Leadership in Law profile: Dawn M. Rahme

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Rahme Dawn Μ. represents individuals and businesses in an of array transactional matters. The focus of her practice is assisting corporations, partnerships and individuals in general tax planning.

<u>Dawn Rahme</u> has seen countless stories of success accomplished through hard work, but the one that inspires her the most is that of her own father. At 25, he moved from Lebanon to the United States, with neither a high school education nor knowledge of the English language. Without money, education or employment, his chances of success were slim.

Yet he overcame the odds.

"Through hard work, perseverance, integrity and commitment, my father became an extraordinary successful man — in every aspect of the word. He came from humble beginnings, and this drove him to provide more for his family than he was ever able to have," Rahme said.

"Along with my mother, he taught us to appreciate what we have and to work hard for what we need. ... Though my life has been much easier than his — thanks to him and my mother — my goal remains to follow his example of life: take pride in what I do and work hard to achieve success," she said.

Rahme earned her bachelor's degree from the University of Tulsa in 1998 and her juris doctorate from the University of Oklahoma in 2001. She then went on to obtain her masters of law in taxation at New York University School of Law.

Today she is a shareholder and director of Phillips Murrah in Oklahoma City. She is a member of the firm's tax, estate planning and corporate law practice groups and has been involved in several complex mergers and acquisitions and frequently advises clients on the best structure to hold existing assets as well as effects of tax planning with limited partnerships and limited liability companies. Rahme's practice also includes the area of estate planning. In addition to drafting all types of estate planning documents, such as wills, trusts, advance directives and powers of attorney, she also utilized a number of sophisticated wealth transfer tax planning techniques in her practice, including sales to grantor trusts and valuation discount planning.

For her experience in tax law, Rahme was named an Oklahoma Rising Star by Super Lawyers magazine.

Rahme is a member of the American Bar Association, Oklahoma Bar Association and Oklahoma County Bar Association, where she serves on the board of its Young Lawyer Division. She also has presented seminars on Oklahoma's sales and use tax for Lorman Educational Services.

Her civic involvement includes serving on the board of Positive Tomorrows, a private, tuition-free school for Oklahoma City homeless children, kindergarten through fifth grade. She also volunteers her time with Big Brothers Big Sisters, Oklahoma Family Network, Regional Food Bank and Susan G. Komen Foundation.

Education:

LL.M, New York University, 2002

J.D., University of Oklahoma, 2001

B.B.A., University of Tulsa, 1998

Primary practice areas:

Business, corporate, estate planning and probate, mergers and acquisitions, tax

Admitted to practice in:

Oklahoma, 2001

U.S. District Court, Western District of Oklahoma, 2001

U.S. Tax Court, 2001

Hobbies:

Spending time with her family and friends, traveling, and snow skiing