



**Rob Smitherman, JD**  
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Rob joined the Northwestern University Gift Planning team in February 2015. He is the director of Gift Planning Administration, heading a team that deals with realized gifts that come through trusts and estates. He also manages the administration of life insurance gifts, life income gifts such as charitable gift annuities and charitable remainder trusts, donor advised funds, and gifts of tangible personal property.

Rob is originally from Virginia, where he attended Washington & Lee University and the College of William & Mary. He practiced law in Danville, Virginia, for 25 years in a general civil practice that included contracts and trusts and estates matters. He moved to Chicago in 2006 where he worked for a real estate development firm and an international events organization. Rob held temporary positions in the exotic locations of Cologne, Germany, and Cleveland, Ohio, before returning to Chicago permanently in 2015.