

**KANSAS CITY**

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Melissa Whitesel  
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**PRACTICE AREAS**

Wealth Strategies

Trust and Estate Litigation

**EDUCATION**

University of Missouri-Kansas  
City School of Law, J.D., 1984

Southeast Missouri State  
University, B.A., Political  
Science, *summa cum laude*,  
1981

## Mary S. Shafer

Of Counsel | [mshafer@lathropgage.com](mailto:mshafer@lathropgage.com)

Ms. Shafer's area of practice is estate and trust taxation, administration of trusts, and probate and conservatorship estates. She prepares analysis and recommendations on complex estate, gift and generation-skipping transfer tax issues. She also focuses on issues involving Foundations and other tax-exempt organizations.

### Court Memberships

- Missouri
- Kansas

### Honors

- Order of the Bench and Robe
- University of Missouri-Kansas City Law Review, Member

### Professional Affiliations

- The Missouri Bar, Probate Committee
- The Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association

### Publications

- Co-author, *Exempt Property, Family Allowance, Homestead and Election to Take Against the Will*, Chapter 8, Missouri Estate Administration Deskbook, Fifth Edition