

## Alan Watenmaker

PARTNER | LOS ANGELES

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LEGAL SECRETARY SHARI AIDUKAS



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### Alan is a partner in the private client and tax team.

He practices in the areas of tax, estate planning, trust administration and probate, and charitable planning. He is certified as a specialist in estate planning, trust, and probate law by the State Bar of California Board of Legal Specialization.

A leader in the field, Alan is a fellow of the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel. He is also a member of the planning committee of the USC Trust and Estate Conference (formerly known as the USC Probate and Trust Conference) and a former member of the executive committee of the probate and trust section of the Los Angeles County Bar Association. Among his charitable and civic endeavors, Alan is a member of the Board of Directors of the Ella Fitzgerald Charitable Foundation.

In addition, Alan has spoken on numerous occasions over the years for a variety of prestigious professional organizations, including the USC Tax Institute, UCLA/CEB Estate Planning Institute, USC Probate and Trust Conference, the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel, the Practicing Law Institute and California Continuing Education of the Bar.

Alan has twice been recognized as one of the “Top 100 Lawyers” in Southern California by “Super Lawyers” and has been selected as a “Southern California Super Lawyer” every year since 2004, when the list was first determined. He has also been listed in Best Lawyers in America every year since 1995. Alan was most recently honored by his peers, having been voted the 2024 Lawyer of the Year for Los Angeles County, as noted in the 2025 edition of Best Lawyers magazine.

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## External Publications

'Give Me My Money – Now! (Having Second Thoughts on the Wisdom of an Outdated Plan),' 64 Major Tax Planning – 2012, co-authored

'Power to the People! (An Exploration of the Use of Powers of Appointment in Estate Planning),' 30th Annual UCLA-CEB Estate Planning Institute – 2008, co-authored

'Death of a Spouse 'Now What Do I Do . . . ?' Selected Tax Issues for the Surviving Spouse,' 47th Annual Institute on Federal Taxation, USC Tax Institute – 1995, co-authored

'Supplement to California Decedent Estate Practice 1 & 2,' 1994, authored

'Post-Mortem Tax Planning Checklist,' 20th Annual USC Probate and Trust Conference - 1994, co-authored

'California Decedent Estate Practice 3,' California Continuing Education of the Bar

## Education

University of California, Los Angeles (B.S., magna cum laude, 1968 M.S., 1969)

University of California, Berkeley, School of Law (J.D., 1972)

Order of the Coif

Phi Beta Kappa

Beta Gamma Sigma

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## Languages

English

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## Memberships

American College of Trust and Estate Counsel, fellow

USC Trust and Estate Conference (formerly known as the USC Probate and Trust Conference), planning committee, member

Board of Directors of the Ella Fitzgerald Charitable Foundation, member

Probate and Trust Section of the Los Angeles County Bar Association, executive committee, former member

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## Withers History

Joined 2025

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