



News

For Clients, Colleagues & Friends of GBGR, LLP

CHANGES TO OUR FIRM IN 2020: GSR BECOMES GBGR

The new decade ushers in a new era for our law firm. As we say a very difficult good-bye to our long-serving partner and friend, Derry Swanger, who is joining a smaller practice to gain lifestyle flexibility, partners Cindy Grossman and Steven Baker will join their partners, Leslie Giordani and Michael Ripp, in the firm's name. Accordingly, Giordani Swanger Ripp LLP ("GSR") will move forward effective March 1, 2020 as Giordani Baker Grossman & Ripp LLP ("GBGR").

The practice areas and services of GBGR remain identical to those of GSR. We eagerly look forward to the coming decade and beyond to continuing our representation of our national and international clientele, by offering a broad but focused suite of private client services with a foundation in tax and estate planning, including:

International Estate Planning. The firm's inbound and outbound international estate planning practices, led by partners, Michael Ripp and Leslie Giordani, and supported by associate attorney, Lauren Fitte, and senior coordinator, Bruce Kentros, represent high net worth individuals and foreign fiduciaries in the areas of pre-immigration planning, inheritance planning, asset protection planning, and cross-border tax matters.

Private Placement Life Insurance Planning. The firm's 20+ year niche practice of representing high net worth individuals and foreign and domestic fiduciaries in the acquisition of private placement life insurance and annuity policies as a powerful income tax planning strategy, led by insurance industry veteran, Bob Chesner, and partner, Leslie Giordani, and supported by coordinator, Amy Quinones, grows steadily and often represents an entry point to the firm for both national and international clients.

Closely-held Business Planning and Tax. The complex holdings of GBGR clients nearly always include closely held businesses with corresponding tax issues. Partner Cindy Grossman, supported by partner, Steven Baker, and coordinator, Carol Kohler, manages the legal and tax issues faced by those entities, and she also counsels entrepreneurs generally in the growth of their businesses, including M&A work, restructuring, and financing transactions.

Domestic Estate Planning and Probate. Drawing upon his tremendous expertise and experience, partner, Steven Baker, with the support of associate attorney, Lauren Fitte, and coordinator, Carol Kohler, guides firm clients in the establishment of estate plans ranging from simple to highly complex, including charitable planning vehicles, and supports families in the often difficult process of probate at the death of a loved one.

Tax Compliance and Administration. As an extension of the firm's philosophy that offering on-going support to our clients and family offices in the tax reporting and administrative aspects of the planning and asset structures we have assisted clients to establish, our in-house CPA, Ross Buchholtz, leads a team, including coordinator, Chelsea Esquivel, and paralegal, David Giordani, that offers tax reporting, accounting, and bookkeeping services.

In an election year that could see an administration change, GBGR clients face a potentially shifting tax and regulatory landscape. And the current state of a rapidly changing geopolitical

environment will undoubtedly have far-reaching economic implications. Now more than ever, however, the GBGR team, with many prior decades of experience guiding clients through difficult or changing times, will continue to offer the same, high quality legal and tax services in the domestic and international realms.

Should you have any questions or concerns about our changes and their implications, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Effective March 1, 2020, our new website will be www.gbgrlaw.com and all firm email addresses will end in @gbgrlaw.com. Firm phone numbers will remain consistent, and emails to former email addresses will reach your intended recipients.

We are excited, grateful, and wholly prepared to move into a new decade and sincerely thank all of you—our clients, colleagues, and friends—for your wonderful support over the years and into the future.