

# Bryant K. Cranford

MEMBER



P: 501-377-0414

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Bryant heads the firm's Business Section and practices in the areas of employee benefits and executive compensation, tax, estate planning, and probate. His practice focuses on advising employers and plans on maintaining tax-qualified status of retirement plans; advising buyers and sellers on options and risks associated with employee benefit plans in merger and acquisitions; advising employers on options and requirements for their employee benefit plans associated with ACA, COBRA, HIPAA, ERISA, USERRA, and the Internal Revenue Code. Additionally, Bryant assists clients with their estate planning, probate and general tax matters.

Married to Kathy Cranford; children Madeline and Alexander. Hometown – Marianna, Arkansas



## SERVICES

- Business Planning
- Employee Benefits and Executive Compensation
- Healthcare
- Mergers and Acquisitions
- Non-profit and Charitable Organizations
- Real Estate
- Tax
- Tax Controversy
- Wealth Management

## INDUSTRIES

- Agriculture
- Healthcare
- State Agencies

## EDUCATION

University of Arkansas, Juris Doctor (honors)

Research Editor, Arkansas Law Review

University of Florida, Master of Laws (Taxation)

University of Arkansas, Bachelor of Science in Agriculture (honors)

## HONORS

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- Chambers USA Leading Lawyers, 2013-2015 – Labor & Employment: Employee Benefits & Compensation
- Arkansas Business “40 Under 40” (2004)
- Best Lawyers in America – 2008-2017 Editions – Employee Benefits & Tax Law
- Best Lawyers’ 2014 Little Rock Employee Benefits (ERISA) Law “Lawyer of the Year”
- Mid-South Super Lawyer – 2014-15 – Employee Benefits
- University of Arkansas, Juris Doctor (honors)
- Research Editor, Arkansas Law Review
- University of Florida, Master of Laws (Taxation)

## EXPERIENCE

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- Advice to IRA custodian on IRA administration issues (including prohibited transaction rules)
- Advice to personal representative with taxable estate including real estate in multiple states and closely-held businesses
- Assist client with acquisition of Arkansas facility from multi-national company
- Represent an Arkansas resident regarding the U.S. tax effects of inheriting from a foreign estate
- Draft wills, revocable trusts, and powers of attorney for a married, farming couple for next generation farm inheritance
- Advice to estate planning client to minimize income taxation for IRA distributions to heirs and trusts for their benefit

## AFFILIATION

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- Pulaski County, Arkansas and American Bar Associations
- Treasurer, Rose Law Firm, 2002-2015
- Business Section Head, Rose Law Firm, 2015 – present
- Heart of Arkansas United Way, Treasurer; Board of Directors, 2005-present
- Arkansas Bar Association, Arkansas Bar Tax Section, Chair, 2009-2010
- Certified Public Accountant, Inactive, Arkansas, 1987
- American Institute of Certified Public Accountants
- National Association of Public Pension Attorneys
- St. Mark’s Episcopal Church, Vestry, 2010-2012