



Maura L. Whelan

Partner

425 Lexington Avenue
New York, NY 10017

mwhelan@stblaw.com

Phone: +1-212-455-2494

Fax: +1-212-455-2502

Maura Whelan is a Partner in the Firm's Exempt Organizations Practice. Maura has deep experience advising philanthropists and tax-exempt organizations on advancing mission objectives while navigating complex legal and regulatory rules. She provides practical, solutions-oriented counsel to tax-exempt organizations, high net worth individuals, family offices, major corporations, and innovative philanthropic structures seeking to carry out effective and compliant philanthropy. Maura advises tax-exempt organizations across their full lifecycle, from formation and governance to succession planning and ongoing compliance to wind-down and termination. She has particular experience working with private foundations and other grantmaking organizations to structure and implement sophisticated grantmaking programs, and regularly counsels donors on major gifts, including gifts of art and other complex assets. In addition, Maura represents charitable and social welfare organizations pursuing social impact, mission-related, and program-related investments, as well as endowments, foundations, and other institutional investors engaged in alternative investments.

Practice Focus:

- Exempt Organizations
- Corporate
- Sustainability and Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG)
- Corporate Governance
- Family Office

Industries:

- Education

Maura is recognized as a thought leader and is regularly featured as a speaker at the premier conferences of exempt organizations and their advisors, including Georgetown University Law Center's Representing and Managing Tax-Exempt Organizations Conference, University of Texas School of Law's Nonprofit Organizations Institute and meetings of the American Bar Association Section of Taxation Exempt Organizations Committee. Maura also regularly participates in conferences and convenings aimed at capacity building for smaller and less-resourced tax-exempt organizations, including those hosted by New York State Council on the Arts, Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts and New York Lawyers for the Public Interest.

Maura is a member of the American Bar Association Section of Taxation's Exempt Organizations Committee and previously served as Secretary of that Committee. The Committee is considered the nation's leading

exempt organizations practitioners group. Maura also is a former member of the New York City Bar Association Non-Profit Organizations Committee.

Maura earned her J.D. from Harvard Law School, where she graduated *cum laude*. She earned her A.B. from Georgetown University, where she graduated *magna cum laude* and was elected to Phi Beta Kappa.