ERIC REIS

Assistant Professor of Law
UNT Dallas College of Law
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Teaching Experience

UNT DALLAS COLLEGE OF LAW, Dallas, Texas

Assistant Professor of Law, Fall 2021 to present
Adjunct Professor, Spring 2016 to Spring 2021
Coach for ABA Law Student Tax Challenge, Fall 2019 to present
Faculty Advisor for Wills, Trusts, and Estates Society, Fall 2023 to present

Courses: Wills, Trusts, and Estates, Family Law, Federal Income Tax, Taxation of Business Entities

Committees: Adjunct Faculty (Chair), Curriculum and Instruction, Bar Passage Task Force

SMU DEDMAN SCHOOL OF LAW, Dallas, Texas

Adjunct Professor, Spring 2020 to Spring 2021

Courses: Estate Planning & Practice

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW, Dallas, Texas

Adjunct Professor, Spring 2019 to Spring 2021

Courses: Trusts & Fiduciary Responsibilities

Other Professional Experience

HAYNES & BOONE LLP, Dallas, Texas

Senior Counsel, November 2025 to present

Practice Areas: Tax, Trusts & Estates

HOLLAND & KNIGHT LLP, Dallas, Texas

Consulting Counsel, August 2021 to November 2025

Practice Areas: Tax, Trusts & Estates

THOMPSON & KNIGHT LLP, Dallas, Texas

Of Counsel, January 2011 to July 2021
Senior Partner, January 2006 to December 2010
Partner, January 2003 to December 2005
Associate, August 1996 to December 2002

Practice Areas: Tax, Trusts & Estates

THE PUBLIC INTEREST, Washington, DC

Assistant Managing Editor, Spring 1993 to Summer 1993
Assistant Editor, Fall 1992 to Winter 1993

Professional Activities and Recognition

Past Chair of the Real Estate, Probate & Trust Law Section of the State Bar of Texas. Previously Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Council member, and chair of the section's Decedents' Estates Committee

Fellow, American College of Trust and Estate Counsel

Member, Legal Education Committee of the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel

Board Certified in Estate Planning & Probate Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization

Board Certified in Tax Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization

AV Preeminent Peer Review Rating, Martindale-Hubbell

UNT Dallas College of Law Board of Advocates, Patron of the Advocates Award, 2019-2020

Dallas Trusts and Estates "Lawyer of the Year" for 2018, *The Best Lawyers in America*

Listed in:
The Best Lawyers in America (Trusts and Estates)
Texas Super Lawyers (Estate Planning & Probate, Tax, Nonprofit Organizations)

Education

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SCHOOL OF LAW, Austin, Texas

J.D. received May 1996, with honors
Order of the Coif
Associate Editor, *Texas Law Review*
Chairman, Legal Research Board
Thad T. Hutcheson Moot Court Finalist, with highest brief rankings
Review of Litigation Best Brief Award winner
Two-time Legal Research Board Outstanding Memorandum Award winner
Texas Law Review Best Business Law Note Award winner
Dean's Achievement Award (highest grade in class) in Federal Income Tax
Dean's Achievement Award (highest grade in class) in Marital Relations & Divorce
Phi Delta Phi

HARVARD COLLEGE, Cambridge, Massachusetts

A.B. received June 1992, *cum laude*
Detur Prize for Outstanding Academic Achievement
Dean's list

Publications

An Elective Wealth Tax, 66 SANTA CLARA L. REV. 202 (2026)

Building Grantor Trusts Back Better, 60 TULSA L. REV. 275 (2025)

Guaranteed Wealth? A New Way of Thinking About the Gift Tax Treatment of Loan Guarantees, 27 FLA. TAX REV. 304 (2023)

Transfer of Proceedings in Statutory Probate Courts, THE ADVOCATE, December 2007 (with Melinda Sims)

Mr. Soros Goes to Washington: The Case for Reform of the Estate and Gift Tax Treatment of Political Contributions, 41 REAL PROP., PROB. & TR. J. 299 (2007)

The Funding Dilemma, TRUSTS AND ESTATES, May 2005, at 32

New Opportunities, New Limitations in Planning with Charitable Remainder Trusts, PROBATE & PROPERTY, May/June 2000, at 41 (with Terry L. Simmons and William R. Mureiko)

Presentations

I (Don't) Guarantee It: Potential Problems with the Use of Personal Guarantees to Back Loans to Family Trusts, Estate Planning Council of Central Texas, Austin, Texas, May 26, 2026

An Elective Wealth Tax, Baylor Law School Texas Junior Scholars Faculty Conference, Waco, Texas, December 5, 2025

I (Don't) Guarantee It: Potential Problems with the Use of Personal Guarantees to Back Loans to Family Trusts, Houston Business and Estate Planning Council, Houston, Texas, October 16, 2025

Basic Principles and Strategies in Estate Planning, 59th Annual Program: Short Course on Estate Planning, The Center for American and International Law, Plano, Texas, June 24, 2025

Guaranteed Wealth: A New Way of Thinking About the Gift Tax Treatment of Guarantees, Fiduciary Income Tax Committee of the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel, 2025 Annual Meeting, Palm Springs, California March 22, 2025

I (Don't) Guarantee It: Potential Problems with the Use of Personal Guarantees to Back Loans to Family Trusts, Estate Planning Council of North Texas, Plano, Texas, February 19, 2025

Guaranteed Wealth: A New Way of Thinking About the Gift Tax Treatment of Guarantees, Legal Education Committee of the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel, 2024 Fall Meeting, Chicago, Illinois, September 21, 2024

I (Don't) Guarantee It: Potential Problems with the Use of Personal Guarantees to Back Loans to Family Trusts, 48th Annual Advanced Estate Planning & Probate Course, State Bar of Texas, Houston, Texas, June 13, 2024

A Quick Trust Tax Tutorial, 20th Annual Changes and Trends Affecting Special Needs Trusts, The University of Texas School of Law Continuing Legal Education, Austin, Texas, February 16, 2024

Basic Principles and Strategies in Estate Planning, 58th Annual Program: Short Course on Estate Planning, The Center for American and International Law, Plano, Texas, January 25, 2023

Hold on to Your Land, Texas Small Farmers and Ranchers Community Based Organization, Dallas, Texas, January 13, 2022 (co-presenter)

Guaranteed Wealth: A New Way of Thinking About the Gift Tax Treatment of Guarantees, Oklahoma City University School of Law Regional Junior Faculty Colloquium, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, March 26, 2022

Planning for Individuals with Diminished Life Expectancy, San Antonio Estate Planners Council, San Antonio, Texas, May 17, 2022

Planning for Individuals with Diminished Life Expectancy, Texas Society of CPAs Summit 2021, San Antonio, Texas, November 8, 2021

Planning for Individuals with Diminished Life Expectancy, Texas Bankers Association, October 12, 2021

A Guide to Executing Estate Planning Documents in Uncertain Times, Collin County Bar Association Probate Section, May 8, 2020

Modifying Irrevocable Trusts, Dallas Estate Planning Council, Dallas, Texas, February 6, 2020

Cutting Edge Planning Ideas, Including Ideas to Avoid the Estate Tax for Those Who Will Surely Pay, State Bar of Texas Advanced Estate Planning Strategies Course, San Diego, California, April 26, 2019 (panel with David Handler, Lester Law, and Steve Akers)

Irrevocable or Not? Modifications to Trusts, North Texas Estate Planning Council, September 20, 2017

Trust Accounting Issues, State Bar of Texas Advanced Estate Planning & Probate Course, Houston, Texas, June 9, 2017

Planning for Individuals with Diminished Life Expectancy, North Texas Estate Planning Council, Plano, Texas, September 16, 2015

Planning for Individuals with Diminished Life Expectancy, Collin County Bar Association Probate Section, Allen, Texas, September 10, 2010

Planning for Individuals with Diminished Life Expectancy, Austin Bar Association, Austin, Texas, February 19, 2010

Irrevocable or Not? Modifications to Trusts, State Bar of Texas Advanced Estate Planning & Probate Course, June 2009

Estate Planning for Political Contributions, State Bar of Texas Advanced Estate Planning & Probate Course, June 2008

Gifting Assets Without Tax Consequence, State Bar of Texas Annual Meeting, June 2008

Current Developments in Exempt Organizations Law, State Bar of Texas Governance of Nonprofits Course, August 2007

Blended Family Issues in a Wills and Probate Practice, University of Houston Law Center Continuing Legal Education Program, July 2005

Blended Family Issues in a Wills and Probate Practice, Collin County Bar Association Probate Section, July 2004

Blended Family Issues in a Wills and Probate Practice, University of Houston Law Center Continuing Legal Education Program, May 2004

Will Drafting & Multiple Marriage Issues, University of Houston Law Center Continuing Legal Education Program, May 2001

Creative Uses for Roth IRAs, Lone Star Planners Conference, Austin, Texas, November 2000

Raising Money Legally: Selected Issues in Fundraising, The Center for Nonprofit Management, Dallas, Texas, June 2000

Administrative Expenses and the Marital Deduction, Brazos Valley Estate & Financial Planning Council, Bryan, Texas, October 1999