



Vance E. Antonacci

Member • Co-chair, Estate Planning

Lancaster, PA

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Services and sector groups

- Estate Planning
- Fiduciary Litigation
- Corporate and Tax
- Mergers and Acquisitions
- Financial Services

Vance represents a wide variety of family business owners, executives, professionals, and retirees in estate planning, business succession planning, and estate and trust administration. He provides advice on estate, gift, and income tax planning, long-term wealth preservation, and charitable planning.

Vance takes a holistic approach to planning and collaborates with clients and their various professional advisors, including accountants, financial advisors, and family offices. He provides advice on the preparation of wills, succession planning, life insurance planning, and revocable and irrevocable trust planning.

Many of Vance's clients are business owners, so he often serves as outside general counsel to them and represents the businesses in transactional planning, entity selection and formation, buy-sell arrangements, and the structuring of asset sales, stock sales, outside investments, and mergers. This work often involves planning prior to a business exit to maximize tax benefits. Vance works with clients in a variety of industries, including manufacturing and distribution, technology, real estate, construction, professional services, agriculture, healthcare, and auto dealerships.

Vance serves as the co-chair of the firm's Estate Planning Group. He is also a past chair of the Lancaster Bar Association's estate planning and probate law section and is a member of the Pennsylvania Bar Association.

Representative experience

- GRAT Planning: Structured a series of Grantor Retained Annuity Trusts that resulted in the savings of significant federal estate tax for a family-owned business.
- ESOP Sale Planning: Represented a group of selling shareholders in sale and related trust planning post-closing to maximize estate tax avoidance.
- Succession Planning: Created succession plans for owner exits (both by sale and gift) to ensure financial security for the exiting generation and long-term viability for the succeeding generation.
- Grantor Trust Sales: Represented business owners in various businesses with sales of minority interests to intentionally defective grantor trusts and beneficiary defective inheritor trusts.
- Life Insurance Planning: Represented numerous clients in the creation and funding of irrevocable life insurance trusts, including split dollar arrangements and premium financing arrangements.
- Business Restructurings: Represented clients in various industries (manufacturing, distribution, entertainment) in restructuring their businesses to maximize income tax planning and estate tax planning opportunities.

Education

- Georgetown University Law Center, LL.M., taxation, *with distinction*
- Dickinson School of Law, J.D.
- Millersville University, B.A., *cum laude*

Admissions

- Pennsylvania

Recognition

- *The Best Lawyers in America*®, Best Lawyers, 2025-2027
- *Readers' Choice Top Author Award*, JD Supra, 2016
- *Pennsylvania Rising Stars*®, Super Lawyers, 2007-2008, 2010-2011, 2013-2014
- *Select Lawyers*, 2014
- *Forty Under 40*, Central Penn Business Journal, 2013

Professional and community involvement

- Pennsylvania Bar Association
- Lancaster Bar Association