



scha@bulkley.com



413-272-6205

## Partner Bio: Seunghee Cha

### Practice Areas

- Trusts and Estates
- Special Needs Planning

### Bio

Seunghee Cha is Co-chair of the firm's Trusts and Estates department and Chair of the Special Needs Planning practice.

Seunghee takes a personalized approach to representing individuals, couples and families in both straightforward and complex estate planning, trust and estate administration, and related probate proceedings. Her experience includes inter-generational wealth transfer and charitable planning; estate planning for parents, including selection of guardians and establishing trusts for minors; representation of individuals in guardianship and conservatorship proceedings; consultation services for clients and family law attorneys in divorce settlements; and representation of fiduciaries in all aspects of estate and trust administration.

With extensive experience planning for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and mental-health conditions, Seunghee has established herself as a go-to special needs lawyer by helping clients prepare loved ones for a successful future. Her experience includes establishing special needs trusts and representing individual, professional, and corporate trustees in the administration of trusts, advising on fundamentals of adult living, including housing and financial planning.

Seunghee serves currently on the board of directors of the Center for Human Development, The Loomis Communities, Inc. and Community Legal Aid. She is a past board member of the Estate Planning Council of Hampden County, The United Arc, Inc. and NAMI Western Massachusetts, Inc.

Seunghee is trained and certified in mediation and collaborative law.

## **Bar Admissions**

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California  
Massachusetts

## **Education**

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University of California, San Diego, B.A., 1993  
Fordham University School of Law, J.D., 2000  
Western New England University School of Law, LLM, 2011

## **Experience**

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- Estate planning for individuals and couples, including inter-generational wealth transfer and charitable planning.
- Estate planning for parents, including selection of guardians and establishing trusts for minors.
- Special needs planning for individuals with intellectual and developmental disability and mental-health conditions.
- Long-term care planning for elderly clients and caregivers.
- Consultation services in estates and trusts for clients and family law attorneys in divorce settlement.
- Representation of fiduciaries in all aspects of estate and trust administration.
- Representation of personal representatives, trustees, and beneficiaries in probate court.
- Representation of individuals in guardianship and conservatorship proceedings.

## **Affiliations**

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- Member, California Bar Association
- Member, Hampden County Bar Association
- Member, Hampshire County Bar Association
- Member, Massachusetts Bar Association
- Member, Estate Planning Council of Hampden County
- Member, Pioneer Valley Estate Planning Council
- Member, Academy of Special Needs Planners
- Member, National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys