

2018 Estate Planning Hall of Fame



Amy Morris Hess is UTK Distinguished Service Professor Emerita; Waller, Lansden, Dortch & Davis and Williford Gragg Distinguished Professor Emerita of Law at the University of Tennessee, where she has taught trusts and estates, taxation, estate planning, and property since 1981. Before coming to Tennessee, Professor Hess practiced law in New York City and Charlottesville, Virginia, concentrating her practice in estate planning, estate administration, and taxation. She is a graduate of Barnard College and the University of Virginia School of Law. During her tenure at Tennessee, Hess was instrumental in establishing the Homer A. Jones, Jr. Wills Clinic, a legal clinic in which third-year law students prepare wills, trusts, powers of attorney, and living wills and perform other estate planning work for East Tennessee residents of modest means, at no charge to the clients, under the supervision of experienced attorneys.

Professor Hess has been the successor author of *BOGERT, THE LAW OF TRUSTS AND TRUSTEES* since 1994. She has prepared the annual supplements for the entire treatise every year since then. She also has completed replacements of five volumes and has substantially revised portions of several other volumes. Hess is the co-author of a law school casebook entitled *AN INTRODUCTION TO TRUSTS AND ESTATES* (Thomson-West, 2002). She is currently working on a second edition of the casebook. She has published numerous articles on trusts and estates and taxation in respected national law journals. She is a frequent speaker at continuing legal education seminars.

From 1997 until 2001, Hess was the Editor-in-chief of the *REAL PROPERTY, PROBATE AND TRUST JOURNAL* published by the American Bar Association. She has held a number of leadership positions in ABA's Section of Real Property Trust and Estate Law and currently serves as Co-Chair of the Section's Standing Committee on Diversity and Inclusion. She also is an academic fellow of the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel, where she serves on the Committees on Legal Education and Professional Responsibility; a member of the Knoxville Estate Planning Council, where she served as President in 2009-2010 and member of the Board of Directors from 2001 to 2011; and is active in the Tennessee Bar Association, the Virginia Bar Association, and the Association of American Law Schools.

From 1995 to 1997, she served as a member of the Tennessee Joint Study Commission on the Uniform Probate Code. From 2011 to 2013, she served as the ABA Advisor to the drafting committee of the Uniform Law Commission that drafted the Uniform Powers of Appointment Act.

The National College of Probate Judges honored Professor Hess with the 2005 Treat Award for Excellence. The University of Tennessee recognized her with the UTK Alumni Outstanding Teacher Award in 1994 and the College of Law recognized her excellence in teaching, scholarly research, and service on many occasions, including: in 1993 and 2002 with the Harold C. Warner Outstanding Teacher Award; in 1994 and 2001 with the Bass, Berry & Sims Award for Service to the Bench and Bar; and in 1998 and 2012 with the Carden Outstanding Faculty Award for Scholarship; and in 2013 with the Carden Award for Outstanding Service to the Institution.