



Lisa Filgiano

Partner | Toronto

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RELATED SERVICES

Commercial Litigation
Estates and Trusts Litigation
Shareholder Disputes

Biography

Lisa Filgiano is an experienced estates and trusts litigator, who represents individuals and their families, charities, trust companies and financial institutions in complex estate and trust disputes. Her extensive experience includes claims of breach of trust and fiduciary duties, will challenges, guardianship proceedings, dependant relief applications, power of attorney disputes, passing of accounts and related proceedings.

Lisa's clients praise her compassionate and strategic approach to files, which often involve complex family relationships and dynamics. Lisa strives to provide her clients with the highest quality of service by determining the issues that are of the utmost importance to them and developing a litigation strategy that is most suited towards their desired outcome.

Lisa is actively engaged in the Estates and Trusts Bar. She is a former member of Ontario Bar Association Executive, Estates and Trusts Section (2016-2019) and acted as its Newsletter Editor for 2018-2019 year. She is a frequent speaker at estates and trusts programming, including programs put on by the Ontario Bar Association, the Law Society of Ontario and the Canadian Association of Gift Planners. Originally from Montreal, Lisa is proud to be fluently bilingual and trained in both common law and civil law.

Professional achievements & leadership

- *The Best Lawyers in Canada* – Trusts and Estates, 2021
- Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory, Estate & Personal Tax Planning, 2020

Thought leadership

Papers and Presentations

- Speaker, "When Gifts Go Wrong", Canadian Association of Gift Planners, January 2020
- Speaker, "Trust Troubles: Litigation, Tax and Ethical Issues", B'nai Brith Canada Seminar, June 4, 2019
- Speaker, "Limitation Periods in Estates and Passing of Accounts Proceedings", Six-Minute Estates Lawyer (Law Society of Ontario), April 29, 2019
- Co-Chair, "Identifying Tax Issues in Estates and Trusts Settlements", OBA ADR and Trusts and Estates Section Program, April 23, 2019
- Presenter, "Tackling Unsettled Issues in Trusts and Estates Law", Ontario Bar Association's Institute Trusts & Estates Law, February 7, 2019
- "Preparing and Passing Fiduciary Accounts: When, Why and How to Avoid a Dispute", OBA Trusts and Estates Law Program, December 12, 2018
- "Critical Advanced Estate Planning Issues", OBA Trusts and Estates Law Program, November 21, 2017
- "Contested Guardianships and Battling Attorneys", OBA Trusts and Estates Passport Series, October 24, 2017
- "Interview with Lisa Filgiano", Young Advocates' Standing Committee, Keeping Tabs, January 2017
- "Frightening Away Litigation: In Terrorem and No Contest Clauses", Eric Hoffstein and Lisa Filgiano, Six-Minute Estates Lawyer (Law Society of Upper Canada), May 6, 2015

- “Finally, Some Clarity on Limitation Periods Applicable to Will Challenge Applications: Leibel v. Leibel”, Deadbeat, December 12, 2014
- Case Comment on Leibel v. Leibel, 2014 ONSC 6482, OBA Trusts and Estates Passport Series, November 25, 2014

Publications

- “Family Law Issues in Estate Litigation”, Kelly Charlebois and Lisa Filgiano, Key Developments in Estates and Trusts Law in Ontario, 2016-2017 Edition
- “Avoiding Litigation: Tips from an Estate Litigator”, Taxes & Wealth Management, Thomson Reuters, October 2016, Issue 9-3

Professional memberships

- Ontario Bar Association Trusts and Estates Law Section Executive, Newsletter Editor, 2018 – 2019
- Ontario Bar Association Trusts and Estates Law Section Executive, Member-at-Large, 2016 – 2017 & 2017 – 2018
- Advocates’ Society
- Canadian Bar Association
- Ontario Bar Association

Languages spoken

- English
- French

Bar admissions & education

- Ontario Bar, 2008
- Quebec Bar, 2007
- LL.M, International Law, University of Cambridge, 2009
- LL.B, Dalhousie University, 2006
- LL.L, University of Ottawa, 2005