



Mary E. Shearen
Attorney

mshearen@bestlaw.com

60 South Sixth Street Suite 2700
Minneapolis, MN
P 612.341.9716

My mission is to help educate my clients so they can make the decisions that are best for them.

Mary E. Shearen's practice includes estate planning, probates, trusts and wealth transfer for clients at all levels of wealth. She provides customized, client-friendly services for individuals seeking estate planning help or help with estate services, trustees needing help administering trusts and trust beneficiaries regarding trust issues.

Mary is a fellow of the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel, served as Chair of the Legislation Committee of the Probate and Trust Section of the Minnesota Bar Association, and has served on the Probate and Trust Section Council and General Assembly of the Minnesota Bar Association. Prior to joining Best & Flanagan, she served as a law clerk for the Honorable Donald P. Lay, Chief Judge of the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals for the U. S. Mary is also a registered nurse.

Mary plays an active role in community affairs, having served as Chair of the Planned Giving Committee at the College of St. Catherine (now St. Catherine University) and as Secretary of the St. Catherine Alumnae Board. She taught estate planning at the University of St. Thomas School of Law, served as chair for Friends of St. Paul College Foundation Board, and is on the board of Pathways.

Mary was honored with the St. Catherine University 2015 Alumnae Award. Mary has been named a "Best Lawyer in America" since 2014. She has also been selected to the Minnesota Super Lawyers list (2005–present), was chosen as one of the "Top 50 Women Lawyers in Minnesota" on the 2021 Super Lawyers list, and was recognized as one of the "Top Women in Finance" in 2011, a Five State Financial Service Provider in 2016 and 2018, and as one of the "Top 40 Estate Planning Lawyers in Minnesota" (2007–08).

Areas of Practice

Private Wealth Planning
Estate & Trust Administration
Estates, Trusts & Fiduciary Litigation
Family & Closely-Held Business Planning
Antenuptial / Postnuptial Agreements & Disputes

Education

J.D., William Mitchell College of Law, 1988, *summa cum laude*,
Valedictorian
B.A., Nursing, College of St. Catherine, 1975

Admissions

State of Minnesota

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit

Firm News/Articles

- > 2025 Edition of Best Law Firms® Includes 16 Best & Flanagan Practice Areas
- > Twenty-One Best & Flanagan Attorneys Included in The Best Lawyers in America® 2025 Edition
- > Chambers High Net Worth Guide 2024 Recognizes Best & Flanagan
- > Twenty Best & Flanagan Attorneys Recognized as 2024 Super Lawyers and Rising Stars
- > Best & Flanagan Ranked in 2024 Edition of Best Law Firms® by Best Lawyers®
- > Sixteen Best & Flanagan Attorneys Included in The Best Lawyers in America® 2024 Edition
- > Nineteen Best & Flanagan Attorneys Recognized as 2023 Super Lawyers and Rising Stars
- > Women's History Month at Best & Flanagan
- > Best & Flanagan Ranked in 2023 "Best Law Firms" by U.S. News – Best Lawyers®
- > 2023 Edition of The Best Lawyers in America® Includes Eleven Best & Flanagan Attorneys
- > Fifteen Best & Flanagan Attorneys Recognized as 2022 Super Lawyers and Rising Stars
- > Celebrating Women's History Month
- > Best & Flanagan Ranked in 2022 "Best Law Firms" by U.S. News – Best Lawyers®
- > Eleven Best & Flanagan Attorneys Included in 2022 Edition of The Best Lawyers in America®
- > Shearen and Lammers Ranked in Chambers High Net Worth
- > Best & Flanagan Attorneys Recognized as 2021 Super Lawyers and Rising Stars
- > Eleven Best & Flanagan Attorneys Recognized as North Star Lawyers
- > Ten Best & Flanagan Attorneys Included in The Best Lawyers in America® 2021 Edition
- > Twenty Best & Flanagan Attorneys Recognized as 2020 Super Lawyers and Rising Stars
- > Best & Flanagan Attorneys Recognized in 2020 Chambers USA Rankings
- > Estate Planning during the Coronavirus Pandemic
- > Best Lawyers in America 2019 List Includes Seven Best & Flanagan Attorneys
- > Ten Best & Flanagan Attorneys Named 2019 Minnesota Super Lawyers
- > Best & Flanagan Attorneys Recognized in 2019 Chambers USA Rankings
- > She Leads
- > Nine Best & Flanagan Attorneys Named 2018 Minnesota Super Lawyers
- > Ten Best & Flanagan Attorneys Named 2017 Minnesota Super Lawyers
- > Best & Flanagan Congratulates Mary E. Shearen
- > Ten Best & Flanagan Attorneys Named 2016 Minnesota Super Lawyers
- > Mary E. Shearen Chosen as one of Minnesota's "Top Women in Finance"

Professional Associations

- > American Bar Association
- > Minnesota State Bar Association
 - > Probate and Trust Law Section; Legislation Committee
 - > Member 1999-present; Chair 2004-08;

BEST & FLANAGAN

- > Member, Section Council, 2005-2011
- > Hennepin County Bar Association

Awards & Recognition

- > [Chambers High Net Worth, 2017-present](#)
 - > Band 1 Attorney, Private Wealth Law - Minnesota
- > Martindale Hubbell AV Lawyer
- > *The Best Lawyers in America®*, 2014-present
 - > Trusts and Estates, Tax Law
- > Honoree, Minnesota Super Lawyers, 2005-present
 - > "Top 50 Women Lawyers in Minnesota," 2021
 - > "Top 100 Women Lawyers in Minnesota," 2007
- > Top Lawyers in Minnesota, *Minnesota Monthly*, 2022-present
 - > Trusts and Estates
- > North Star Lawyer, Minnesota State Bar Association, 2020
- > Five State Financial Service Provider, 2016, 2018
- > St. Catherine University Alumnae Award, 2015
- > "Top Women in Finance," 2011
- > "Top 40 Estate Planning Lawyers in Minnesota," 2007-2008

