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Mr. Passananti is a member of both the Commercial Practice Group and the Advanced Planning & Family Office Practice Group. He serves as advisor and counselor to entrepreneurs, wealthy families, professionals, entertainers, and closely-held businesses. His comprehensive planning roles include family wealth transfer planning, business succession planning, asset protection planning, and corporate/business structuring.

Mr. Passananti earned a Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration with a concentration in Finance and Management from Augustana College in Rock Island, Illinois, where he graduated *Summa Cum Laude* and was selected by his professors as the top business student in his class. While at Augustana College, Mr. Passananti served as the Captain of the Men's Basketball Team. He attained his Juris Doctorate from DePaul University College of Law in Chicago, Illinois. At DePaul, Mr. Passananti received the CALI award for excellence in Legal Writing.

In December 2006, Mr. Passananti's article, "Domestic Asset Protection Trusts: The Risks and Roadblocks Which May Hinder Their Effectiveness," was published in the American College of Trust and Estate ("ACTEC") Journal and placed first in the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel National Writing Competition. In addition to frequently speaking and writing in his areas of practice, Mr. Passananti is a member of the Estate Planning Committee of the Chicago Bar Association Young Lawyers Section and the Illinois Chapter of the Society of Financial Services Professionals. Mr. Passananti also serves on the Board of Directors of the J. Kyle Braid Leadership Foundation and the Junior Board of Directors for the Mercy Homes for Boys & Girls.

HANDLER, THAYER & DUGGAN, LLC

Handler, Thayer & Duggan, LLC is one of the premier private client law firms in the U.S. Its national and international practice, based out of Chicago, Illinois utilizes interdisciplinary teams of advanced planning attorneys. Handler, Thayer & Duggan is dedicated to providing distinctive, technologically-current and responsive services to affluent families, entrepreneurs and family offices. The Firm's practice is concentrated in Corporate, Real Estate, Securities, Sports & Entertainment Law, Federal, State and International Taxation, Trusts, Estates and Financial & Estate Planning. Firm clientele include foundations, multinational corporations, professional athletes, prominent entrepreneurs, celebrities and family offices.

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