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Distinctions:

Best Lawyers in America
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COAN, PAYTON & PAYNE, LLC



Richard M. Hess, Jr., AEP®

Mr. Richard Hess' practice emphasizes wealth preservation and transfer, family philanthropy and the related fields of succession and exit planning for closely-held businesses and professional practices. He assists business partners, entrepreneurs, professional practices, individuals, and family groups in preserving and facilitating the transfer of wealth as well as managing inter-generational philanthropy.

Mr. Hess' practice includes the subspecialties of estate planning; estate and gift tax planning; estate and trust administration; charitable/philanthropic planning (including charitable trusts and private foundations) and tax-exempt organizations. This work frequently involves developing strategies to protect assets while addressing specialized family needs and goals. He uses a broad array of approaches in order to address each individual client situation while emphasizing simplicity to minimize long-term administrative expenses. This includes mentoring both parents and children in the responsibilities and obligations of wealth transfer, including charitable undertakings, management of assets, decision making, corporate and nonprofit governance, and other matters.

Mr. Hess is also an active member of many community organizations, he is the current President of the Board of Directors of Belay Enterprises, the Colorado and Denver Bar Associations. He is a former member of the Board of Directors of the Crestmoor Community Association (Crestmoor Swim and Tennis Club) and Treasurer of the Graland Country Day School Parent's Association. Richard previously served as President of the Wednesday's Child Foundation, President of Mountain International Exchange, and President of Curious Theater Company.

Prior Community Service

- ◆ Active member of the Chamber 100
- ◆ Active member of the Leadership Denver Class of 2001 and 2002
- ◆ Active member of the American, Colorado and Denver Bar Association
- ◆ Member of the Rotary Club of Denver Southeast
- ◆ Member of the Board of Directors of Belay Enterprises
- ◆ Treasurer of the Graland Country Day School Parent's Association
- ◆ Former member of the Board of Directors of the Crestmoor Community Association (Crestmoor Swim and Tennis Club)
- ◆ Former President of the Wednesday's Child Foundation
- ◆ Former President of the Mountain International Exchange
- ◆ Former President of Curious Theater Company