Shelton Swafford Chambers, CPA

Shareholder

D. 423.757.0256
F. 423.508.1256
E. schambers@chamblisslaw.com

I love helping my clients and their families reach their personal and professional goals, while simultaneously working to solidify their legacies that will last for generations to come.

With over 10 years of experience and dual law and accounting degrees, Shelton Swafford Chambers serves as a trusted advisor for high net worth clients and family-owned businesses. Shelton advises clients in all areas of estate and tax planning, including dynasty trusts, charitable trusts, and family governance structures. Clients turn to Shelton as a reliable resource and guide for a wide range of matters, including helping families navigate multigenerational wealth preservation, general consulting for closely held business owners, trust planning and administration, estate planning and gifting techniques for high net worth families, charitable planning and governance, and federal estate and gift tax returns. Shelton also routinely works with family businesses on succession planning, helping them navigate the dynamics and tensions that may arise between active and non-active business owners and across generations.

Taking great care of her clients' most personal and private information, Shelton anticipates her clients' needs and acts according to their wishes, serving them with the highest levels of confidentiality and integrity. No day is the same — from communicating health care wishes for an adult child in the hospital to advising a family member going through a divorce to coordinating care for a child with special needs. With a strategic, yet personable approach, she helps her clients create legacies that not only benefit future generations but give them the tools to act responsibly and with great care for what they've been provided of their unique situations.

Shelton makes it her primary goal to develop a deep and connective relationship with clients to understand what is most important. Serving clients all over the world, She strives to provide comfort and a sense of security, whether it's for short-term needs or long-term goals. Known for her collaborative nature, Shelton is the first person clients call because they know she will do everything in her power to effectively and efficiently find the resources needed.

Experience

Services

- Asset Protection Planning
- Business Organizations and Planning
- Charitable and Foundation Planning
- Charitable and Public Purpose Organizations
- Conservatorships and Guardianships
- Elder Law, Long-Term Care and Medicaid Planning, and Care Coordination
- Estate Planning
- Estate and Trust Litigation
- Family Business Planning and Succession
- Pre and Postnuptial Agreements
- Probate – Estate and Trust Administration
- Special Needs Planning
- Tax

Industries

- Charitable and Public Purpose Organizations
- Individuals, Families, Estates, and Trusts

Admissions

- Tennessee

Advising high net worth families on the best practices they can implement to preserve wealth for multiple generations, which includes the creation of governance plans, coordinating and overseeing family meetings, and working together with all family advisors to get a full understanding of and create a roadmap for the entire family's goals

Advising family businesses during times of transition to ensure ongoing business and family success

Providing charitable giving strategies and solutions that maximize contributions to organizations while making good tax sense for the client

Facilitating family meetings and participating as a legal and tax advisor

Serving as trustee of various trusts and advising trustors, trustees, and trust beneficiaries regarding trust administration of multi-generational dynasty trusts

Representing and advising owners and boards of directors of family-owned and closely-held business entities and joint ventures

Preparation of federal estate tax returns, gift tax returns, and income tax returns for estates and trusts

Forming and organizing nonprofit and tax exempt organizations and serving as director and officer of nonprofit organizations

Associations

Professional

- American Institute of Certified Public Accountants
- Tennessee Society of Certified Public Accountants
- Estate Planning Council of Chattanooga, Past President
- Chattanooga Tax Practitioners, Past Board Member
- Southeast Tennessee Lawyer's Association for Women, Past President

Bar Associations

- Chattanooga Bar Association, Member
- Tennessee Bar Association, Member
- American Bar Association, Member

Board Certifications

- Certified Public Accountant, Tennessee, 2005

Noteworthy

- U.S. District Court Eastern District of Tennessee

Education

- J.D., The University of Tennessee College of Law, 2009
- B.S., The University of Tennessee, magna cum laude, 2004

- *Best Lawyers in America*, Nonprofit/Charities Law, 2024-2025

Community

- Hope Included, Board Member
- Chattanooga Women's Leadership Institute (CWLI), Member
- Girls Preparatory School, Endowment Committee; Young Alumnae
- Nightingale Network, Florence Level Member
- Southeast Tennessee Lawyers Association for Women, Past President