



## Robert I. Aufseeser

Counsel

New Jersey

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With over ten years of experience planning, administering, and litigating trust and estate matters, Robert has built a reputation for quickly sorting through complex fact patterns and methodically planning and preparing effective case strategies. Robert designs, implements, and manages comprehensive estate plans with the goal of promoting family harmony, avoiding unnecessary taxes, and providing a workable framework for transferring wealth while avoiding animosity and litigation. He has also been successful in litigating family disputes when necessary to protect his clients' interests.

Robert's clients include business owners and entrepreneurs, multiple generations of families, beneficiaries, executors, trustees, and guardians. A trained tax attorney, he approaches his representation with an eye toward saving income and transfer taxes for his clients.

Robert has written and lectured extensively on numerous aspects of trust and estate administration, including probate proceedings, writings intended as wills, formal and informal fiduciary accountings, insolvent estates, creditor disputes, the inheritance rights of children, and the preparation of state and federal estate and gift tax returns.

He is a former adjunct professor of business law at Union County College and a Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) for children in foster care.

## EXPERIENCE

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- > Successfully removed executors and trustees for breaching their fiduciary duty
- > Successfully defended an executor against charges of undue influence
- > Successfully defended a beneficiary against the probate of an unsigned note that was allegedly a last will and testament
- > Successfully admitted a will to probate that did not comply with the legal formalities for wills under New Jersey law
- > Used insolvent estate proceedings to protect \$2 million in assets from creditors
- > Created a court sanctioned Special Needs Trust to protect assets in the context of a guardianship proceeding
- > Used the New Jersey compromise tax to avoid multi-generational estate and inheritance taxes

## HONORS & AWARDS

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- > **New Jersey Rising Stars (2015-2018)**

## NEWS & INSIGHTS

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### Publications

- > March 20, 2020  
**"Estate, Gift, and Income Tax Planning in the Time of COVID-19,"** *Trusts & Estates Client Alert*  
Warren K. Racusin, John L. Berger, Michael N. Gooen, Kenneth J. Slutsky, Jeffrey J. Wild, Ashley Steinhart, Eric D. Weinstock, Robert I. Aufseeser, Bridget Harris, Tracy A. Snow
- > November 2018  
**"What Writings Are Adequate to Qualify for Probate?,"** *Thomson Reuters, Estate Planning Journal, Vol 45 / No 11*  
Robert I. Aufseeser
- > August 8, 2018  
**"Where The Gibson Taxpayers Went Wrong,"** *Law360*  
Robert I. Aufseeser

- > June 13, 2018  
**"Strategic Approaches to Reviewing the Actions of Executors and Trustees through Accounting,"** *New Jersey Institute for Continuing Legal Education*  
Robert I. Aufseeser
- > June 5, 2017  
**"When are the Statements of the Decedent Admissible into Evidence in Estate Litigation?,"** *New Jersey Institute for Continuing Legal Education*  
Robert I. Aufseeser
- > April 28, 2017  
**"The Attorney-Client Privilege and Fiduciaries: Update on NY Assembly Bill A07088,"** *Annual Tax Lawyering Workshop, New York Law School*  
Robert I. Aufseeser

## EDUCATION

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- > New York Law School (LL.M. in Taxation 2011)
- > Syracuse University College of Law (J.D. 2007)
- > Rutgers University (B.A. 2003)

## ADMISSIONS

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- > New York
- > New Jersey