



## **Stuart C. Herro**

Attorney

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- 608-395-6714
- [sch@dewittllp.com](mailto:sch@dewittllp.com)
- Madison

### **Service Areas:**

- Business
- Construction
- Lexwork International Law Firm Network
- Real Estate, Land Use & Construction
- Trusts & Estates

### **Education:**

- J.D., *cum laude*, University of Wisconsin
- M.B.A., University of Wisconsin
- A.B., *cum laude*, Harvard University
- Ambassadorial Fellowship – National University of Buenos Aires, Argentina

### **Admissions:**

- Wisconsin
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the 7th Circuit
- U.S. District Court for the Western District of Wisconsin
- U.S. Supreme Court

Stuart engages his clients in developing solutions to their legal problems. For more than 45 years ;he has encouraged his clients to participate in crafting solutions to their legal needs. He believes that his clients are colleagues in addressing their situations. The more engaged they are, the more ownership they feel in the results. This is true whether Stuart is working on a real estate transaction, forming a new business, developing an exit strategy for the senior generation in a family business or formulating an estate plan for a young couple.

Over the years, Stuart's time has been spent in real estate, business formation and operation, and estate planning and probate in roughly equal proportions. He has participated in the structuring and implementation of residential and industrial subdivisions, assisted home buyers and sellers in arriving at a mutually agreeable contract and a smooth closing, and provided legal counsel to lenders.

In the area of business law, Stuart has assisted many clients with starting a new business, provided legal advice as their business developed (and, sometimes, declined) and worked with successful entrepreneurs in transitioning management and ownership to the next generation in the family.

As the population has aged, Stuart has taken on more estate planning and probate work. Modern estate planning is much more complex than simply providing the client with a form Will. An estate plan for a couple usually consists of a Marital Property Agreement, two Wills, possibly a Revocable Trust, two Durable Powers Of Attorney for Financial Matters and two Power Of Attorney For Health Care documents. Each phase of the estate plan requires significant input from the client, working together with Stuart to arrive at wise, practical solutions that meet the desires and goals of the client.

Typically, Stuart represents individuals and small to medium-sized businesses in their real estate, business transaction, succession planning, estate planning, probate and trust administration. Nevertheless, he has also represented a county-owned solid waste disposal and recycling facility for nearly 40 years. Stuart speaks Spanish and has also represented Spanish speaking clients in creating a zero-lot line condominium, reviewing a franchise agreement and purchasing grocery stores.

## **Affiliations**

- Catholic Multi-Cultural Center - Previous Advisory Board Member and Volunteer
- Dane County Bar Association
- Diocesan Pastoral Council
- Past President
  - Blessed Sacrament Pastoral Council
  - Dane County Citizens Organization
  - Edgewood Campus School Parent Advisory Board
  - Rotary Club of Madison West Towne-Middleton
- St. Thomas More Society of the Madison Diocese
- State Bar of Wisconsin, Business Law, Elder Law, and Real Property – Trust and Probate Law, Sections
- Wisconsin Family Business Center
- Wisconsin Real Estate Broker

## **Awards & Recognitions**

- Martindale Hubbell AV® Peer Review Rated
- Best Lawyers® – Best Lawyers in America – Real Estate Law, Trusts and Estates (Since 2005)
- Wm. L. Thompson Services Above Self Award – Rotary Club of Madison South
- Rotarian of the Year – Rotary Club of Madison West Towne-Middleton
- Paul Harris Fellow of Rotary International – Rotary Club of Madison West Towne Middleton
- Our Lady of Guadalupe Award – Centro Pastoral Guadalupano
- Know Your Madisonian – Wisconsin State Journal
- Distinguished Graduate Award, National Catholic Education Association
- Distinguished Alumni Award, Edgewood High School

## **Notable Representations**

- Stuart researched and drafted the various documents required to establish the first equestrian subdivision in the Madison area
- At one time, on behalf of the franchisees, he negotiated nearly all of the Wisconsin franchise agreements with a national retail computer store chain
- Stuart also represented the developer of a golf course, condo-tel and residential subdivision for more than 15 years, including the sale of the golf course
- For more than 40 years he has represented a lubricants wholesaler, as the company has expanded from a tiny Quonset hut into a regional firm serving roughly half the State of Wisconsin and parts of Illinois, Iowa and Minnesota
- Stuart continues to represent first-time home buyers, young couples crafting an estate plan at the time of the birth of their first child, and seniors trying to figure out how to best pass on their hard-earned assets to their children and grandchildren or to nonprofits for which they have a passion
- Stuart also assists family members with the probate and/or trust administration process following the death of a loved one

## **Service Area Subspecialties**

- Trusts & Estates
  - Estate Planning
  - Probate
  - Trust Administration

