

Walter Q. Impert

Partner

impert.walter@dorsey.com

Seattle – 206.903.2439



Walter structures comprehensive estate plans for high net worth individuals and families that incorporate their goals, values, tax considerations, and when applicable, their business succession strategies and charitable objectives.

Strong and enduring estate plans are built on a family's' values and goals, good governance, thoughtful tax planning, and in many cases, charitable purpose.

Values and Goals. High net worth individuals and families should reflect both on what they wish their wealth will accomplish, and what they hope to avoid. The priority may be ensuring that a family enterprise outlives its founder, giving children opportunity without dulling their ambition, or fostering harmonious family relationships. These conversations shape the decisions that follow, so the completed plan reflects the client's priorities so that their legacy is endowed with purpose.

Governance. Significant wealth can bind loved ones together or pull them apart. Great estate planning includes legal structures and the tools for communication that allow the next generation to steward assets wisely, build consensus for how important decisions will be made, select who is best suited to serve in positions of trust, and preparing heirs for their responsibilities before they are called to serve. The goal is a plan that everyone involved understands, accepts, and is equipped to carry forward.

Tax Planning. For high-net worth individuals and families, including those with operating businesses, high basis securities, concentrated holdings, real estate or privately held interests, and world-wide assets, taxes can swiftly erode a legacy. Sophisticated strategies to save taxes and preserve wealth must be designed and implemented in a manner that is aligned with client's vision. Though tax efficiency is not always the objective, it is a critical tool to ensure the stewardship and endurance of multigenerational wealth.

Charitable Objectives. Philanthropy is deeply personal and comes by many names,

Education

- University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), School of Law (J.D., 2002)
 - Managing Editor, UCLA Law Review
- Occidental College (B.A., Economics, 1996)
 - College Honors
 - Department Honors
 - Phi Beta Kappa

Bar Admissions

- California
- Washington

including charity, generosity, giving back, or an expression of gratitude. For many people, regardless of wealth, charity is an expression of who they are. Giving should be both meaningful and enduring, whether that means supporting a good cause that is close to one's heart today or creating a vehicle that will carry these values forward into the future.

When these pillars of estate planning come together, with the assistance of a client's other advisors in accounting, investment or family office services, the result is a robust and lasting legacy that benefits families for generations to come.

Languages

- French

Accolades

- *Best Lawyers in America*®, 2018-2026
- *Chambers High Net Worth (HNW)*, Private Wealth Law, Washington, 2017-2026

Professional Affiliations

- Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP), Past Chair of Seattle Chapter
- Seattle Estate Planning Council, Member
- College Success Foundation, Board of Directors
- Seattle University Planned Giving Committee

Insights

March 12, 2019

Opinion: Global families can overcome challenges of estate planning

Fall 2016

"Look Before You Leap – Pre-Immigration Estate Planning," WSBA Real Property Probate & Trust Newsletter