

Scott E. Rahn

Founding Partner

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📍 [Los Angeles](#) 📄 [Download vCard](#)



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Overview

California attorney Scott Rahn resolves contests, disputes and litigation related to trusts, estates and conservatorships, creating a welcome peace of mind for clients. He represents heirs, beneficiaries, trustees and executors. He utilizes his experience to develop and implement strategies that swiftly and efficiently address the financial issues, fiduciary duties and emotional complexities underlying trust contests, estates conflicts and probate litigation.

Driven by a commitment to provide relief to people grieving the loss of a loved one, Scott collaborates closely with clients. He pursues and defends claims involving incapacity, incompetence, undue influence, breach of fiduciary duty, and other similar areas of dispute. His advice and counsel includes prevention and remediation of financial elder abuse.

Positive Path to Resolve Trust and Probate Estate Litigation

Scott is known for in-depth financial investigations and deftly handling intra-family dynamics and decades-long family friction. He has extensive experience in courts, arbitration, mediation and dispute resolution forums across California as well as in key retirement centers in the United States and through strategic partnerships in international locations.

His clients are typically embroiled in inheritance disputes, trust contests, will contests, caregiver undue influence, step-parent undue influence, sibling undue influence, estate administration irregularities, beneficiary bias, trustee misappropriation, accounting irregularities, breach of fiduciary duty, beneficiary theft, trust investigations, accusations of wrongdoing, fraudulent behavior, wrongful taking something from an estate, and breach of fiduciary duties. He focuses on identifying and correcting where behavior went wrong, and where pointing out where allegations of wrongdoing are simply wrong.

While Scott customizes strategies to the unique needs of each client and each case, his overall goal is to achieve the best results—as quickly as possible for the least legal spend possible—to guide clients forward in a positive direction so they can move on with their lives.

Influenced by his Midwest roots and close relationship with his grandmother, Scott demonstrates his affinity for family values with his own family as well as in the compassion he brings to client engagements.

Investigations, Disputes and Claims of Wrongdoing in Trusts and Estates

Scott has protected his clients' rights in numerous parental, caregiver and sibling disputes, will contests and inheritance fights, including in these recent matters:

- **Incapacity:** Secured a sizable judgment for an elderly woman whose deceased brother had been taken advantage of by an unscrupulous advisor.
- **Fraud:** Led the investigation into long-term, multi-million dollar fraud committed against a wealthy Middle Eastern family.
- **Financial elder abuse:** Defended a trustee accused of financial elder abuse and breach of fiduciary duty against her mother.
- **Undue influence:** Unwound the undue influence of an interloping gardener and his caretaker wife on a 94-year-old woman and secured the family home that had been intended for the client.
- **International estate litigation:** Parachuted into a years-long litigation to secure a favorable multinational/multijurisdictional litigation between decedent's estranged children and his family.

Trust and Estate Leader for Baby Boom Generation and Families

Increasingly, Scott is resolving issues related to the Baby Boom generation and its unique longevity and wealth transfer issues. Affluent families often have multi-state and every-increasingly global footprints, and Scott's worldwide contacts support clients in Canada, Mexico, France, Italy, England and elsewhere.

Scott's effective solutions to the most fraught trust and estate fights has earned him recognition as "Trusts and Estates Litigator of the Year" from the Century City Bar Association and honors from and features in Vanity Fair, Super Lawyers magazine, the Los Angeles Business Journal, and the National Law Journal. Scott is president emeritus of the Beverly Hills Estate Planning Council.

Community & Professional Involvement

- **Member**, STEP Contentious Trusts and Estates Global SIG Steering Committee
- **President Emeritus**, Beverly Hills Estate Planning Council
- **Member**, [National Association of Estate Planners & Councils](#) – Publications Committee
- **Speaker/Member**, [Beverly Hills Bar Association](#) Trusts and Estates Section
- **Speaker/Member**, Private Client Global Elite
- **Speaker/Member**, [Society of Tax and Estate Planning Professionals](#) – (STEP) – Contentious Trusts and Estates Special Interest Group
- **Member**, [Los Angeles County Bar Association](#) – Trusts & Estates Section
- **Member**, California Lawyers Association
- **Member**, Professional Fiduciary Association of California
- **Member**, Independent Trustee Alliance
- **Member**, ProVisors
- **Member**, University of Wisconsin Alumni Association
- **Speaker**, [California Society of CPAs](#) (CALPA)
- **Speaker**, Fiduciary Round Table of the San Gabriel Valley
- **Speaker**, [San Fernando Valley Bar Association](#) Trusts and Estates Section
- **Speaker**, South Bay Bar Association – Trusts and Estates Section
- **Speaker**, San Luis Obispo Bar Association – Trusts and Estates Section
- **Speaker**, Ventura County Bar Association – Trusts and Estates Section
- **Speaker**, Woodland Hills Trust and Estate Planning Council
- **Former Board Member**, [California Alzheimer's Association, Southland Chapter](#)

Bar Admissions

- **Member**, State Bar of California
- **Member**, District of Columbia Bar
- **Member**, State Bar of Texas

Education

- **University of San Diego School of Law** Juris Doctor
- **University of Wisconsin, Madison** BA, Spanish & International Latin American Relations

Awards & Recognition

- **"Top Estate & Wealth Management Lawyer"**, Daily Journal – Los Angeles, 2025
- **"Leading Litigator in America"**, Lawdragon, 2025
- **Top 100 Lawyers**, Daily Journal, 2024
- **Best Lawyers in America**, Trusts and Estates & Litigation – Trusts and Estates, Best Lawyers, 2018-2026
- **Chambers & Partners**, High Net Worth Guide, Private Wealth Disputes, 2021-2025
- **"Top 100 – Trust and Estate Litigation"**, Super Lawyers, Southern California Super Lawyers 2017-2025
- **"Top Litigator"**, Los Angeles Business Journal, Leaders of Influence: Litigators & Trial Lawyers, 2020-2025
- **Inc. 5000**, Fastest Growing Private Companies in America
- **"Legal Visionary"**, Business of Law: Trends, Updates & Visionaries, Los Angeles Times, 2021-2023
- **"Pasadena Top Attorneys 2024"**, Pasadena Magazine
- **"Leaders of Influence: Thriving in Their 40s"**, Los Angeles Business Journal, 2021
- **"Super Lawyer"**, Super Lawyers, Southern California Super Lawyers 2014-2025; "Rising Star" since 2006
- **"Trusts and Estates Litigator of the Year"**, Century City Bar Association
- **"Elite Boutique Trailblazer"**, National Law Journal
- **Rated AV Preeminent® 5 out of 5**, by Martindale-Hubbell
- **Rated "Superb 10"**, by Avvo
- **"West Trailblazer"**, The American Lawyer, 2022

Representative Matters

- Won a petition for conservatorship of the estate on an emergency basis during Covid to protect the conservatee from Nigerian fraudsters who had infiltrated, isolated, defrauded and unduly influenced her into sending them millions, leaving her broken, destitute and unable to buy food.
- Secured return of our client's home value after her daughter and son-in-law moved into the home under the guise of "helping" her, only to have her sign the home over to them and then throw her out.
- Secured removal of a thieving co-trustee whose malfeasance left her own mother destitute and unable to pay her bills, including recovery of the stolen assets, attorney fees and costs.
- Within 45 days of engagement, secured 125% of our client's original bequests, plus attorney's fees and costs, from their long-time friend's estate after the 85 year-old decedent's new husband manipulated the preparation of trust amendments to steal decedent's estate for himself.
- Recovered disinherited beneficiary family's full interest in great-aunt's estate after financial elder abuse revealed the disinherited trust had been procured by the abuser at a time the aunt was incapacitated.

Representative Matters (cont.)

- Secured on behalf of a court-appointed guardian ad litem a prosecution agreement with counsel for the conservator of an institutionalized dementia patient who was taken advantage of financially by her financial advisor, leading to his permanent bar from the financial services industry.
- Secured the estate of our client's late father, who had been victimized by childhood friends who had forged estate planning documents to steal his estate from his family.
- Neutralized a hostile co-trustee who was seeking to bilk our client's trust of millions of dollars through a series of fabricated claims
- Recovered the home of an infirm, institutionalized senior who had been victimized by his "girlfriend," an opportunistic volunteer at his care facility, financially securing his golden years.
- Swooped in after years of protracted litigation to secure a decision from the Los Angeles probate court to end a years-long dispute over trust property between feuding siblings of their parents' estate.
- Secured no action from the regulatory authorities following an enforcement action that threatened the license and career of a decades-long professional.

Thought Leadership

- Here's Exactly What Needs to Happen for Britney Spears to End Her Conservatorship – [Learn More](#)
- What Real Conservatorship Attorneys Think About Britney Spears' Legal Case – [Learn More](#)
- Could Kanye West Be Placed in a Conservatorship? – [Learn More](#)

Speaking Engagements

- **Representing Clients with Diminished Capacity: Ethical Duties, Practical Challenges, and Litigation Risks** 11th Annual USD School of Law - RJS Law Tax Institute | 7/17/2026 | **Moderator**
- **Is AI a Force for Good or a Risk to Be Controlled?**
Global Elite - Private Client Forum Americas | 6/4/2026 | **Participant**

Fiduciary Takes the Stand: A Mock Breach of Fiduciary Duty Trial and Lessons From the Hot Seat
PFAC | 5/29/2026 | **Co-Presenter**
- **Recent Updates in Probate, Trust, Estate Planning & Conservatorships**
Beverly Hills Bar Association | 5/19/2026 | **Co-Presenter**
- **Navigating Diminished Capacity: Fiduciary, Legal, and Ethical Challenges**
FIRMA Annual Fiduciary Risk Management Conference | 5/12/2026 | **Presenter**
- **Trustee's Obligation to Inform Beneficiaries: Avoiding Breach of Fiduciary Duty Claims**
Strafford Live Webinar | 5/5/2026 | **Co-Presenter**
- **Mismanagement of Estate Assets: Executor Responsibilities, Signs of Misconduct, Legal Options for Beneficiaries** Strafford Live Webinar | 3/5/2026 | **Co-Presenter**

Speaking Engagements (cont.)

- **Recent Updates in Probate, Trust, Estate Planning & Conservatorships**
Ventura County Bar Association | 2/26/2026 | **Co-Presenter**
- **Trust, Estate and Conservatorship Annual Update**
South Bay Bar Association | 2/26/2026 | **Co-Presenter**
- **Safeguarding the Ledger: Where Fiduciary Accountings Meet Disputes**
California Society of CPAs (CalCPA) | 2/18/2026 | **Co-Presenter**
- **Recognizing Risk: Yellow Flags for Professional Trustees**
City National Bank | 1/21/2026 | **Co-Presenter**
- **Revocable Grantor Trusts and IDGTs After the Death of the Trustor**
Strafford Live Webinar | 12/18/2025 | **Co-Presenter**
- **No-Contest Clauses in Trusts and Estate Planning**
STEP Live Webinar | 11/19/2025 | **Moderator and Panelist**
- **Health is Wealth?**
Global Elite International Private Client Forum | 11/13/2025 | **Moderator**
- **Guarding the Ledger: Navigating Contested Accountings as a Fiduciary**
PFAC Southern Region Education Day | 10/10/2025 | **Co-Presenter**
- **2025 Fiduciary Best Practices in Trust and Estate Administration**
Strafford Live Webinar | 6/18/2025 | **Co-Presenter**
- **I'LL SUE YOUR ASSETS!**
10th Annual USD School of Law - RJS Law Tax Institute | 07/02/2025 | **Panelist**
- **What Leads to Litigation**
Estate Counselors Forum | 6/18/2025 | **Presenter**
- **Litigating Ambiguities and Mistakes in Wills & Trusts**
CEB Webinar | 6/18/2025 | **Presenter**
- **Set the Foundation, Prevent Litigation - Creating Bulletproof Estate Plans**
AEP and EPLS Forum | 06/05/2025 | **Presenter**
- **Unraveling Consent: Issues of Capacity and Undue Influence in Contested Trusts & Estates**
PFAC 30th Annual Education Conference | 05/08/2025 | **Co-Presenter**
- **Recent Updates in Probate, Trust, Estate Planning and Conservatorship**
Beverly Hills Estate Planning Council | 03/03/2025 | **Co-Presenter**
- **A Discussion on Non-Judicial Settlement Agreements**
Trust Education Foundation - 34th Annual Trust Advisors Forum | 02/25/2025 | **Co-Presenter**