

Sharon Quinn Dixon



Shareholder

Miami Office

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PRACTICE AREAS

Employee Benefits

Tax, Trusts & Estates

Labor & Employment

Insurance

Education Law

OVERVIEW

"Sharon is a true expert in ERISA and benefits law, responsive, fun to work with, and explains legal concepts clearly in plain English."

- *Chambers USA 2023*

Sharon Quinn Dixon is a Florida Board Certified tax lawyer with over four decades of experience advising business clients about their employee benefit plans and executive compensation as well as individuals and organizations regarding their estate, probate and trust planning and administration.

Sharon has particular technical proficiency and an ability to simplify and demonstrate complex legal concepts. She has been ranked Band 1 (the highest ranking) in Chambers USA since 2005 and Best Lawyers in America® has named her Miami Employee Benefits (ERISA) Law Lawyer of the Year five times.

Areas of Concentration

Employee Benefits

Tax and ERISA compliance and litigation matters involving 401(k), retirement and equity incentive benefit plans

Executive compensation issues including nonqualified deferred compensation plan compliance with tax Code Section 409A

Representation of employer-plan sponsors in audits by IRS and U.S. Department of Labor

Representation of tax-exempt employers in connection with 403(b) and retirement plans (qualified and nonqualified) and health and welfare plans

Correction of 401(k) and retirement plan compliance deficiencies and submission for IRS approval

COBRA issues

Section 125-Cafeteria Plans

Equity-based plans for employees including stock option and stock appreciation rights plans

Medical and insurance plan questions

Affordable Care Act compliance, reporting and “penalty tax” issues

Merger and acquisition due diligence reviews and agreements

Planning for employee benefits in implementing Family Leave Act policies

Estate, Probate and Trust Planning and Administration

Estate planning for retirement benefits

Development and implementation of individual estate plans

Federal estate, gift and income tax issues

Representation of corporate and individual fiduciaries in connection with the administration of estates and personal trusts

Successful defense of IRS challenges to estate tax valuation

Drafting personal trusts and planning for family business succession

Formation and operation of tax exempt organizations, (including obtaining and maintaining tax status with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS))

PROFESSIONAL & COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

American College of Employee Benefits Counsel, Fellow, Present

American Bar Association, Tax Section, Employee Benefits Committee, Present

The Florida Bar, Tax and Real Property Probate and Trust Law (RPPTL) Sections, Present

Estate Planning Council of Greater Miami, Inc., Present, Board of Directors, 2012-2023

South Florida Trail Riders, Present, Board of Directors, 2020-2022

Children’s Home Society, Southeastern Division, 2009-2020

Chair of the Board, 2017-2019

RECOGNITION

Chambers USA, Employee Benefits & Executive Compensation (Florida), Band 1, 2020-Present; Tax, Band 1, 2005-2019

Florida Trend, Legal Elite NOTABLE – Women Leaders in Law, 2024

The Best Lawyers in America®, 1993-2018, 2020-Present

Miami Employee Benefits (ERISA) Law Lawyer of the Year, 2012, 2016, 2018, 2020, 2025

The Employment Law Issue, 2021

Florida Super Lawyers, 2006-Present

Top 50 Women *Florida Super Lawyers*, 2024

Top 100 *Miami Super Lawyers*, 2024

Distinguished Estate Planner of the Year, Estate Planning Council of Greater Miami, 2022-2023

Florida Trend's Florida Legal Elite, 2016

South Florida Legal Guide, Top Lawyers in South Florida - Labor & Employment, 2008-2021

AV Rated by Martindale-Hubbell

PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

Events: Donor Advised Funds vs. Private Foundation – A Panel Discussion

KSDT, CPA | | June 2024

Events: **WEBINAR: Leveraging your 401(k) Plan to Increase Employee Retention**

| February 2023

Events: **The COBRA And Benefit Earthquake and Our Staffing/Payroll Company Just Went Belly Up**

Stearns Weaver Miller's 2022 Annual Miami Labor & Employment Law Seminar | | October 2022

Publications: **Don't Ignore IRS ESRP Notices!**

BeLabor the Point Blog | August 2022

Events: **WEBINAR: The Mystery of Disappearing Employees and Electronic Information**

Stearns Weaver Miller Webinar | | July 2021

Events: **Breaking Through the Noise: Labor & Employment Issues Post-Pandemic**

Stearns Weaver Miller News Program Special | | June 2021

Events: **WEBINAR: COBRA Conundrum - Changes to COBRA Under the American Rescue Plan Act**

Stearns Weaver Miller Webinar | | April 2021

Publications: **State tax withholding and other obligations for remote workers. What you don't know CAN hurt you. (PART 1)**

BeLabor the Point Blog | March 2021

Events:

Estate Planning For Expats

| January 2021

Publications: Employers unsure about benefits for furloughed workers

Southeast Employment Law Letter | December 2020

Publications: Six Months of Benefits on Furlough – Now What?

BeLabor the Point Blog | September 2020

Events: Back to Work or No More Work? - Employee Benefits Issues

| July 2020

Publications: Top Takeaways from Our Back to Work Virtual Chat

BeLabor the Point Blog | June 2020

Events: Back to Work Virtual Chat

Stearns Weaver Miller Webinar | | June 2020

Events: Virtual Webinar - Drafting to Protect the Settlor from Himself

Estate Planning Council of Greater Miami Workshop + Presentation | | April 2020

COVID News Update, Labor & Employment News Update, Publications: Federal Paid Leave Law Signed by President Trump

BeLabor The Point Blog | March 2020

Publications: Covering Summer Interns Under Your Employee Benefit Plans – You Can't Just Forget About Them

BeLabor the Point Blog | June 2019

Events: Guess What HR Forgot When Employees Went on Long-Term LOA? After FMLA and ADA, Remember Your Benefit Plans

Stearns Weaver Miller's 29th Annual Labor and Employment Law Seminar | | May 2019

Events: Guess What HR Forgot When Employees Went on Long-Term LOA? After FMLA and ADA, Remember Your Benefit Plans

Stearns Weaver Miller's Annual Tampa Labor and Employment Law Seminar | | May 2019

Publications: Dave & Buster's Settlement – Busted! But Not So Fast....

BeLabor the Point Blog | January 2019

Events: Hype vs. Reality: The Effect of Recent Guidance on Your Employee Benefit Plans

Greater Miami Society for Human Resource Management | | November 2018

Publications: Covering Summer Interns Under Your Employee Benefit Plans – You Can't Just Forget About Them

BeLabor The Point Blog | June 2018

Events: Another ERISA Fiduciary Duty? Protecting Your Benefit Plan's Confidential Information

Labor & Employment News Update, Publications: [Retirement Plan Hurricane Relief for Affected Participants](#)

Stearns Weaver Miller News Update | November 2017

Events: [The DOL Fiduciary Rule and Other Developments](#)

GMSHRM | | November 2017

Events: [Executive Compensation and Partnership Awards](#)

Greater Miami Tax Institute | | August 2017

Events: [Finding the Well in Wellness Programs](#)

Stearns Weaver Miller's 27th Annual Labor and Employment Law Seminar | | May 2017

Publications: [EEOC Wellness Plan Controversy: All's Well That Ends Well?](#)

BeLabor The Point Blog | April 2017

Events: [The Changing HR Landscape: A Post-Inauguration Overview](#)

Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce | | March 2017

Publications: [What's in YOUR COBRA Notice? Insufficiencies Could Drain Your Wallet](#)

BeLabor The Point Blog | January 2017

Events: [New EEOC Wellness Guidelines and Incentive Programs Under the Affordable Care Act](#)

GMSHRM 2016 Legal Update | | September 2016

Publications: [Don't Forget About ACA Compliance With Staffing Firm Service Agreements](#)

BeLabor The Point Blog | August 2016

Events: [Warning Signals Ahead: Hot Employee Benefit Plan Issues for 2016](#)

Stearns Weaver Miller's 26th Annual Labor and Employment Law Seminar | | May 2016

Publications: [Have an Election Season Free From Tax Penalties!](#)

BeLabor the Point Blog | March 2016

Publications: [Turn a FICA Sting Into a FICA Benefit](#)

BeLabor the Point Blog | January 2016

Publications: [So Boring but So Important – Vendor Service Agreements](#)

BeLabor the Point Blog | November 2015

Events: [Hot Topics in Benefits Compliance What You Don't Know Can Hurt You](#)

Crystal & Company | | September 2015

Publications: [No Good Deed Goes Unpunished – Improper Extension of Benefits After Termination of Employment](#)

Events: [Quick Beauty Tips for Your Employee Benefits Package](#)

Stearns Weaver Miller's 25th Annual Labor & Employment Law Seminar | | May 2015

Publications: [Let My People Go \(to the Marketplace\)](#)

BeLabor the Point Blog | November 2014

Events: [The Top HR "Need to Knows" about the Affordable Care Act](#)

Stearns Weaver Miller Labor & Employment Breakfast Series | | November 2014

Events: [It's Not Just a Form! – Important Details in IRA/Plan Beneficiary Designations](#)

Estate Planning Council of Greater Miami | | October 2014

Events: [The Affordable Care Act and its Effect on Businesses and Individuals](#)

Miami-Dade County Bar Association | | September 2014

Events: [Wine Tasting & Estate Planning Seminar](#)

Stearns Weaver Miller Miami Office | | September 2014

Events: [Trust and Estate Law CLE webinar](#)

American Bar Association Section of Real Property | | August 2014

Publications: [Health Care Reform – Business as Usual \(for Now\)](#)

BeLabor the Point Blog | August 2014

Publications: [It's Summer: How to Treat Your Interns Under the ACA](#)

BeLabor the Point Blog | June 2014

Events: [The Top 10 HR "Need to Knows" About the Affordable Care Act As We Drive Into 2015](#)

Stearns Weaver Miller's 24th Annual Labor and Employment Law Seminar | | May 2014

Events: [Ready or Not, Here it Comes: What HR Really Needs to Know About The Affordable Care Act](#)

Stearns Weaver Miller's 23rd Annual Labor and Employment Law Seminar | | May 2013

Publications: [Florida Employment Law Manual](#)

Florida Chamber of Commerce | January 2013

Events: [Sudden Death and Divorce: The Employee Benefit Concerns](#)

Stearns Weaver Miller's 22nd Annual Labor and Employment Law Seminar | | May 2012

Events: [Healthcare Reform & Benefit Planning: Managing Change, Mitigating Cost](#)

Stearns Weaver Miller Labor & Employment Breakfast Series | | October 2011

Events: [Tax Issues on Settlement of Employment Cases](#)

Events: [Dancing with the Regulators: Benefits Regulations Galore for 401\(k\) and Health Plans...Tune in for the Latest Steps](#)

Seminar Stearns Weaver Miller's 21st Annual Labor & Employment Law Seminar | | May 2011

Events: [Benefits Think Tank- New Burdens on Your 401 \(k\) Plan: Are You Prepared?](#)

Stearns Weaver Miller Labor & Employment Breakfast Series | | April 2011

Events: [Time For Action on Employer-Sponsored Group Health Plan Mandates](#)

Webinar | | August 2010

Events: [Employee Benefits In A State Of Flux](#)

Stearns Weaver Miller's 20th Annual Labor and Employment Law Seminar | | May 2010

Events: [What's The Deal with Electronic Discovery and the Paperless Office?](#)

Stearns Weaver Miller's 18th Annual Labor & Employment Law Seminar | | May 2008

Events: [Employment Law Speed Dating](#)

Stearns Weaver Miller's 18th Annual Labor & Employment Law Seminar | | May 2008

NEWSROOM

Firm Announcements: [Three Stearns Weaver Miller Shareholders Selected as Florida Trend's Legal Elite NOTABLE – Women Leaders in Law for 2024](#)

| December 2024

Firm Announcements: [35 Stearns Weaver Miller Lawyers and 11 Practice Areas Ranked In Chambers USA 2024](#)

| June 2024

Firm Announcements: [Sharon Quinn Dixon Receives 2022-2023 Distinguished Estate Planner Award](#)

| June 2023

Firm Announcements: [29 Stearns Weaver Miller Lawyers in 11 Practice Areas Ranked In Chambers USA 2023](#)

| June 2023

Firm Announcements: [28 Stearns Weaver Miller Lawyers in 12 Practice Areas Ranked In Chambers USA 2022](#)

| June 2022

Firm Announcements: [Stearns Weaver Miller Lawyers Recognized in 2021 Florida Super Lawyers](#)

| June 2021

In the Media: [Hear from Marlins, Fisher Island and EEOC leaders about post-COVID labor issues](#)

Miami Herald | | June 2021

Firm Announcements: [29 Stearns Weaver Miller Lawyers in 12 Practice Areas Ranked In Chambers USA 2021](#)

| May 2021

Firm Announcements: [Stearns Weaver Miller Lawyers Recognized in 2020 Florida Super Lawyers](#)

| June 2020

Firm Announcements: [24 Stearns Weaver Miller Lawyers in 12 Practice Areas Ranked In Chambers USA 2020](#)

| April 2020

Firm Announcements: [Stearns Weaver Miller Lawyers Recognized in Florida Super Lawyers 2019](#)

| June 2019

Firm Announcements: [21 Stearns Weaver Miller Attorneys, 10 Practice Areas Ranked in Chambers USA 2019](#)

| May 2019

Firm Announcements: [Stearns Weaver Miller Lawyers Recognized in Florida Super Lawyers 2018](#)

| June 2018

Firm Announcements: [23 Stearns Weaver Miller Lawyers in 10 Practice Areas Ranked In Chambers USA 2018](#)

| May 2018

Firm Announcements: [Stearns Weaver Miller Lawyers Recognized in Florida Super Lawyers 2017](#)

| June 2017

Firm Announcements: [19 Stearns Weaver Miller Lawyers, 8 Practice Areas Ranked In Chambers USA 2017](#)

| May 2017

Firm Announcements: [Sharon Quinn Dixon Elected Chair of Children's Home Society of Florida Board of Directors, Southeastern Division](#)

| July 2016

Firm Announcements: [Stearns Weaver Miller Lawyers Recognized in Florida Super Lawyers 2016](#)

| June 2016

Firm Announcements: [17 Stearns Weaver Miller Lawyers, 7 Practice Areas Ranked In Chambers USA 2016](#)

| May 2016

Firm Announcements: [Stearns Weaver Miller Presents 26th Annual Labor & Employment Law Seminar](#)

| March 2016

Firm Announcements: [Stearns Weaver Miller Attorneys Recognized by South Florida Legal Guide 2016](#)

| January 2016

Firm Announcements: [15 Stearns Weaver Miller Attorneys, 7 Practice Areas Ranked In Chambers USA 2015](#)

| May 2015

Firm Announcements: [Stearns Weaver Miller Presents 25th Annual Labor & Employment Law Seminar](#)

| April 2015

Firm Announcements: [Stearns Weaver Miller Attorneys Recognized by South Florida Legal Guide 2015](#)

| January 2015

In the Media: [Estate Planning Council of Greater Miami celebrates 65 years, names new officers](#)

Brickell Newspaper || December 2014

Firm Announcements: [Stearns Weaver Miller Lawyers Recognized in Florida Super Lawyers 2014](#)

| June 2014

Firm Announcements: [Stearns Weaver Miller Continues To Receive Top Rankings In Chambers USA 2014](#)

| May 2014

Firm Announcements: [Stearns Weaver Miller Presents 24th Annual Labor and Employment Law Seminar](#)

| April 2014

Firm Announcements: [Stearns Weaver Miller Recognized by South Florida Legal Guide 2014](#)

| January 2014

Firm Announcements: [Sixteen Stearns Weaver Miller Shareholders recognized by South Florida's Best Lawyers 2012](#)

| November 2011

Firm Announcements: [Best Lawyers 2012 Names Three Stearns Weaver Miller Shareholders as Lawyers of the Year](#)

| October 2011

Firm Announcements: [Stearns Weaver Miller Receives Top Rankings in Chambers and Partners USA](#)

| June 2011

Firm Announcements: [Ten Attorneys and Six Practice Groups Ranked in Chambers USA](#)

| June 2010

Firm Announcements: [Twelve Attorneys and Seven Practice Groups Ranked in Chambers USA](#)

| June 2009

Firm Announcements: [Twenty-Three Attorneys from Nine Practice Groups Selected for Inclusion in The Best Lawyers in America](#)

| June 2009

EDUCATION

LL.M. in Taxation, University of Miami School of Law, 1988

J.D., *cum laude*, University of Miami School of Law, 1982

B.S., *summa cum laude*, Bradley University, 1978

ADMISSIONS

Florida

CERTIFICATIONS

Board Certified by The Florida Bar in Tax Law