Withersworldwide

Phineas Hirsch

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Phineas is a senior associate in the private client and tax team.

Phineas is a senior associate in the private client and tax team, having joined from Slaughter & May's corporate tax team in 2011.

He advises domestic and international individuals and families on their succession and tax planning using wills, trusts and other structures. He has expertise dealing with a wide range of UK and international tax and trust issues and acts for trustees and beneficiaries in relation to the creation, management, and taxation of their trusts.

Being a fluent French and Spanish speaker, Phineas has developed significant experience working closely with a network of local advisors in the Continent in dealing with foreign assets and estates. In this context, he also advises charities and individuals on cross-border probate and succession matters as well as the international tax issues that arise from cross-border legacies and property transactions.

As a member of the firm's Talent 'Special Interest Group', Phineas advises a number of high-profile international sportspersons, managers and models on their global tax affairs and image rights structuring.

In a personal capacity, Phineas acts as Trustee and Treasurer of an international private family foundation, that funds non-profit organizations to facilitate progressive social change in the areas of homelessness and criminal justice reform. He is also a proud father with strong family values.

Track record

Taxation of image rights

Advised the manager of a major Premier League football club to negotiate a very complex scenario around the taxation of his image rights, where negotiating parties had very different backgrounds and interests and rules between the UK and their European country of residence varied greatly. Our multilingual team in the UK were able to liaise with the team in his home country to provide a seamless solution.

Greece based family office

Worked for a Greece based family office of a family with USD 3 billion of shipping, mining, commodity trading and real-estate assets on the establishment of Cayman and Bermuda based PTC structures for the segregated protection and ongoing management of their personal and business interests in such a way that they are protected from domestic risks.

Monaco based client

Advised a Monaco based client on the reorganisation of the ownership structure for his EUR 30m property on the French Riviera, working closely with French and Monegasque advisors to rationalise the structure in the context of the new French trust taxation and reporting rules.

Non-dom advice for foreign owners of UK property

Advised a number of foreign owners of UK residential property on the new non-dom and residential property IHT rules that were announced to come into effect from 6 April 2017.

Business Property Relief

Advised the Executors of a complex multi-jurisdictional estate on its administration and securing Business Property Relief from IHT on private family company shares.

Recent recognition



Talks

 'Practical Pitfalls In International Estate Administration', STEP Cross-Border Estates SIG conference - November 2016

External publications

'Russian state assets: a Question of Trust?' New Law Journal - May 2023 Brexit and 'Brussels IV: Does the UK's impending departure from the EU complicate or clarify the picture for crossborder private client law and the EU Succession Regulation? Trust & Estates Law & Tax Journal, November 2016:

Brexit: what now for the EU Succession Regulation and private client law?

Private Client Business, February 2017

'Challenging Will Revocations', Private Client Business - June 2014

'The Gallic Connection - helping you secure charitable exemption on French estates and recent legislation', Legacy Ealert - February 2015

'Cross-border legacies in the EU - securing a level playing field', E-alert - April 2015

Admissions

England and Wales, 2010

Education

Trinity College, Dublin, B.A. (Hons) Spanish and French

BPP Law School, Graduate Diploma in Law (Merit) and Legal Practice Course (Distinction)

Languages

English French Spanish

Memberships

Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP)

Franco-British Lawyers Society

Key dates

Year joined: 2011

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