

# BROWN & STREZA

## ATTORNEYS AT LAW

BROWN & STREZA, LLP | 40 PACIFICA, 15TH FLOOR | IRVINE, CALIFORNIA 92618  
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### Michael Offenheiser

PARTNER

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#### RELATED PRACTICES

Foundational Estate Planning  
Philanthropist Representation  
Nonprofit Organizations



#### BIO

Michael J. Offenheiser was admitted to the California bar in 2005 and has practiced as an estate planning attorney since that time. He earned his Bachelor's degree (magna cum laude) from the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. and his Juris Doctorate degree (cum laude) from the Ave Maria School of Law. Michael is board certified in estate planning law by the California Bar Association. He is a Blackstone Fellow and recipient of a Distinguished Scholar Award from the State of Maryland. In law school, Michael served on the Executive Board of the Ave Maria Law Review. In 2019, Michael was recognized as Attorney of the Year by St. Thomas More Society of Orange County during the 31st Annual Red Mass.

An accomplished estate planning attorney, Michael has worked at well-known law firms in both central and southern California and has taught estate planning as an Adjunct Professor of Law. In his practice, Michael works closely with individuals and families to create estate plans that reflect their unique goals and desires. This may involve the preparation of wills, living trusts, irrevocable trusts, powers of attorney, advance health care directives, special needs trusts, or the implementation of other estate planning techniques.

Michael once served as a member of the Board of Directors and as a member of the Planned Giving Committee for the Orange Catholic Foundation. He is currently a member of the Board of Directors of the St. Thomas More Society of Orange County and leads an initiative of the St. Thomas More Society called the Charles Institute.

In 2022, Michael was selected for inclusion on the Southern California Super Lawyers list by the publishers of *Los Angeles* magazine and *The Journal for Law & Politics* magazine – a distinction recognizing only 5% of the attorneys in Southern California (excluding San Diego). He was also recognized as a "Rising Star" by Southern California Super Lawyers in 2014 and 2015.

## PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Brown & Streza LLP, Irvine, California  
Partner, 2018-Present  
Attorney, 2013-2018

Copenbarger & Copenbarger, LLP, Irvine, California: Attorney, 2012-2013

Law Office of Michael J. Offenheiser, Orange County, California: Solo Practitioner, 2011-2012

Bolen Fransen, LLP, Fresno, California: Attorney, 2008-2010

Fresno City College, Fresno, California: Adjunct Professor, 2010

Dowling, Aaron, & Keeler, P.C., Fresno, California: Attorney, 2006-2008

Juris Doctor, cum laude, Ave Maria School of Law, 2005

Bachelor of Arts, magna cum laude, The Catholic University of America, 1999

## PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

### 2022 "Southern California Super Lawyer"

Published by *Southern California Super Lawyers* magazine, *The New York Times* (Los Angeles and Orange County distribution), *Los Angeles* magazine and *The Journal for Law & Politics*. Only 5% of the attorneys in Southern California (excluding San Diego) receive this prestigious honor.

### 2019 Attorney of the Year, St. Thomas More Society of Orange County

Recognized at 31st Annual Red Mass, an event that honors those in legal professions

### Board Certified in Estate Planning Law, 7/1/2015

Certified Specialist in Estate Planning, Trust & Probate Law (California State Bar Board of Legal Specialization)

### 2014 - 2015 "Southern California SuperLawyers - Rising Star"

Published by *Los Angeles* magazine and *The Journal for Law & Politics*. Only 2.5% of lawyers under the age of 40 and/or in their first 10 years of practice in Los Angeles and Orange Counties receive this honor.

## PUBLICATIONS

### Leimberg Information Services, Inc., May 2020

Co-author, "Executing Estate Planning Documents During the Pandemic and the Slow Return to the "New Normal"  
Signing During Coronavirus - California

## SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

### Orange Catholic Foundation, Orange County, California, 2011-2016

Estate Planning Presentations

### NAIFA Brown Bag Webinar, Irvine, California, April 21, 2016

Basic Living Trust

### Estate Planning Workshop Series 2014, Irvine, California, September 30, 2014

Advanced Healthcare Directives and More

### Goodwill of OC, Santa Ana, California, September 4, 2014

Special Needs Trust Presentation

**University of California, Irvine, 2013**  
Estate Planning Presentation

**Goodwill Industries of Orange County, California, 2011**  
Special Needs Trust Educational Seminar

**The Shea Center for Therapeutic Riding, California, 2011**  
Special Needs Trust Educational Seminar

## **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

**Charles Institute:** Founding Member

**Board of Directors, St. Thomas More Society of Orange County:** Member

**Orange Catholic Foundation for the Diocese of Orange:** Member, Former Board of Directors member

**Orange County Estate Planning Council:** Past Member

**Financial Planning Association:** Past Member

**Board of Directors, Orange Catholic Foundation:** Past Member

**Planned Giving Committee, Orange Catholic Foundation for the Diocese of Orange:** Past Member