Estate Planning & Administration

To learn more about the services we offer, contact Charles E. McWilliams, Jr.

Estate Planning

Walsh Colucci Lubeley & Walsh, P.C., provides estate planning services to individuals and families interested in providing for the timely, orderly and efficient distribution of their estates. Our attorneys and staff have the experience necessary to implement your estate planning goals, and prefer to work as a team by coordinating their efforts with those of your financial advisor, accountant, insurance agent and other professionals.

Our estate planning services are a valuable asset to clients regardless of their net worth, as proper planning can dramatically reduce administrative expenses after an individual's death, reduce the estate's tax burden, and provide tax-free wealth transfers to multiple generations. The headaches and expense of taxes, court costs, probate filings and administrative fees can, to a large extent, be minimized, and in some cases avoided, with proper planning.

A properly drafted estate plan can provide for the management of your affairs during your lifetime, during times of disability, and following your death. The following are examples of documents we typically prepare for all estate planning clients:

Advance Medical Directive
Durable Power of Attorney
Last Will and Testament
Revocable Living Trust
Guardianship Designations

On a case-by-case basis, we may also discuss and prepare more complex documents such as the following:

Irrevocable Trusts
Conduit Trusts for Qualified Plan Assets
Pet Trusts, Supplemental Needs Trusts and Dynasty Trusts
Qualified Personal Residence Trusts
Charitable Trusts
Charitable Foundations
Family Limited Partnerships (or LLC's)
Gifting Programs
2503(c) Trusts for Minors

Whether you need a simple estate plan, or the complexity, skill and level of service associated with a multi-family office structure, we can help.

Estate Administration

WCL&W offers a full range of legal services related to the administration of trusts and estates. We represent fiduciaries and beneficiaries alike, and have skilled litigation attorneys who can handle complex estate litigation matters. Our services include (but are not limited to) the following:

Representation of fiduciaries and beneficiaries in the estate administration process — from qualification to closing the estate.
Probate of wills, and trust administration.
Locating, valuing and distributing assets.
Disclaimer planning.
Filing Inventories and Accountings with the Commissioner of Accounts.
Preparation of Form 706 – the Estate Tax Return.
Valuation discount opinion review and documentation.
Estate tax audits and Commissioner/Judicial inquiries.
Debts and Demands Hearings.
Litigation of trust and estate matters.
Resolution of disputes among beneficiaries and/or fiduciaries.

The estate administration process is often complex and full of traps for the unwary. Working with a qualified estate administration attorney can often save significant time and can help the fiduciary avoid mistakes that could lead to personal liability.