Stuart C. Herro

Attorney
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Stuart engages his clients in developing solutions to their legal problems. For more than 35 years, he has encouraged his clients to participate in crafting solutions to their legal needs. He believes that his clients are colleagues in addressing their situations. The more engaged they are, the more ownership they feel in the results. This is true whether Stuart is working on a real estate transaction, forming a new business, developing an exit strategy for the senior generation in a family business or formulating an estate plan for a young couple.

Over the years, Stuart's time has been spent in real estate, business formation and operation, and estate planning and probate in roughly equal proportions. He has participated in the structuring and implementation of residential and industrial subdivisions, assisted home buyers and sellers in arriving at a mutually agreeable contract and a smooth closing, and provided legal counsel to lenders.

In the area of business law, Stuart has assisted many clients with starting a new business, provided legal advice as their business developed (and, sometimes, declined) and worked with successful entrepreneurs in transitioning management and ownership to the next generation in the family.

As the population has aged, Stuart has taken on more estate planning and probate work. Modern estate planning is much more complex than simply providing the client with a form Will. An estate plan for a couple usually consists of a Marital Property Agreement, two Wills, possibly a Revocable Trust, two Durable Powers Of Attorney for financial matters and two Power Of Attorney For Health Care documents. Each phase of the estate plan requires significant input from the client, working together with Stuart to arrive at wise, practical solutions that meet the desires and goals of the client.

Clients

Typically, Stuart represents individuals and small to mediumsized businesses in their real estate, business transaction, succession planning, estate planning, probate and trust administration.

Nevertheless, he has also represented a countyowned solid waste disposal and recycling facility for nearly 25 years. Stuart is fluent in Spanish and has also represented Spanish speaking clients in creating a zerolot line condominium, reviewing a franchise agreement and purchasing grocery stores.

Client Recommendations

"This will be the tenth real estate transaction for my wife and I in our 34 years together. On every event we have engaged an attorney. This time we were blessed to also get a gentleman and a gifted professional. Thank you, Stuart." - *Chris & Kathy K.*

"Stuart listens well. He pays attention and drafts what I want, not forcing me into cookie cutter form language. I am always smiling by the time he leaves." - *Dorothy D., Estate Planning Client*

Notable Representations

Stuart researched and drafted the various documents required to establish the first equestrian subdivision in the Madison area. At one time, on behalf of the franchisees, he negotiated nearly all of the Wisconsin franchise agreements with a national retail computer store chain. Stuart also represented the developer of a golf course, condo-tel and residential subdivision for more than 15 years, including the sale of the golf course. For more than 30 years he has represented a lubricants wholesaler, as the company has expanded from a tiny Quonset hut into a regional firm serving roughly half the State of Wisconsin and parts of Illinois and Minnesota. Meanwhile, Stuart continues to represent firsttime home buyers, young couples crafting an estate plan at the time of the birth of their first child, and seniors trying to figure out how to best pass on their hardearned assets to their children and grandchildren or to nonprofits for which they have a passion. Stuart also assists family members with the probate and/or trust administration process following the death of a loved one.

Honors

- Martindale Hubbell AV® Peer Review Rated
- *Best Lawyers*® - Best Lawyers in America - Real Estate Law, Trusts and Estates
- Wm. L. Thompson Services Above Self Award - Rotary Club of Madison South
- Rotarian of the Year - Rotary Club of Madison West Towne-Middleton
- Paul Harris Fellow of Rotary International - Rotary Club of Madison West TowneMiddleton
- Our Lady of Guadalupe Award - Centro Pastoral Guadalupano
- Know Your Madisonian - Wisconsin State Journal
- Distinguished Graduate Award, National Catholic Education Association
- Distinguished Alumni Award, Edgewood High School

Expertise

- Business
- Construction Industry
- Lexwork
- Real Estate, Land Use & Construction
- Trusts & Estates
- Estate Planning
- Probate
- Trust Administration

Education

- J.D., *with honors,* University of Wisconsin
- M.B.A., University of Wisconsin
- A.B., *cum laude,* Harvard University
- Ambassadorial Fellowship - National University of Buenos Aires, Argentina

Admissions

- State Bar of Wisconsin
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the 7th Circuit
- U.S. District Court for the Western District of Wisconsin
- U.S. Supreme Court

Affiliations

- Apartment Association of South Central Wisconsin
- Blessed Sacrament Pastoral Council
- Dane County Bar Association
- Diocesan Pastoral Council
- Latino Chamber of Commerce - Madison/Dane County
- Progress Through Business - Madison Area Advisory Board

- Past President
- Blessed Sacrament Pastoral Council
- Dane County Citizens Organization
- Edgewood Campus School Parent Advisory Board
- Rotary Club of Madison West Towne-Middleton
- St. Thomas More Society of the Madison Diocese
- State Bar of Wisconsin, Agribusiness, Business Law, Elder Law, Environmental Law, Real Property - Trust and Probate Law, and General Practice Sections
- Director, Rotary Club of Madison West Towne-Middleton
- University of Wisconsin - Madison - Center on Business and Poverty
- University of Wisconsin-Madison - Family Business Center Advisory Board & Member of Recruitment Committee
- Wisconsin Hispanic Lawyers Association
- Wisconsin Planned Giving Council
- Wisconsin Real Estate Broker