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James M. Lestikow (General Editor; Chapter 2) is a partner with the firm of Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP in Springfield, where he concentrates his practice in estate planning, business transactions, and commercial real estate. He received his B.S. from Northern Illinois University and his J.D. from the University of Illinois. Mr. Lestikow is a Fellow of the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel and serves on its Asset Protection Committee. He was the General Editor of the IICLE® handbook ESTATE PLANNING FOR ILLINOIS ATTORNEYS: THE BASICS AND BEYOND and an author and co-General Editor of the IICLE® handbook POSTMORTEM ESTATE PLANNING. He serves on the Advisory Board and has been a member of the Leading Lawyers Network in the areas of Trusts, Wills and Estate Planning and Small, Closely and Privately Held Business Law since its inception, has been a member of Super Lawyers in the area of Estate Planning/Trusts, since its inception, and has been listed in BEST LAWYERS since 2009 in the area of Trusts and Estates. He has served as chair of the Illinois State Bar Association Estate Planning, Probate, and Trust Law Section Council (now the Trusts and Estates Section Council), as chair of the ISBA Business Advice and Financial Planning Section Council, and as President of the Sangamon Valley Estate Planning Council. He is a member of the Board of Directors and is First Vice President of the Illinois Bar Foundation and serves on the Board of Directors of IICLE®. He is also a member of the American, Illinois State, and Sangamon County Bar Associations and the standing Advisory Committee to IICLE® for estate planning programming and publications. Mr. Lestikow has written and spoken on several occasions for the IICLE® Estate Planning Short Course and other IICLE® programs as well as ISBA Law Ed programs.

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