

## Russell A. Willis III, J.D., LL.M.

Russ is a tax lawyer, a freelance writer, and a consultant to other lawyers -- an advisor to the advisor -- on issues arising in connection with wealth transfers. Much of his practice is focused on structuring charitable contributions of closely held business and real property interests, so as to serve the mutual benefit of all parties.

Russ has written numerous articles for publications serving tax and charitable gift planning professionals, and he has been a frequent conference and seminar speaker. Several years ago, he launched a newsletter, the Jack Straw Fortnightly, analyzing current developments in the law -- both tax and nontax -- concerning the transfer of private wealth in this country.

More recently, he created a seven-hour course of asynchronous webinars titled "PG 103: stuff every gift planner should kinda know," comprising a complete, somewhat advanced course on tax-advantaged charitable gift planning techniques. Each segment of the course is approved by CFRE International for an hour of education credit for certification or recertification.

Russ has a law degree from St. Louis University and a master's degree in Taxation Law from Washington University in St. Louis. His undergraduate degree in English Literature is from Indiana University, Bloomington, and he has a master's degree in English from the University of Chicago.

A transportational bicyclist and sometime bike mechanic, Russ has lived car-free since 2008.