

Shirley J. McLaughlin

Principal



Ms. McLaughlin specializes in Formation and Tax-Exempt Status, Public Charities, Private Foundations, Grantmaking and Social Investing, Social Enterprise, Nonprofit Structures, Relationships and Affiliations, and International Charitable Transactions and Operations.

EDUCATION

- J.D., cum laude, University of San Francisco School of Law, 2013
- B.A., Mills College, Oakland, 2006

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Ms. McLaughlin is a member of the American Bar Association, the California State Bar Association, and the Bar Association of San Francisco. She is currently the Secretary of Exempt Organizations Committee of the Taxation Section of the American Bar Association. She was formerly the Chair of the Exempt Organizations Committee of the California Lawyers Association Taxation Section

SPEAKING & TEACHING

CONTACT INFORMATION

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BAR ADMISSIONS

Ms. McLaughlin is admitted to the bar in the state of California.

AREAS OF PRACTICE

- Formation & Tax Exempt Status
- Nonprofit Governance & Ethics
- Public Charities
- Grantmaking & Social Investing
- Social Enterprise
- International Charitable Transactions & Operations

- Donor Advised Funds Update: Current Developments Including the ACE Act – American Law Institute Continuing Legal Education, November 19, 2021
- How to Pay Ourselves Equitably: In Search of a Salary Calculator for Social Justice – Sustainable Economies Law Center #Coopalooza, September 27, 2021
- Crowdfunding for Charities: Federal Tax and State Solicitation Issues – Nonprofit Organizations Committee of the California Lawyers Association Business Section, January 21, 2021
- Chapter on USA and California in Charity Law: Jurisdictional Comparisons, *European Lawyer Reference Series*, October 2012, with an updated electronic chapter published January 2019
Authored by: Ingrid Mittermaier and Shirley J. McLaughlin

PRIOR EXPERIENCE

Prior to joining Adler & Colvin, Ms. McLaughlin spent four years as a Director of Grants Administration for two of the largest community foundations in the country. In those roles, she was responsible for compliance with state and federal rules and regulations for public charity and donor advised fund distributions to charities and charitable projects around the world. This included extensive expenditure responsibility and public charity equivalency determinations, 501(h) lobbying and advocacy tracking and reporting, supporting organization grantmaking and due diligence, as well as evaluating other nonprofit compliance issues such as endowment restrictions, gift solicitations, fiscal sponsorships and designated funds.

OUTSIDE THE OFFICE

As a Bay Area native, Ms. McLaughlin enjoys everything our community has to offer including foggy beaches, hikes in the redwoods, and wine tasting. You can find her marching in the Pride Parade, participating in alumni events and mentoring soon-to-be lawyers, remodeling her home with her partner, or cheering on her kids at school and sporting events.