LEE-FORD TRITT

Professor of Law
University of Florida College of Law

tritt@law.ufl.edu
352.273.0952

ACADEMIC POSITIONS:

University of Florida College of Law – Gainesville, Florida
Professor of Law – August 2011 to present
Director, The Center for Estate Planning – August 2005 to present
Associate Director, The Center on Children and Families – August 2005 to present
Associate Professor of Law – August 2008 to August 2011
Assistant Professor of Law – August 2005 to August 2008

- J.D. and LL.M. course offerings include Estates & Trusts, Fiduciary Administration, Estate Planning, Advanced Estate Planning, Taxation of Gratuitous Transfers (Estate, Gift and GST Tax) and Advanced Topics in Estates & Trusts.
- 2010 University of Florida's Presidential Award for Excellence in Education.
- College of Law Professor of the Year: 2008-2009; 2009-2010; 2010-2011.
- BALSA Mentor of the Year: 2007-2008; 2010-2011.
- College of Law service commitments include serving on the Student Placement Committee and the Concerns Committee, as well as serving as the Director of the E&T Practice Certificate Program, Supervisor of Probate Externships, and Faculty Advisor to The Estates and Trusts Law Society and the Caribbean Law Student. Previously served on the Curriculum Committee, the Academic Standards Committee and the Facilities Committee.
- University service includes serving on the Concerns Committee, serving as a speaker and advisor to the Institute on Aging at the University of Florida Health Science Center; serving as a speaker and advisor for the University of Florida Foundation.

Pace University School of Law – White Plains, New York
Adjunct Professor – Fall 2004

- Course offering included Federal Estate and Gift Taxation.

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS:

Vice Chair, Non-Tax Trusts & Estates Division of the Real Property, Trust and Estate Law Section of the American Bar Association.

Adviser, Committee on an Act on the Recovery of Stolen Cultural and Artistic Property, The National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws.

Contributing Editor, Trusts & Estates Section of the Jotwell Law Literature Review.

EDUCATION:

New York University School of Law – New York, New York
LL.M., Taxation, December 2002
J.D., June 1997

The University of the South – Sewanee, Tennessee
B.A., May 1989, in History and Political Science

LEGAL EMPLOYMENT:

Davis Polk & Wardwell – New York, New York
Trusts, Estates and Exempt Organizations Associate – July 2000 to July 2004

- Drafted Wills, Revocable Trust Agreements, Charitable Split Interest Trusts, Qualified Personal Residence Trusts, Irrevocable Life Insurance Trusts, Rolling G.R.A.T.s, Split Dollar Agreements, Transmutation Agreements and other sophisticated estate planning instruments for individual, high-net worth clients. Drafted documentation relating to installment sales to Defective Grantor Trusts.
- Structured and represented private foundations and public charities. Drafted incorporation documents, pledge agreements, grant making guidelines, I.R.S. Forms and related instruments and forms. Advised individual clients regarding the use of private and public charitable entities to implement tax strategies and estate planning goals. Advised non-profit entities on structure, governance and operations, including tax regulations, investment issues and other matters related to endowments, grants and solicitations.
- Formed corporations, limited liability companies, limited liability partnerships and family partnerships. Negotiated and drafted buy-sell agreements, stock purchase agreements, assignments, promissory notes, separate property agreements and various instruments of transfer.
- Counseled high-net worth individuals and directors of client organizations regarding innovative tax and estate planning strategies for structuring personal holdings. Designed and conducted major presentations and seminars to client organizations regarding innovative tax and estate planning issues and products.

Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy LLP – New York, New York
Trusts, Estates and Exempt Organizations Associate – September 1997 to July 2000

- Designed and conducted major presentations to client organizations, including the Board of Directors of the New York Stock Exchange and executives of The Chase Manhattan Private Bank regarding innovative tax and estate planning products.
- Engaged in all aspects of trusts and estates practice, including the drafting of complex trusts and estates and transfer tax related documents.
- One of three associates in the 400 lawyer Firm selected to sit on the Recruiting and Hiring Committee.

SELECTED ARTICLES:

Law Review Articles:

A Stewardship Theory of Trust Law (in progress).

The Limitations of An Economic Agency Cost Theory of Trust Law, 32 CARDOZO L. REV. 2579 (2011).

Technical Correction or Tectonic Shift: Competing Default Rule Theories Under the New Uniform Probate Code, 61 ALA. L. REV. 273 (2010).

Sperms and Estates: An Unadulterated Functionally Based Approach to Parent-Child Property Succession, 62 SMU L. REV. 101, 187 (2009).

Liberating Estates Law from the Constraints of Copyright, 38 RUTGERS L.J. 109 (2006).

Other Articles:

Parent-Child Property Succession, TRUSTS & ESTATES MAGAZINE, Aug. 2009, at 18.

Copyright Issues for Estate Planners, JOURNAL OF WEALTH PLANNING (forthcoming).

Estate Planning Issues for Copyright Holders, TRUSTS & ESTATES MAGAZINE (forthcoming).

BOOKS:

LEE-FORD TRITT, ESTATE PLANNING FOR AUTHORS AND ARTISTS, 815-2ND TAX MANAGEMENT ESTATES, GIFTS, AND TRUSTS PORTFOLIOS (Bureau of National Affairs, Inc. 2011).

TRITT, WRIGHT AND WEISBERG, FLORIDA PROBATE CODE AND RELATED PROVISIONS WITH COMMENTARY (Aspen Publishers, 2010).

LEE-FORD TRITT, MORTAL REMAINS, TAX MANAGEMENT ESTATES, GIFTS, AND TRUSTS PORTFOLIOS (Bureau of National Affairs, Inc. 2011) (forthcoming 2011).

In process of co-authoring an Estates & Trusts Case Book for Aspen Publishers/Wolters Kluwer Company.

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS:

"*Hot Issues in Trusts and Estates*," The Trust and Estate Division of the ABA Section of Real Property, Trust & Estate Law Spring 2012 Symposia, New York, New York, D.C., 2012.

"*A Stewardship Theory of Trust Law*," University of Cincinnati College of Law, Cincinnati, Ohio, November 2011.

"*Limitations of Law and Economics in Trust Law*," Stetson University College of Law, St. Petersburg, Florida, October 2011.

"*Estate Planning Issues for the Sandwich Generation*," The Trust and Estate Division of the ABA Section of Real Property, Trust & Estate Law Spring 2011 Symposia, Washington, D.C., May 2011.

"*Assisted Reproduction and Estate Planning*" The Trust and Estate Division of the ABA Section of Real Property, Trust & Estate Law Spring 2011 Symposia, Washington, D.C., May 2011.

"*Estate Planning Issues for Copyright Holders,*" a national teleconference presentation for members of the ABA's Intellectual Property Division and Trusts and Estates Division, Fall 2010.

"*Hot Issues in Trusts & Estates*," The Trust and Estate Division of the ABA Section of Real Property, Trust & Estate Law Fall 2010 Symposia, Toronto, Canada, September 2010.

Moderator, *"Panel on the Changing Worlds of Trusts and Estates,"* Southeastern Association of Law Schools Conference, West Palm Beach, Florida, August 2010.

"The Limitations of Neo-Classical Agency Cost Theory as Applied to Trust Law," University of Georgia Law School, Athens, Georgia, March 2010.

Commentator, *"Panel: Changing Times, Changing Law: Evaluating Legal Trends in Trusts and Estates Law,"* The Association of American Law Schools, New Orleans, Louisiana, January 2010.

"New Frontiers in Estates, Trusts and Elder Law," University of Florida Grand Guard Reunion, Gainesville, Florida, November 2009.

"Uniform Laws Update", The Trust and Estate Division of the ABA Section of Real Property, Trust & Estate Law Non-Tax Group's Spring 2009 Symposia, Washington D.C.

"Hot Issues in Trusts & Estates", The Trust and Estate Division of the ABA Section of Real Property, Trust & Estate Law Non-Tax Group's Fall 2008 Symposia, San Francisco, California.

"Intent Effectuating Default Rule Theory for Property Succession Law," The Law and Society Association, Montreal, Quebec, Canada, June 2008.

Chaired Roundtable Discussion on "*Same-Sex Tax Issues in Transnational Perspective: Canada and the United States,"* The Law and Society Association, Montreal, Quebec, Canada, June 2008.

"An Unadulterated Functional-Based Approach to Intestacy Law," University of Missouri School of Law, Columbia, Missouri, February 2008.

"The Legal Legacy of Anna Nicole Smith," Florida Tomorrow $1 Billion Dollar Kick-off Fundraiser, University of Florida , Gainesville, Florida, September 2007.

"*Estate Planning Issues and Strategies for Non-Traditional Families,*" University of Miami Law School, Miami, Florida, January 2007.

"*Sperms & Estates: A Functional Based Approach to Intestacy Laws,*" Southeastern Association of Law Schools Conference, West Palm Beach, Florida, July 2006.

"*Estate Planning Issues for Visual Artists*", Cultural Council of Jacksonville, Florida, May 2006.

SELECTED PRESS APPEARANCES:

Interviewed by MSNBC, the New York Post and the U.K. Guardian concerning various Michael Jackson estate issues (2009).

Consult the New York Post concerning various Bernard & Ruth Madoff trust issues (2009).

Quoted in "*Years Old Will Adds to Chaos After Death of a Celebrity*", New York Times, February 17, 2007.

Quoted in "*Son Fights to Prove Father was Murdered*," Orlando Sentinel, October 26, 2007.

Quoted in "*Tours and Presentations Kick Off Campaign*," The Gainesville Sun, September 28, 2007.

Quoted in "*Beaver County Widow Sedated When Will Was Changed*", Pittsburg Tribune Review, April 28, 2007.

Quoted in "*There's a Will, but There's No Way*", Houston Chronicle, February 17, 2007

Quoted in "*Movie-Inspired Group Displays Acts of Kindness*," The Independent Florida Alligator, February 26, 2007.

Quoted in "*A New Place to Call Home*", The Gainesville Sun, September 28, 2005.

Interviewed by MSNBC, The Associated Press, The Palm Beach Post and W.R.U.F. AM concerning Anna Nicole Smith's will and the subsequent trial concerning the disposition of her corpse.

MEMBERSHIPS:

Bar Memberships – New York (1998), New Jersey (1998), Florida (1998) and California (2002).

American Bar Association; Section on Real Property, Trust and Estate Law.

Florida Bar Association; Section on Real Property, Probate and Trust.

Copyright Society of the USA.