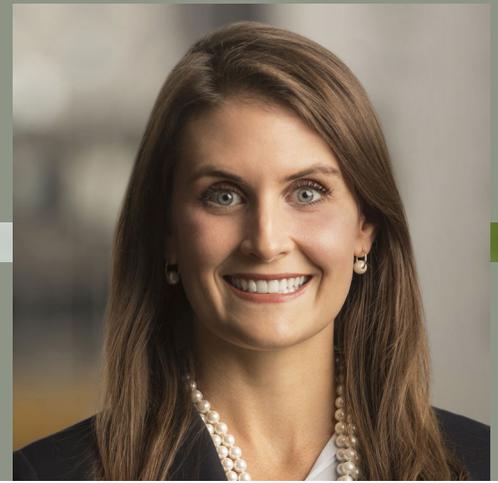


MEET VARNUM PARTNER KATIE ROSKAM

Tax Attorney | Grand Rapids, MI



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Newly-elected Varnum partner Katie Roskam is a tax attorney based in the Grand Rapids office. With a master of laws in taxation in addition to her law degree, Katie works with businesses of all sizes, from startups to mature, large companies as well as individual taxpayers. She advises clients on a range of areas including tax, business and employee benefits law.

Q What attracted you to become a lawyer?

A In my second year of law school, after finding a subject I loved in my federal income tax class, I knew I had made the right decision to be a lawyer.

Q How did you decide to focus on your practice?

A The best career advice I have heard is find something that comes naturally to you and do that. It seemed like tax law came more naturally to me than some and I enjoyed the challenges it brought more than others, so I decided it would be a good focus area for me.

Q What does client service mean to you?

A Client service means treating your client's business as if it were your own and always being your client's teammate in whatever challenges they are facing.

Q What do you most enjoy about being a lawyer?

A I love taking a problem that has been a burden to someone, making it my own and fixing it. There is no better feeling than knowing that your unique skills were needed to help someone.

Q What has been your proudest career moment so far?

A There have been a few startups that I have worked with since their business ideas were just some notes scratched on a notepad. It is a great feeling when after a few months or so, you get to see their business launch, hear of their successes and know that you were a small part of getting it going.

Q What would surprise most people about your job?

A I have had the chance to work with basically every team at my firm, including real estate, estate planning, litigation, merger and acquisitions, health care and more, because tax is a consideration in nearly every transaction that takes place between people.