



## Catherine (Cat) N. L. Connell

### Associate

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### OVERVIEW

Cat Connell is an associate in the firm's Estate Planning and Trusts and Estates group. Cat's practice includes estate planning; trust and estate administration; resolving estate and trust disputes; charitable giving; and gift, estate, generation-skipping, and property tax planning. She counsels individuals and families on their personal planning needs, including multi-generational wealth transfer, and fiduciaries on their duties in trust and estate administration matters. She is committed to identifying clients' underlying needs and tailoring clients' estate plans to address each specific circumstance.

Cat graduated magna cum laude from Seattle University School of Law in 2016 and was the Editor in Chief of the Seattle University Law Review. She plays an active role in the community, serving on the Executive Committee of the Taxation Section of the Washington State Bar Association, most recently as its chair.

### PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Cat was a K&L Gates summer associate in 2015. Prior to coming to K&L Gates, Cat worked in the non-profit sector in direct service and program administration.

### ACHIEVEMENTS

- Named to Super Lawyers Rising Stars list (2020-2023)
- Dean's Medal Recipient, Seattle University School of Law, 2016

### PROFESSIONAL / CIVIC ACTIVITIES

- Presenter, Virtually Executed: Washington's Uniform Electronic Estate Planning Documents Act, February 2025
- Presenter, Generation-Skipping Transfer Tax, RPPT Mid-Year, June 2023
- Presenter, Trusts A-Z, *Dynasty/Generation Skipping Transfer Trusts*, August 2017

- Presenter, Trusts 101, *Revocable Living Trusts*, May 2017
- Executive Committee, Taxation Section, Washington State Bar Association

## EDUCATION

- J.D., Seattle University School of Law, 2016 (*Editor in Chief, Seattle University Law Review*)
- B.S., Washington State University, 2008

## ADMISSIONS

- Bar of Washington

## THOUGHT LEADERSHIP POWERED BY HUB

- 20 March 2026, Washington Legislature Adopts Income Tax and Changes to Estate Tax
- 3 January 2024, Tax and Estate Planning Opportunities to Consider Now
- 5 June 2023, New Washington Capital Gains Tax Impacts Estate Planning
- 21 November 2022, Year-End Estate Planning Update
- 13 November 2020, Post-Election Estate Planning
- 28 May 2020, The Basics of Estate Planning
- 13 January 2020, New SECURE Act Affects Estate Planning for Retirement Plans

## OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- Co-author, "Reconsidering the History of Open Courts in the Digital Age," 39 *SEATTLE U. L. REV.* 1281, 2016

## NEWS & EVENTS

- 25 June 2021, Pro Bono CLE and Training - Amazon and K&L Gates: Clearing Criminal Records of Survivors of Sex Trafficking & Domestic Violence
- 2 October 2020, K&L Gates and Amazon Receive Corporate Pro Bono Partner Award for Mary's Place Free Legal Clinic Partnership

## AREAS OF FOCUS

- Tax

- Estate Planning and Trusts & Estates