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# LAURA MELIA

Principal, The Patrick Center Pronouns: She/Her/Hers

## **PRACTICE AREAS**

Estates and Trusts

# PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- American Bar Association
- Community Foundation of Frederick County: Professional Advisors Council (2009-present); Scholarship Committee (2016-present)
- Frederick County Bar Association
- Citizens for the Preservation of Middletown Valley, Inc., Board of Directors
- Frederick County Chamber of Commerce: Leadership Frederick County (2017–2018)
- Frederick Memorial Hospital, Inc.: Board of Directors (2012-present)
- Maryland State Bar Association
- Maryland Volunteer Lawyers (1992-present)
- Monocacy Health Partners, Inc.: Board of Directors Chairperson (2017-present); Member (2016present)
- Citizens for the Preservation of Middletown Valley, Inc.: Board of Directors (2011-present)

#### **PRACTICE FOCUS**

Laura Melia is a Principal estates and trusts practitioner with over 30 years of experience. She works with clients of all ages, net worth and backgrounds to devise comprehensive estate and business plans that provide peace of mind. Her experience enables her to analyze situations and tailor solutions to meet specific goals such as minimization of taxes, protection of beneficiaries, avoidance of probate, charitable giving and planning for disability. To help individuals and families achieve their planning goals, Laura prepares a variety of estate and tax planning vehicles including wills, revocable trusts, various types of irrevocable trusts, charitable trusts, durable general powers of attorney, advance directives for health care, limited liability companies and private foundations. Laura represents personal representatives in the administration of estates, preparing accountings, assisting with the conveyance of real estate and personal property. She also represents trustees in the administration, management and distribution of assets held in trust.

#### RECOGNITIONS

• Martindale-Hubbell Peer Reviewed

#### **EDUCATION**

- University of Baltimore School of Law, J.D.
- Loyola College, B.A.

### **ADMISSIONS**

- Maryland
- Supreme Court of Maryland