



## **Comprehensive Report: Estate Planning and Trust Capabilities of SourceEnergy In-House Attorney, Victor Cummings, Esq.**

### **Attorney Profile:**

- **Name:** Victor Cummings, Esq.
- **Education:** Cornell Law School, Class of 1989
- **Licenses:** Licensed to practice law in New York (NY), New Jersey (NJ), and the District of Columbia (DC)
- **Specialization:** Estate Planning and Trusts

### **Introduction:**

Victor Cummings, Esq., an in-house attorney at SourceEnergy, specializes in estate planning and trust law. With a robust educational background from Cornell Law School and over two decades of experience, he is equipped to handle a wide range of estate planning and trust-related matters across New York, New Jersey, the District of Columbia, and additional states that recognize these licenses through reciprocity or practice privileges. This comprehensive report outlines his capabilities and the legal landscape of estate planning and trust law in these jurisdictions.

### **New York (NY):**

#### **1. Legal Framework:**

- New York State's estate planning laws are governed by the Estates, Powers, and Trusts Law (EPTL) and the Surrogate's Court Procedure Act (SCPA).
- The state imposes its own estate tax, separate from federal estate tax, with specific exemptions and rates.

#### **2. Capabilities:**

- **Estate Planning:** Drafting wills, establishing various types of trusts (revocable, irrevocable, special needs, charitable), and creating comprehensive estate plans tailored to client needs.
- **Trust Administration:** Managing and administering trusts, ensuring compliance with fiduciary duties, and handling disputes related to trusts.
- **Probate:** Guiding clients through the probate process, representing them in Surrogate's Court, and ensuring the proper administration of estates.
- **Tax Planning:** Advising on strategies to minimize state and federal estate taxes, including the use of gifting strategies and life insurance trusts.



## New Jersey (NJ):

### 1. Legal Framework:

- New Jersey's estate planning laws are governed by Title 3B of the New Jersey Statutes, which covers administration of estates, decedents, and trusts.
- New Jersey imposes an inheritance tax, with varying rates depending on the relationship of the beneficiary to the decedent, but it no longer imposes an estate tax as of 2018.

### 2. Capabilities:

- **Estate Planning:** Creating wills, living trusts, and irrevocable trusts to meet clients' financial and familial goals.
- **Trust Administration:** Administering trusts in compliance with New Jersey laws, including filing necessary tax returns and accounting.
- **Probate and Estate Administration:** Assisting executors and beneficiaries through the probate process and addressing any disputes that arise.
- **Specialized Trusts:** Establishing special needs trusts to protect assets for disabled beneficiaries and ensuring eligibility for government benefits.

## District of Columbia (DC):

### 1. Legal Framework:

- The District of Columbia's estate planning laws are governed by the D.C. Code Title 19, which deals with descent, distribution, and trusts.
- D.C. imposes both an estate tax and an inheritance tax, with specific exemption limits and tax rates.

### 2. Capabilities:

- **Estate Planning:** Developing comprehensive estate plans, including drafting wills, revocable and irrevocable trusts, and powers of attorney.
- **Trust Administration:** Managing the administration of trusts, ensuring compliance with D.C. laws, and addressing fiduciary responsibilities.
- **Probate:** Representing clients in probate court, guiding them through the estate administration process, and resolving any disputes.
- **Charitable Planning:** Advising on the creation of charitable trusts and foundations to support philanthropic goals while providing tax benefits.



### **Additional States Covered by Reciprocity or Practice Privileges:**

While Victor Cummings, Esq. is specifically licensed in NY, NJ, and DC, certain states allow practice based on these licenses under specific conditions, such as temporary practice, pro hac vice admission (for specific cases), or reciprocity agreements. Some of these states include:

#### **Connecticut (CT):**

- **Temporary Practice:** Attorneys licensed in other states, such as NY or NJ, can practice temporarily under specific circumstances.
- **Estate Planning and Trusts:** Similar legal frameworks to neighboring states with unique state-specific regulations.

#### **Pennsylvania (PA):**

- **Pro Hac Vice Admission:** Allows out-of-state attorneys to practice for specific cases upon court approval.
- **Estate Planning and Trusts:** Governed by Title 20 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes.

#### **Virginia (VA):**

- **Pro Hac Vice Admission:** Permits out-of-state attorneys to practice for specific cases.
- **Estate Planning and Trusts:** Governed by Title 64.2 of the Code of Virginia.

#### **Maryland (MD):**

- **Pro Hac Vice Admission:** Allows out-of-state attorneys to practice for specific cases.
- **Estate Planning and Trusts:** Governed by the Estates and Trusts Article of the Maryland Code.

### **Cross-Jurisdictional Expertise:**

Victor Cummings, Esq., offers a unique advantage in handling estate planning and trust matters across multiple jurisdictions. His ability to navigate the differing laws and regulations in New York, New Jersey, the District of Columbia, and additional states through reciprocity or temporary practice privileges allows for seamless and comprehensive estate planning solutions for clients with assets and interests in these regions.

### **Conclusion:**

Victor Cummings, Esq., brings extensive expertise in estate planning and trust law to SourceEnergy, providing clients with tailored solutions that address their unique needs and circumstances. Licensed in New York, New Jersey, and the District of Columbia, with



capabilities to practice in additional states through reciprocity or practice privileges, he ensures that all estate planning and trust matters are handled with the utmost care and legal precision. Clients can trust in his ability to protect their assets, minimize tax liabilities, and ensure their wishes are honored.

For more information or to schedule a consultation, please contact Victor Cummings, Esq. at [Victor@SourceEnergyGlobal.com](mailto:Victor@SourceEnergyGlobal.com).

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This report provides a comprehensive overview of the capabilities and legal frameworks in which Victor Cummings, Esq., operates, offering detailed insights into his estate planning and trust expertise across the specified states and additional jurisdictions.