

# **Estate Planning**

Estate planning is very important for married couples as well as individuals who wish to be able to transfer their wealth to their loved ones and protect their privacy. Every family's situation is unique, and our office will be able to help you in creating an estate plan that is specifically tailored to achieve your goals.



There are many legal strategies involved in estate planning, including wills, revocable living trusts, irrevocable trusts, durable powers of attorney, and health care documents. Creating an estate plan on your own is never a good idea. The complexities involved in the process can be difficult to apply and structure properly if you're not an experienced estate lawyer.

To schedule an appointment and estimate estate planning costs today, please contact our office at (408) 978-7076 to get started.

#### **Probate**

Probate is the process in which property passes when an individual dies with only a Will, or no Will or other estate planning documents in-place. The probate process can be difficult to navigate and stressful to complete properly without experience. Our law office can help you smoothly and efficiently distribute assets to beneficiaries via the Probate process.

#### Asset Protection

Assets that are shielded from creditors by law are few (common examples include some home equity, certain retirement plans and interests in LLCs and limited partnerships [and even these are not always unreachable]). Assets that are almost always unreachable are those to which one does not hold legal title. In many cases it is possible to vest legal title to personal assets in a trust, an agent or a nominee, while retaining all the control of the assets. The goal of asset protection is similar to bankruptcy, and the two practice areas go handin-hand.

When someone has none or few assets, he/she relies on bankruptcy if he/she needs protection from creditors. On the other hand, if someone has significant assets, asset protection is a more preferred solution. To see how our law office can help you in planning for asset protection, please contact us at (408) 978-7076.



## Family Law

# Legal Separation

Legal separation is suitable when you (and maybe your spouse too) no longer want to be married, but for personal reasons such as religious belief or health insurance concerns, divorce is not an option. Similar to a divorce, you and your spouse must go through the same process such as dividing marital assets and debts. Unlike a divorce, neither you nor your spouse will be able to remarry with a legal separation.

# Divorce (Dissolution)

A divorce is a time of stress and uncertainty. Preparing for divorce can be daunting. You may wonder who will get to stay in the house? what about bank accounts? who gets the children? how much is child and spousal support? You probably have countless questions and concerns... With our experience, we can help to make it less stressful for you and your family.

#### Child Custody, Child Visitation and Child Support

Both parents begin with equal rights to the children's custody. In determining a child's best interests, California law specifies two guiding policies:

## **Contect Us**

https://www.matthewvolaw.com