

Counsel, Washington, D.C.

Tax



T: 202.371.7578
sanessa.griffiths@skadden.com

Education

LL.M., New York University
School of Law, 2023

J.D., The George Washington
University Law School, 2015
(Order of the Coif; Notes Editor, *The
George Washington Law Review*)

B.S., University of Central Florida, 2012
(*summa cum laude*)

B.A., University of Central Florida, 2012
(*summa cum laude*)

Bar Admissions

District of Columbia

New York

U.S. Court of Appeals for the
Ninth Circuit

U.S. Tax Court

Experience

Law Clerk. Hon. Ronald M. Gould, U.S.
Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit
(2017-18)

Law Clerk. Hon. Susan R. Bolton, U.S.
District Court for the District of Arizona
(2015-17)

Sanessa Griffiths advises clients on a broad range of tax controversy matters and transactional situations.

Ms. Griffiths' practice focuses on matters related to high-stakes and complex tax controversies involving transfer pricing, economic substance and business purpose doctrines, and tax treaty interpretation. With experience representing large U.S. and multinational companies at the audit, administrative proceeding and litigation phases, she routinely performs fact-finding and analysis in connection with multilayered tax matters, and assists clients in navigating legal and practical considerations of prelitigation and litigation work. In recognition of her work, Ms. Griffiths has been repeatedly named one of *Best Lawyers' Ones To Watch in America* (including in its 2025 edition).

Ms. Griffiths is very active in Skadden's diversity, equity and inclusion initiatives, particularly regarding the hiring and retention of attorneys of color. She is a member of the ABA steering committee that established the Loretta Collins Argrett Fellowship, which is focused on creating a more diverse, equitable and inclusive ABA Tax Section and tax bar. She also has been involved in several *pro bono* matters, including drafting *amici* briefs for the U.S. Supreme Court, advising on federal and state tax exemptions for nonprofit organizations and representing asylum seekers.

Associations

Member and Co-Chair of the Civil and Criminal Tax Penalties Subcommittee on IRS
Investigations and Enforcement, American Bar Association

Advisory Board Member, Children's Law Center

Board Member, George Washington University Law School Alumni Association

Chair of the Tax Audits and Litigation Community, DC Bar