

Rachel L. Sears

Associate

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Location

505 South Flagler Drive
Suite 1100
West Palm Beach
Florida 33401

Education

J.D., Nova Southeastern University Shepard
Broad College of Law, *cum laude*

B.A., University of Florida

Admissions

The Florida Bar



Rachel Sears, a member of both the **Corporate & Tax** and **Private Wealth, Wills, Trusts & Estates** practice groups, advises businesses and individuals in the areas of corporate law, estate planning, and trust and estate administration.

Rachel focuses her practice on mergers and acquisitions, where she advises clients through each stage of a transaction. She guides businesses through the legal due diligence process and leads the negotiation of purchase agreements and related documents, ensuring deals are structured to achieve business objectives while reducing risk.

In addition to her M&A work, Rachel serves as trusted corporate counsel to companies across diverse industries. She regularly assists with third-party and affiliate agreements, reviews and negotiates refinancing and credit agreements, and prepares internal governance documents that promote effective operations. With a practical, business-oriented approach, Rachel provides clear, strategic guidance that supports both immediate priorities and long-term growth.

Rachel also works with clients on estate planning matters, including wills, trusts, powers of attorney, and advance healthcare directives. In addition, she provides counsel to personal representatives, trustees, and beneficiaries in probate and trust administration, guiding them through the legal and personal challenges that can be involved in administering an estate.

An active member of both industry and community organizations, Rachel is currently treasurer of the East Coast Estate Planning Council and co-chair of its Young Professionals Committee. She is also a member of the Palm Beach Tax Institute and is involved in several bar organizations, including The Florida Bar's Real Property, Probate and Trust Law Section and the American Bar Association's Real Property, Trust and Estate Law Section. Beyond her professional affiliations, Rachel serves on the board of directors for Boys Town South Florida, where she helps provide corporate governance and strategic guidance to ensure that each department and program advances the organization's mission and expands its impact. In addition, Rachel has earned recognition in *Palm Beach Illustrated's* "Top Lawyers" list for her work in Business/Corporate and Corporate Law.

Rachel earned her Juris Doctor degree from Nova Southeastern University Shepard Broad College of Law, where she graduated *cum laude*. While at Nova Southeastern University, she was the Executive Editor for the *Nova Law Review*; a pupil of the Craig S. Barnard American Inn of Court; the Director of Operations for the Real Property, Probate and Trust Law Society; and an active member of the Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity. Rachel gained valuable experience as a judicial intern for both U.S. Circuit Judges David A. Haimes and Keathan B. Frink at the Seventeenth Judicial Circuit of Florida, as a Research Assistant for a law professor, and as a Summer Associate and Law Clerk at Jones Foster.

Honors & Distinctions

Palm Beach Illustrated

Top Lawyers, Business/Corporate, 2024

Top Lawyers, Corporate Law, 2024

Affiliations

The Florida Bar

Member, Young Lawyers Division, 2022-Present

Member, Real Property Probate and Trust Law Section, 2022-Present

Member, Business Law Section, 2024-Present

Palm Beach County Bar Association

Member, Young Lawyers Section, 2022-Present

American Bar Association

Member, Young Lawyers Division, 2023-Present

Member, Real Property, Trust and Estate Law Section, 2023-Present

East Coast Estate Planning Council

Treasurer, Board of Directors, 2025-Present

Co-Chair, Young Professionals Committee, 2025-Present

Board of Directors, 2024-Present

Member, 2023-Present

Palm Beach Tax Institute

Member, 2023-Present

Boys Town South Florida

Board of Directors, 2025-Present

Young Friends of the Historical Society Palm Beach County

Member, 2023-Present

Insights

Beauty — and Art — is in the Eye of the Beholder: How the Appeal of Collectibles is Transforming the Art World

Author / August 2025

Florida Banking Magazine, August/September Issue

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Read more on JF's Perspective >

Pitfalls and Considerations of Self-Directed IRAs

Author / April 17, 2024

Luxury Home Magazine The Palm Beaches, Page 110

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Pitfalls of Self-Directed IRAs

Author / January 30, 2024

Daily Business Review

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Understanding the Corporate Transparency Act

Author / December 2023

Luxury Home Magazine The Palm Beaches, Page 104

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Corporate Transparency Act: What You Need to Know

Speaker / December 5, 2023

Rehabilitation Center for Children and Adults / Endowment Committee

Palm Beach, FL

Safe Harbor for Your Charitable Deduction

Author / June 2023

Luxury Home Magazine The Palm Beaches, Page 104

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Landowners Nationwide With a Conservation Easement Should Revise Deeds by July 24 or Risk Losing Their Charitable Deduction

Author / May 15, 2023

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Estate Planning Considerations for Cryptocurrency Investors

Author / January 25, 2022

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Cryptocurrency 101: Getting Up to Speed

Author / December 8, 2021

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