

Karl I. Swaidan

Partner

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☎ [626.796.9123](tel:626.796.9123)



Karl Swaidan advises private foundations and charitable organizations and assists closely held family businesses with tax planning. His practice focuses on business, estate and property tax planning. As a Certified Taxation Law Specialist by The State Bar of California Board of Legal Specialization and a Certified Public Accountant, Karl counsels his clients to preserve and protect their assets in compliance with tax laws.

Related Capabilities

Business

Business Disputes and Partnership Realignment

Real Estate

Trusts & Estates

Experience

Speaking Engagements

Presenter, "Selling Real Property in Trust Administration," In-House MCLE, May 12, 2025

Panelist, "I Fought the Law and the Law Won: Private Foundation Planning," USC Gould School of Law 49th Annual Trusts and Estate Conference, 2023

Credentials

Admissions

California

U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit

U.S. District Court, Central District of California

U.S. District Court, Eastern District of California

U.S. District Court, Northern District of California

U.S. District Court, Southern District of California

Education

University of Southern California Law Center, J.D. (Order of the Coif)

University of Southern California, M.B.T. (*summa cum laude*)

University of Southern California, B.S. (*summa cum laude*)

Certifications

Certified Specialist in Taxation, The State Bar of California Board of Legal Specialization, 1991

Certified Public Accountant, 1986

Honors & Awards

Selected to the Southern California Super Lawyers list, 2007–2026

Recognized by *Best Lawyers in America*® in Trusts and Estates, 2006–2026

Selected to “Top Attorneys,” *Pasadena Magazine*, 2010, 2014–2016, 2021–2025

“My approach in working with clients has always been to treat them with respect and understanding; being an excellent technician is not enough. You must actively listen and empathize to develop a sound and appropriate solution to a client’s needs.”

Karl I. Swaidan
Partner

Community Involvement

Professional Organizations

State Bar of California

Member

American Bar Association

Member

Los Angeles County Bar Association

Member

Pasadena Bar Association

President, 2017

Member

California Society of Certified Public Accountants

Member

American Institute of Certified Public Accountants

Member

Charitable Organizations

Flintridge Preparatory School

Board of Trustees, 2011–2020

Chair, 2016–2018

Descanso Gardens Foundation

Board of Directors Chair, 2026–2027

Board of Directors, 2021–present