

John M. Elias

Principal

Naples, FL | Parsippany, NJ

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John Elias has more than thirty-five years of experience helping clients protect and transfer their wealth through thoughtful estate planning, trust and estate administration, and business succession planning. As Managing Principal of Porzio's Naples, Florida office, John routinely works with clients across Florida, New Jersey, and New York, offering comprehensive guidance tailored to each state's unique legal and tax landscape.

John advises individuals, families, and business owners on minimizing tax burdens, preserving wealth, and achieving their philanthropic objectives. His trusts and estates administration practice assists both individual and corporate fiduciaries in meeting their obligations while reducing tax liabilities for trusts, estates, and beneficiaries.

He has deep experience in estate planning and administration, probate and fiduciary litigation, asset protection, and representing clients in federal and state tax audits and disputes. John also counsels clients on closely held business succession and asset protection strategies across multiple jurisdictions.

Before joining Porzio, John was a founding member of Elias Sellitti LLC, a boutique law firm with offices in Basking Ridge, New Jersey, and New York City. Earlier in his career, he served as a trusts and estates partner at several regional and national law firms.

Recognitions

*No aspect of this or any advertisement has been approved by the Supreme Court of New Jersey. For ranking methodologies, please see **here**.*

- *The Best Lawyers in America®* - Trust and Estates (2009-2027)
- New Jersey Super Lawyers® *(*2004-2012 and 2018-2023)

Memberships

- The Florida Bar - Member
- New Jersey Bar Association - Member
- New York Bar Association - Member

John M. Elias Cont.

News

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- 33 Porzio, Bromberg & Newman Attorneys Recognized by *Best Lawyers® 2027*, Including Two "Lawyer of the Year" Recipients, 8/20/2026
- Porzio, Bromberg & Newman Opens First Florida Office in Naples, Positioning Firm for Rapid Growth of Services Across the East Coast, 11/10/2025
- 26 Porzio Attorneys Recognized in *The Best Lawyers in America®* 2026 Edition; 6 Listed as *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch®*, 8/21/2025
- Porzio, Bromberg & Newman Becomes Designated Custodian of Stroock & Stroock & Lavan LLP's Estate Planning Documents, 5/07/2025
- 26 Porzio Attorneys Recognized in *The Best Lawyers in America® 2025 Edition*; 6 Listed as *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch®*, 8/15/2024
- 27 Porzio Attorneys Recognized in *The Best Lawyers in America®*; *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch®*, 8/17/2023
- Twenty Porzio Attorneys Recognized in 2023 New Jersey Super Lawyers and Rising Stars Lists, 5/11/2023
- 24 Porzio Attorneys Recognized in The Best Lawyers ® in America, 2023 Edition, 8/18/2022
- Porzio Expands Wealth Preservation Team with the Addition of Elias Sellitti, 3/03/2022
- Porzio Welcomes John M. Elias and Christine M. Sellitti to our Wealth Preservation Team!, 3/01/2022

Articles

- 2027 Federal Tax Numbers: What the New Figures Mean for Your Plan, 11/16/2026
- Quarterly Tax Updates: Timely Takeaways on IRS Audits, Art, Aircraft & Estate Planning, 6/18/2025
- The Accidental Art Collector: Income and Estate Tax Considerations, 6/18/2025
- Use of Private Aircraft: Has the IRS Become Your Copilot, 6/18/2025
- Corporate Transparency Act Filings Reinstated – BOI Reports Due By March 21, 2025, 2/20/2025
- Quarterly Tax Updates: Key Insights on IRS Developments, Crypto, Estate Planning & More, 2/11/2025
- Supreme Court Petition Filed to Reinstate Corporate Transparency Act (CTA) Enforcement, 1/08/2025
- Fifth Circuit Vacates Stay of Preliminary Injunction Against CTA Enforcement, 12/30/2024
- 2024 Year-End Tax Planning: It's Not Too Late, 12/19/2024
- Federal District Court Rules Corporate Transparency Act Unconstitutional, Only Enjoins Actions Against Plaintiffs: What's Next, Given You Weren't a Plaintiff?, 3/07/2024

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- Quarterly Tax Updates: January 2024, 1/16/2024
- Corporate Transparency Act Becomes Operational, 1/16/2024
- 7 Things to Know About the Corporate Transparency Act, 12/28/2023
- Year-End Tax Tips: 5 Smart Strategies for 2023, 3 Important Changes for 2024, 12/14/2023
- 2023 Q3 Tax Updates, 7/20/2023
- Lessons from the Lynnette Harris and Leigh Ann Conley Cases, 7/20/2023
- Tax Short Shorts, 7/20/2023
- Net Unrealized Appreciation: Opportunities in Your Company's Retirement Plan, 7/20/2023
- More IRS Scrutiny of Hobby Losses, 7/20/2023
- Retirement Report, 7/20/2023
- Qualified Small Business Stock: More Smoke than Fire, 7/20/2023
- 2023 Q2 Tax Updates, 4/27/2023
- A Look At President Biden's Budget Tax Proposals, 4/27/2023
- Crypto Corner, 4/27/2023
- Golden Passports & Moving to Puerto Rico, 4/27/2023
- Tax Shorts, 4/27/2023
- 2023 Q1 Tax Updates, 1/24/2023
- IRS Delays $600 Reporting Threshold, 1/24/2023
- The Far Side, 1/24/2023
- The Silver Lining of Inflation, 1/24/2023
- Understanding the Once-A-Year Rollover Rule, 1/24/2023
- 2022 Year-End Tax Planning , 12/13/2022
- The Complexity of Charitable Contributions, 12/13/2022
- Converting Traditional IRAs to Roth IRAs, 12/13/2022
- Crypto Investments, 12/13/2022
- Delaying Income and Accelerating Expenses, 12/13/2022
- Looking Ahead: Tax Rates, Gift & Estate Exemptions and Tax Legislation, 12/13/2022
- Should You Harvest Losses?, 12/13/2022

John M. Elias Cont.

Speaking Engagements

- "Advanced Estate Planning Strategies for Medical Doctors &High Net Worth Families: Irrevocable Trusts," Wealth Enhancement, 10/21/2025
- "A FLING Only New Jersey Will Hate," Porzio's Wealth Preservation Symposium, 1/29/2025
- "Trust & Estates," New Jersey Paralegal Convention, 10/18/2024

Media Mentions

- "How 'Stars Lined Up' For Porzio Bromberg's Arrival In Florida," *Law360 Pulse*, 11/19/2025
- "Porzio Bromberg Establishes Florida Presence with Firm's 10th Office," *Law.com*, 11/17/2025
- "Porzio, Bromberg & Newman announces first Florida office in Naples," *ROI-NJ*, 11/12/2025
- "Porzio expands to Florida with new Naples office," *NJBIZ*, 11/11/2025
- "Porzio, Bromberg & Newman Opens First Florida Office in Naples," *New Jersey Business Magazine*, 11/11/2025

Practices

- Wealth Preservation

Area of Focus

- Asset Protection
- Charitable Planning
- Estate Planning
- Privately-Owned Business Planning
- Probate and Trust and Estate Administration
- Trusts & Estates Litigation

Community Involvement

- Board of Trustees, Washington Association of New Jersey, 2017 - present; Treasurer, 2019-2020; Second Executive Vice President, 2020-present
- Board of Directors, Junior Achievement of New Jersey, Inc., 2008-2013
- Borough Council, Borough of Madison, NJ 2004-2009
- Board of Directors, 1997-2003; Endowment Committee, 2003-2006, Madison Area YMCA, Madison, NJ
- Board of Directors, Museum of Early Trades and Crafts, Madison, NJ, 1994-2001

- Board of Directors, 1996-2002, Chair, 2000-2002, Clergy Partnership on Domestic Violence, Madison, NJ
- Advisory Council, NJ All Stars, Newark, NJ 2004-2009
- Gift Planning Advisory Council of the Greater New York Chapter of the American Red Cross, New York, NY, 2009-2010

Bar Admissions

- New Jersey, 1997
- New York, 1989
- Florida, 2025

Court Admissions

- United States Tax Court, 1981

Education

- *New York University School of Law*
  LL.M. (Taxation), 1989
- *The Catholic University of America Columbus School of Law*
  J.D., 1980
- *Boston College*
  B.A. , 1977
  cum laude