices, fiduciaries and beneficiaries on estate and trust administration and assists clients in navigating trust, estate, and tax-related disputes.

Industry

Financial Services & Capital Markets

Services

Business Succession Planning

Nonprofit Organizations & Religious Institutions

Private Wealth

Tax

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Recognizing the significance of the wealth clients have worked to build, Justin focuses on developing long-term, trust-based relationships and serving as a steady adviser through important financial and personal decisions. Clients value his accessibility, attentiveness, and commitment to helping ensure their intentions are carried out and their families and businesses are positioned for the future.

Recognition

- Missouri & Kansas Super Lawyers, Rising Star, Estate Planning and Probate, 2023-2026
- The Heart of America Fellows Institute's The American College of Trust and Estate Counsel, Graduate

Education

- LL.M., Washington University in St. Louis School of Law
  - Taxation
  - Gary I. Boren Memorial Award
- J.D., University of Missouri School of Law
  - Dean's List
  - BOA Mock Trial Competition Champion, 2019
  - Negotiation Competition, Semifinalist, 2018
  - Tax and Transactional Case Competition Champion, 2017
- B.S., University of Arkansas
  - International Relations and Middle Eastern Studies
  - Arabic and Political Science (minors)
  - Phi Beta Kappa
  - Dean's List

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Admissions

- Missouri
- Illinois
- Texas

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